

DOWNERS GROVE GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 58

MEET & CONFER STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

October 12, 2017

The Meet & Confer Strategic Plan Committee met on Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 7:00 a.m. at Longfellow Center.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 a.m.

Present

Elizabeth Sigale, Jill Samonte, David Bein, Brent Borchelt, Kari Cremascoli, Matt Durbala, James Eichmiller, Erin Guth, Susan Helsdon, Katie Hurckes, Melissa Jerves, Jason Lynde, Geoff Neustadt, Kate Nickell, Bill Riban, Mel Sawisch, Andrew Schmidt, Justin Sisul, Linda Vanacora, Kim Venzon, Tracy Weiner.

Absent

Jennifer Haselhorst, Megan Hewitt, Emily Honn, Julie Quinlan, Marcia Radja (alternate), Julie Ryan (alternate), Angie Rybarczyk, Jason Suchy (alternate), Barb Svitak, Craig Young, Jayne Yudzentis.

Approval of Minutes

David Bein moved and Linda Vanacora seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the September 14, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

Consultant Overview of Strategic Planning Process & Approach

Dr. Steve Humphrey of Hazard, Young, Attea & Associates (HYA) and team members Ken Arndt and Mary Biniewicz gave an overview of their strategic planning process.

Dr. Humphrey emphasized that strategic planning is an acknowledgment to stakeholders that the Board wants their input, and the resulting plan becomes a blueprint for decision-making at every level. The process begins by meeting with a steering committee to plan the actual strategy and timeline. Both day and evening sessions will be scheduled to meet with stakeholder focus groups, with the intent to get deep into the community and hear from people and groups who don't usually connect or participate with the district. HYA will also conduct an online survey and provide an online portal for the steering committee to access documentation. Before creating a draft document, they will review existing data, including the district's current strategic plan, mission, vision, goals and school improvement plans; consider programs in other districts that may be aspirational; and strive to capture both the needs and the culture of the community. The final document will be a framework for decision-making and will align processes and systems with the resulting goals.

Feedback from Committee to Consultant

HYA then sought the Committee's input on the following questions:

1. What should we know as we begin the process?

- a. Neighborhoods are defined by their elementary school attendance area boundaries
 - b. Perceptions and feelings may vary from one area to another within the district
 - c. Facilities challenges: age of buildings, differences from one school to another
2. What groups and individuals should be brought into the process?
- a. Civic groups: Jr. Women's Club, Rotary, AAUW
 - b. Senior centers
 - c. Employees
 - d. Parents
 - e. Activist groups
 - f. Private school families
 - g. Retired
 - h. Higher education community
 - i. Religious communities
 - j. Retired educators
 - k. Preschools, daycares
 - l. Groups difficult to engage: demographic segments such as Hispanic and Eastern European families; people who have no connection to D58; parents who don't engage for various reasons ("silent majority")

Additional ideas or communication on these questions from the committee should be submitted to Melissa Jerves to compile.

Reception of Visitors

There were no visitor comments at the meeting.

Adjourn

David Bein moved and Susan Helsdon seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 a.m.