



South Hunterdon Regional Creating a Strategic Plan For South Hunterdon Regional School District



Mission Statement

The South Hunterdon Regional School District is committed to providing all students with enriching and challenging educational experiences in a positive, caring, and respectful environment. In partnership with our communities, we strive to ensure our young people achieve their highest potential as contributing individuals both locally and in a changing world.

Meeting # 2 of 3

What is our Vision for the South Hunterdon Regional High School District for the next 3-5 years?

On March 16, 2016, the SHRSD District Administration, Board of Education Members, staff, parents, and community members came together to continue strategic planning. The second evening was focused on creating a “shared vision” for the South Hunterdon Regional School District. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by **Dr. Louis Muenker**, SHRSD Superintendent. NJSBA Field Services Representatives, **Gwen Thornton** and **Mary Gassman**, provided an overview of meeting one – the identification of district strengths/accomplishments and challenges/opportunities. After an introduction into the visioning process, the facilitators outlined an exercise. The idea presented: if you had moved away from the district and returned five years later to find the SHRSD District was on the cover of *Time* magazine as “Schools that Succeed”, what would the district school look like? Approximately 30 participant stakeholders then gathered in 5 randomly assigned groups to brainstorm what the district might have done to achieve this remarkable success. Each group developed a vision for such remarkable success and outlined the necessary characteristics, elements and opportunities that would help define the future SHRSD.

After discussion, each group then presented its vision to all meeting participants. The session concluded with the recognition of common threads throughout the groups’ visions and the assimilation into five broad goal areas for the next meeting.

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all group-generated points are recorded and posted on the district’s website to share the work of the groups with the larger community during the course of the strategic planning process.

Group Consensus - “Our Visions for the Future”

Group #1 (Red Dot Team) - “Expanding the Borders”

1. Virtual Curriculum Mapping- Accessing Curriculum Beyond the Classroom
2. T3: Professional Learning Academy- Online and in person classes
3. State of the Arts Facilities
4. Increased Community Partnerships
5. Enhanced Early and Continued Student services for at risk students

Group #2 (Dark Blue Dot Team) - “SHRSD Students Look Inward and Outward”

1. Second world language education in Pre-K with deep immersion and use of community native speakers to communicate.
2. 3 Key education modalities in place-multiple short term exposures and explorations; steady diet of basic curriculum; collegial learning to perform holistic projects-multidisciplinary methods of learning
3. Teachers trained in how to question students and facilitate self directed learning
4. Teachers and students move among the schools as ambassadors to the broader community and to facilitate and exchange of resources and experiences
5. Interpersonal Literacy that is culturally aware
6. Preschool with adequate resources and access
7. Students nourish their bodies and minds with 2 free healthy meals each day and have daily physical activity.

Group #3 (Green dot Team) – “SHRSD Schools Think Outside the Box- Innovative Ideas Helps Schools –Change it Up to Achieve”

1. Cross disciplinary classes foster student directed project learning, creativity and cooperation
2. Year round school and flexible hours allow time for implementing deep, rich, instruction

South Hunterdon Regional School District Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes

3. Technology is used to foster creativity, cutting edge “hard tech skills” and interpersonal communication
4. Direct and indirect instruction instills “Life Skills” including: public speaking, stress management, health and wellness, financial literacy, etc.
5. Global and Cultural understandings embedded in innovative learning opportunities such as skype with China, adult mentors, online learning, college courses and shared classes with neighboring high schools

Group Consensus - "Our Visions for the Future"

Group #4 (Black Dot Team) – "Innovation and Nurturing- Inside and Out"

1. Cutting edge technology/innovation
2. Risk taking/critical thinking in teaching and learning-professional and development, ongoing
3. Hands-on, real world experiences
4. Home- school-community collaboration-nurturing environment
5. Strong K-12 educational foundation and spirit
6. Our graduating students will: be able to dream and think outside the box, have reverence for how we got her, have emotional strength, possess core values of honor and discipline and the skills for success in the real world

Group #5 (Yellow Dot Team) – "Small District- Big Results"

1. High Achieving Students-critical thinkers, collaborators, metacognition (thinkers about learning)
2. Innovative trained, appreciated staff members with lots of professional development opportunities
3. Enrichment opportunities for all students
4. Students will have financial management skills; have technological literacy and fluency, greater world language opportunities, and core competencies in government and civic literacy.
5. Opportunities for all parental involvement in education at home and school
6. Greater pre-school opportunities.

Broad Goal Areas:

The four goal areas for the next session that emerged from the groups' work are:

- 1. Curriculum/Instruction; Teaching and Learning(includes technology and professional development)**
- 2. Social-Emotional Learning**
- 3. Finance/Facilities**
- 4. Communication/Community Engagement**

The third and final strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Monday April 4, 2016 at 7:00pm

Meetings are scheduled for 1.5 hours and end promptly to respect our participants' time.

During the next meeting we will:

- Develop a broad goal statement for each of the 4 identified goal areas
- Develop objectives for each goal area based on the information derived from the previous group work in sessions 1 and 2.

Please feel to attend- even if you have not been able to participate in previous meetings. Everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you!

Please join us!