

## DOWNERS GROVE GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 58

### MEET & CONFER STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING

March 1, 2018

The Meet & Confer Strategic Plan Committee met on Thursday, March 1, 2018 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, David Bein, Brent Borchelt, Kari Cremascoli, Matt Durbala, James Eichmiller, Erin Guth, Jennifer Haselhorst, Megan Hewitt, Emily Honn, Katie Hurckes, Melissa Jerves, Jason Lynde, Geoff Neustadt, Julie Quinlan, Jill Samonte, Mel Sawisch, Andrew Schmidt, Justin Sisul, Linda Vanacora, Kim Venzon, Craig Young, Jayne Yudzentis; Kenneth Arndt, Mary Biniewicz and Paul Swanstrom of HYA.

#### **Absent**

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

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Linda Vanacora moved and Matt Durbala seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the December 7, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

#### **Update on Strategic Plan Draft**

Paul Swanstrom reported that HYA and the strategic planning leadership team began to develop goals and objectives at a meeting on Monday, February 26th. Because time is short at today's meeting, the MCSP Committee will focus on giving reactions and feedback on the following draft plan sections: Strengths, Opportunities for Growth, Aspirations, and Portrait of a Student. Paul emphasized that this portion of the report is based on what was heard during focus groups and in the online survey. Those perceptions may be different than expected, but it is valuable to the development of a strategic plan to know what people perceive and understand. HYA noted that the lists are in alphabetical order to avoid placing emphasis on any particular items. The list was narrowed down after categorizing all comments, and then seeing which items rose to the top.

Regarding the list of opportunities for growth, Craig Young commented that he was surprised that something about "building trust" did not appear on the list. Mary Biniewicz responded that she believes that trust is an underlying theme expressed in the items such as communication and establishing standards. Andrew Schmidt expressed concern that the lists and narrative need to better reflect and acknowledge both good and bad, and discussion continued about whether the strategic plan would seem credible if specific issues brought out in focus groups are not obviously expressed

in the generalities listed in the bullet points. Elizabeth Sigale suggested cross referencing the more detailed narrative with the bullet points. Katie Hurckes noted that the planning leadership team already suggested adding “middle schools” as one of the growth areas.

The HYA team outlined the first draft of goal areas that were developed in conjunction with the planning team:

- 1) Enhance and Support Learning: This goal includes areas such as staff development, test scores, SEL, and the effectiveness of the 1:1 technology program.
- 2) Develop Consistent Standards for Communication and Collaboration: This goal encompasses areas such as discipline, grading, communication, and issues of trust and equity.
- 3) Provide Safe and Effective Learning Environments in Fiscally Responsible Ways: This goal includes areas such as building/facility issues, middle school model, air conditioning, and science labs.

The Committee then discussed whether more time for revision might be necessary before presenting a draft to the Board. The original strategic planning timeline was developed with an eye to incorporating the new plan in the Board’s planning for next year. However, based on the Committee’s feedback that the current draft of the bullet points does not fully reflect what was heard in focus groups, and the planning team’s need for more time to develop specific goals and objectives, the consensus of the committee was to delay the report to the Board.

### **Reception of Visitors**

There were no visitor comments at the meeting.

### **Adjourn**

Craig Young moved to adjourn and Jennifer Haselhorst seconded his motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 a.m.