

DOWNERS GROVE GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 58

MEET & CONFER STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

March 22, 2018

The Meet & Confer Strategic Plan Committee met on Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 7:00 a.m. at Longfellow Center.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 a.m.

Present

Elizabeth Sigale, Jill Samonte, David Bein, Brent Borchelt, Kari Cremascoli, Matt Durbala, James Eichmiller, Erin Guth, Jennifer Haselhorst, Megan Hewitt, Emily Honn, Katie Hurckes, Melissa Jerves, Jason Lynde, Mel Sawisch, Andrew Schmidt, Justin Sisul, Linda Vanacora, Kim Venzon, Tracy Weiner, Craig Young, Jayne Yudzentis; Mary Biniewicz and Paul Swanstrom of HYA.

Absent

Susan Helsdon, Geoff Neustadt, Kate Nickell, Julie Quinlan, Marcia Radja (alternate), Bill Riban (alternate), Julie Ryan (alternate), Angie Rybarczyk, Jason Suchy (alternate) and Barb Svitak.

Approval of Minutes

Craig Young moved and Emily Honn seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the March 1, 2018 meeting. Motion carried.

Update on Strategic Plan Draft

Paul Swanstrom of HYA highlighted updates to the strategic plan draft since the last committee meeting:

- Made sure issue of trust was evident in draft
- Planning Team developed more substance to the goals and objectives
- Continue to make sure opportunities for growth are reflected in the goals and objectives

Several members of the committee commented favorably on the updated narrative, both in content and format. The narrative is more reflective of comments made during focus groups, and the goals are based on the information gathered and detailed in the narrative. HYA will present a final version of this report to the Board, at which point it will become public, but the District will need to create an executive summary to distribute to the community. Tracy Weiner asked whether the online survey results would be released publicly. Paul Swanstrom responded that it is not HYA's policy to release that information. All of the comments take up over 200 pages, and HYA guarantees anonymity to the participants. The Board would need to take action for HYA to release that work product, with the exception of Question 4, which the District helped develop and paid extra to include.

The committee also discussed in more detail the development of the strategic plan. Paul Swanstrom outlined the three phases of development that HYA leads:

1. Engage (survey / focus groups / interviews);
2. Focus (identifying goals and objectives);
3. Execute (documenting specific steps to accomplish the goals and objectives, including expanding the metrics and defining accountability).

The District is currently in phase two, but after the report is approved by the Board, the Execute phase will include developing the metrics and creating some kind of feedback tool (such as a Dashboard) to report progress toward the goals to the community.

The committee discussed whether the goals reflect an overall direction for the district, and what that direction might be. Elizabeth Sigale stated that some of those directions will be developed in Goals 1 and 3. Kari Cremascoli noted that the portrait of a graduate should guide the goals. Mary Biniewicz stated that the current mission and vision statements, should the district choose to keep them, are still relevant to the newly developed goals and are checkpoints that serve to guide their implementation.

Tracy Weiner asked which goal addresses technology. Several members responded that it is included generally in Goal 1.3b, under "quality instructional resources including...technology." Technology is not a separate initiative, and the plan needs to act as an overarching framework for the district's planning, rather than expressly state specific scenarios of implementation. A similar discussion revolved around whether the district's approach to standardized testing should be mentioned specifically. Justin Sisul noted that it falls under Goal 1.1, "outcomes for student learning," as one measure of progress toward that goal will be student performance data.

The committee also discussed strengthening the language in Goals 1 and 3 to reflect a proactive approach.

The Board will preview this draft this week and have a chance to ask questions. HYA will present the final report on April 12, and Planning Team representatives will be at the board meeting to answer any questions.

Reception of Visitors

There were no visitor comments at the meeting.

April 12, 2018 Meeting Canceled

Elizabeth Sigale noted that the April 12 meeting was replaced by today's meeting.

Adjourn

Craig Young moved to adjourn and Justin Sisul seconded his motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 a.m.