

Core Team Strategy Session #4 Minutes

Location:	Date:	Time:
Multi-Media Center	March 12, 2009	5:00 P.M.

Team:	Facilitator(s):	Minute Taker:
Core Team	Diane Reed	Judith Christiansen

Present:	<p>Chava Angell, Joyce Arms, Andrew Beck, Jim Benesh, Diane Berman, Megan Blitz, Jamie Brice-Hyde, Bobbi Brock, Mike Buck, Judith Buckley, Shelly Cadek, Julie Chevalier, Mary Cosgrove, Judith Christiansen, Nicole Dauchy, Melissa Devitt, Karen Donahue, Sharon Dupree, Maureen Ferrell, Gerald Furnkranz, Jay Hillman, Richard Hudock, Colleen Ignaszewski, Anne Jernigan, David Kartzman, Alice Learn, John Lively, Brian Lynch, Terry Malloy, Cynthia Massey, Jacquie Morley, Lisa O’Connell, Courtney Perez, Damian Saks, Liz Scaptura, Patti Sotero, Mike Stuart, Alicia Stryker, Jean Yorio</p> <p>Visitors: Teresa Pedicone, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Cass, David Searles</p>
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Agenda Items / Discussion

1. Welcome/Overview

Diane Reed reviewed the Agenda for the evening’s meeting and the meeting’s main order of business – to establish the Task Forces and Charges.

Visitor David Searles, a member of the Board of Education, thanked the Core Team members for their work to date, their diligence and commitment to taking the District to the “next level.”

2. Special Report Out: Higher Learning, Special Education, Curriculum

Judy Christiansen reported out on two studies of the Special Education Department. Dr. Jim Black performed a study of the Special Education programs within the District. The study was completed in February of 2008. We have begun to implement many of his recommendations. A second study was performed in the fall and winter of 2008-09 by Joe Fenaughty. Mr. Fenaughty reviewed the structure of Student Services and made recommendations to the Board of Education on March 2, 2009. Student Services has begun to look at ways to implement those recommendations.

Diane Reed mentioned that the implementation phase of the Special Education studies will be incorporated into the Strategic Plan.

Alice Learn was asked to discuss Higher Level Learning and Curriculum during the review of the draft Task Forces and Charges.

3. WIP Task Forces

Diane Reed reviewed the draft Task Forces and Charges. As Penny Ciaburri indicated during previous communication with the Core Team, these were Work In Process drafts so that the Core Team could have some additional detail to support discussion. Following that review, there ensued a lengthy discussion regarding the Task Forces:

- Terry Malloy suggested that “Student Achievement” be a stand-alone Task Force.
- Alice Learn suggested that the “Curriculum...” Task Force include Student Achievement in the name. Following discussion, it was decided to re-name the “Curriculum, Higher Level Learning (Enrichment), 21st Century Learning Task Force” to simply “Student Achievement.”
- Mary Cosgrove suggested adding “Wellness” to the Character Education Task Force. John Lively agreed with that. Following discussion, it was agreed to add re-name the Character Education Task Force to “Character and Wellness Education Task Force.”
- Diane Reed reiterated to the Core Team that their responsibility is to establish the Task Forces, the charges for the Task Forces and to establish critical issues for the Task Forces to address.
- Several Core Team members questioned the draft Task Forces and Charges. They were concerned that these Task Forces were pre-determined by Central Office Administrators and did not come from within the Core Team. Diane reiterated that the Central Office Administrators had been asked to prepare these drafts. Judy Christiansen commented that the drafts were written based upon all of the data received to date by the Core Team and that ideas for Task Forces that were raised at the previous Core Team meeting (February, 2009) were incorporated into these six Task Forces.
- A vote was taken to approve the six Task Forces. With a vote of 31 yes, 2 opposed, the Task Forces were approved.

The Task Forces are:

- 1. Professional Development and District Culture**
- 2. Character and Wellness Education**
- 3. Community Relations and Partnerships**
- 4. Financial Planning and Development**
- 5. Student Achievement**
- 6. Facilities and Building Use (including Transportation)**

- Following the vote, the Core Team broke up into smaller groups to review the Charges and critical issues for the various Task Forces. Changes and additions were given to Judy Christiansen for editing and will be forwarded to the Core Team members.

4. Closure

Diane Reed asked Core Team members to let Judy Christiansen know by March 18 which Task Force they would like to serve upon. Task Force Facilitator Training will occur on March 24. An “All Task Force Kick Off Night” will be on April 7.

Action Items:

1. Pre-work to be sent for Strategy Session #5 which will focus on determining Strategic Intent.

Process Check:

Core Team members will be sent a brief survey on Monday, March 16 for their completion.

Next Core Team Meeting: April 29, 2009