

West Hempstead School District

Strategic Planning Council

Meeting Summary May 14, 2008

In attendance: L. Abruzzo, R. Bernato, J. Bonasia, A. Brita, M. Calick, J. Caufield, A. Cavaliere, J. Cirnigliaro, J. DiMarco, J. Eisen, O. Eckert, L. Ferguson, V. Fleck, T. Ganley, D. Gould, B. Hafner, W. Heckler, A. Hoffman, M. Jones, M. Keating, K. Kurs, J. Kurs, T. Lee, E. Loewy, J. Mariano, P. McVetty, A. O'Keefe, A Peluso, H. Schulman, M. Schultz, M. Schumacher, C. Senia, L. Stone, P. Uhl, R. Yanni, M. Wilson

The following materials were distributed to council members upon arrival:

- Agenda for 5/14/08
- Meeting Summary of 5/7/08
- Copies of updated action plans from the subgroups
- Draft mission statement logo (two versions)

Upon arrival council members immediately met in subgroups. Dr. Bernato welcomed all members.

Subgroups immediately started their work and worked throughout the evening. Laptops and flash drives were provided with updated action plan drafts. Dr. Bernato rotated throughout the groups. Ann worked with the Curriculum and Assessment subgroup.

Overview of subgroups' work:

- **Curriculum and Data Assessment (including Special Education):** This subgroup prioritized and consolidated the strategies to be used to achieve the goal of improving student performance. For each strategy the following criteria were identified: person(s) responsible, suggested timetable, obstacles, resources, and criteria for successful completion. .
- **Educational Technology:** This subgroup identified two main goals:
 - make technology a priority to all stakeholders
 - develop and implement a comprehensive strategic technology planThe group also identified the following criteria for approximately half of the strategies: person(s) responsible, timetable, obstacles, resources, and criteria for successful completion.
- **Professional Development:** This group expanded their action plan to include the following criteria for most strategies listed: person(s) responsible, timetable, obstacles resources, and criteria for successful completion. Strategies for reaching the goal of aligning professional development with student needs to enhance student achievement include:

- using online technology for professional development;
 - offering in-house peer training (turn-key training);
 - making professional development valuable to all district personnel;
 - changing the perception of the professional relationship between faculty and administration;
 - allowing all professional staff a menu of choices to fulfill both the contractual hours and staff training; and
 - making available common planning time throughout the district (collegial circles).
- **Community Involvement (including student involvement):** This group expanded the thorough action plan developed previously. They continued to refine strategies to reach the goal of creating unity and pride through communications.

The council discussed the importance of communication with the wider community. Several suggestions were made:

- refer the community to the strategic plan link on the website in multiple ways;
- use the marquis at the high school;
- make hard copies of the action plans and recent meeting summaries for the public library;
- write a news release on the work of the strategic planning council (Rosalie Norton and Helen Schulman will share this news release with local organizations' newsletters and websites once it is completed).

Ann will compile the packets for the library and write a news article early next week.

At the close of the meeting, Dr. Bernato thanked council members for working tirelessly throughout the evening and complimented them on the accomplishments of each subgroup. He gave an overview of the next meeting, which will be the final meeting of the Strategic Planning Council. The next meeting will include:

- Action Plan sharing among all subgroups;
- identification of common elements among the action plans
- a presentation of a draft council report which will be submitted to the Board of Education at the June 17th BOE meeting;
- training in additional strategies to assist with the ongoing work of the council;
- an evaluation of the strategic planning process; and
- follow-up plans for the upcoming year.

It is suggested that, prior to the next meeting, all council members review the action plans from each subgroup. If you have suggestions for any subgroups, please bring them to our sharing session at our last meeting. Another suggestion is for all members to look for commonalities among the action plans in order to identify the main themes of the council for the final report. Please record your observations and bring them to our last meeting of the year.

Next Meeting (our last meeting of the year):

May 21st, Middle School Cafeteria, 7:00-9:00 PM

Please remember to bring your nametag and binder.