

Hillsdale Local Schools Strategic Planning Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2016

Opening:

The April 11, 2016 meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee was called to order at 6:30 by Superintendent Steve Dickerson.

Present:

Steve Dickerson, Tom Selvage, Vella King, Jenny Stump, Brad Hays, Kevin Reidy, Tom Williams, Todd Grover, Dave Moore, Rick Blahnik, Margaret Coleman, Nick Atterholt, Bruce Dalton, Dion Bliss and Tim Keib were in attendance.

Tom Williams, Tom Selvage and Brad Hays presented his electronic report regarding where/what the Strategic Planning Committee has accomplished to date. They wanted each subcommittee to think about what needed added based on what they have completed or planned. The goal is to have 5 year goals for each subcommittee by year-end 2016 so the group can begin to meet less often to review and determine if goals are being reached. It was decided that the treasurer, Rick Blahnik, should be added to this group.

The subcommittees had a little time after the presentation to meet in their breakout groups. No reports were given at the end of the meeting due to the time but below are committee reports received after the meeting was adjourned

Curriculum:

**Italics indicate items that have been added/revised since last meeting.*

2015-2016 School Year

- Restore Honors English classes at the high school.
- Create a College Credit Plus pathway at the high school.
- Restore the Ag Business classes at the high school.
- Begin offering an Agriculture course at the middle school.
- Restore French language classes at the high school using an electronic curriculum.
- Employ a full-time district computer technician.

2016-2017 School Year

- Add grade 7 music instruction at the middle school.
- Add grade 8 art at the middle school.
- Hire a part-time elementary music teacher to provide our 2 current music teachers with additional scheduling time at the middle school and high school.
- Restore elective Family and Consumer Science courses at the high school.
- Provide Title I reading instruction at the middle school.
- Expand a vocational pathway for experiential learning in woods, metals, plastics, and manufacturing technology.

- Add STEAM instruction at the middle school in engineering and computer programming.
- Fully implement Career Connections at grades 6-12.
- ***Address special education issues: communication, coverage, professional development***

2017-2018 School Year

- Add a curriculum director/testing coordinator.
- ***Improve gifted offerings/services***

2018-2019 School Year

- Add an industry certification program in manufacturing or engineering technologies or another area at the high school. This program would not duplicate offerings in Agriculture and would not duplicate Career Center offerings.
- Provide Family and Consumer Science instruction in cooking and sewing at the middle school for every student.
- Provide reading instruction at the high school to incoming ninth graders who have reading difficulties (Horizons).

2019-2020 School Year

- Add STEM instruction at the elementary school, perhaps using Project Lead the Way.
- Provide library media instruction at grades K-8 by a certified teacher.
- Provide computer instruction at grades K-8 by a certified teacher. (EasyTech expires at the end of 2018-2019 school year.)

2020-2021 School Year

- Increase Agriculture instruction at the middle school to include the full AFNR curriculum between grades 7 and 8.
- Provide foreign language instruction at the middle school.

Other Ideas

- Grade level reorganization and pooling of staff in one facility to reduce teacher travel time
- Resources for mental health issues
- Lions Quest program
- Add more elective arts options at the high school

Why do we need a curriculum director/testing coordinator?

- Let guidance counselors be counselors
- Assist classroom teachers in creating engaging student learning experiences
- Provide professional development assistance
- Direct curriculum alignment
- Coordinate materials selection
- Facilitate transitions from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school
- Address mental health and wellness for staff
- Work on parental engagement
- Facilitate implementation of programs such as: Lions Quest, Project Lead the Way, etc.

*****Committee agreed that gifted, special education, and professional development should be added onto the committee's plans.***

Finance:

Nothing reported

Communications:

Discussion continued on website development. Birdeye has the initial information obtained from administration and staff. The question was asked as to what the next step would be as the website is the key selling point for people looking to buy property in the district. We should poll realtors for what questions are being asked of them of potential buyers in the Hillsdale district. We still don't have a timeline or detailed plans for the website development; where are we with development in regards to the look of the site, navigation and content, what is the current group open to as far as content input, what focus groups do we possibly need; churches, mayors, realtors.

The committee does not want the current website content dumped into the new website. The group also wanted to know how many modifications could be made to the website without incurring additional costs and what type of resources/training might be needed for the staff to be able to manage their own pages (twitter, Instagram, etc.) The committee would like to see a survey for current residents, potential residents, staff and students to solicit their opinions. The committee also wanted to know if we could get information on what pages currently get the most hits by people using the current site.

Transportation:

Nothing reported

Facilities:

Nothing reported

Technology:

Nothing reported

Next Meeting: May 9th @ 6:30 pm in the Hillsdale High School library.

Please join us in planning the future of our community and school district. There is a committee for everybody's gifts to be utilized.