



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Wharton Borough Public Schools

District Mission Statement

Learn to thrive in a dynamic world.

Session 2 of 3

Developing a Vision for the Wharton Borough Public Schools in the Next Five Years

On April 25, 2017 Wharton Borough Public Schools administration, staff, Board members, parents, and community members came together to continue the strategic planning process. The second meeting's topic focused on creating a shared vision for the Wharton Borough Public Schools in the next five years.

The meeting, facilitated by Charlene Peterson from New Jersey School Boards Association, began with an overview of the Strategic Planning process and the steps taken at the March 21, 2017 meeting.

To begin the visioning process, participants were asked to picture themselves away from the district for five years, and returning to find the Wharton Borough Public Schools on the cover of TIME magazine, with the caption "21st Century Success." The participants were asked to envision what was written in the magazine article that warranted such high recognition – what programs / services / curriculum / student outcomes / best practices / facilities would you expect to see in your district that are succeeding? 21st century skills were highlighted in a video clip.

Participants then gathered in three randomly assigned groups to brainstorm their visions of how the district achieved this remarkable success. Each group's outcomes were shared with all meeting participants. The session concluded with the identification of three broad goal areas for the next meeting.

Group Work

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all consensus points are recorded and posted on the district's website to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

Green Marker Group: Title of Article: “The Future Child”

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
Breakfast	Sustainability
Exercise before school	Create town WiFi hotspots/tablet to take home
Exceed nutritional requirements	Create middle school academy

Red Marker Group: Title of Article: “Life-long Innovators Thriving in a Dynamic World”

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
Creating innovators	Strong self-worth & self-reliance
Advanced Technology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • STEAM • Maker Space 	100% parent involvement – first teachers
Self-directed learning	Understanding of a dynamic world
Compassionate contributors	

Blue Marker Group: Title of Article: “Maintaining Humanity in a Digital Age”

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
Coding	International collaboration
Alternate food sources	Real life applications
Communication skills	Build more team activities – sports, art, etc.
Self discipline	Extended day
Accept and grow from criticism	Relationships with nature: garden club, virtual field trips, etc.
Collaboration	More leadership opportunities
Acceptance of differences of others	Time management
Robotics	

Broad Goal Areas:

Three goal areas emerged from the common threads identified by the group at large:

- Whole Child
- Culture & Climate
- Facilities & Finance

The third strategic planning session is scheduled for: Tuesday, May 16, 2017

During the May 16th meeting we will review the outcomes from Sessions 1 & 2 (Strengths & Challenges, Visions) and develop broad goal statements for each goal area that emerged from Session 2, and related objectives for each goal area.

Please join us. Everyone is welcome! We look forward to seeing you!