



Hardyston School District

Creating a Five Year Strategic Plan For Hardyston

Mission Statement

The Hardyston School District together with our parents, families and community is dedicated to preparing our students for the 21st century by providing each student with a quality education, in a safe and caring environment, which allows all students to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and Common Core State Standards at all grade levels and includes the knowledge, confidence, and self-esteem to be successful life-long learners in a culturally diverse democracy.

Session #2

What is our “Vision”? What expectations and initiatives do we believe in? What challenges do we anticipate?

On Tuesday , February 21, 2017, the Hardyston School District Administration, staff, Board of Education members, parents and community members, approximately 60+ in total, came together to continue strategic planning. The second evening topic focused on creating a shared vision for the Hardyston School District. The meeting began with an overview of the first meeting. We then discussed the idea of moving away from the district for 5 years and coming back, only to find Hardyston on the cover of Time magazine, as a “School that Has Succeeded”! Participants were asked, what would you envision happening in the school system to make this happen? Participants then gathered in randomly assigned groups to develop a shared vision.

Small groups of participants brainstormed and shared ideas together. After group discussion, each group identified their consensus points and presented those to the full group of meeting participants.

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 web to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

Group Consensus

Vision 2022- Highlights from our “Cover Story”

Yellow Group- **Headline: “Forward Without Fear”**

STEAM-focusing on creative problem solving abilities

Communication skills for real life situations

Virtual Reality

Social Media Skills

Media Labs

Flipped classrooms

Webcasts with other schools to promote cultural diversity

The Arts-studios record arts

Community Involvement

Safety

Extended Learner programs

Building updates/upgrades

Red Group- **Headline: “Hornets Dream Big”**

Set high expectations and goals to promote life long learning

Exposure to careers and hands on learning to promote problem solving, collaboration and critical thinking skills

Partnerships with other organizations to be more active and increase physicality

Use of technology as a resource for the real world and enhancing different learning styles-robotics, coding

Global Awareness

Executive management, life skills, time management, team building, problem solving and a sense of responsibilities to enhance socialization and social skills

Expansion of world language and art program to start in kindergarten

Community Service

Integrated programs from Pre-K and above to support special needs of students

Orange Group- **Headline “World Class Community Learning Center”**

Maximize interest and talent via summer academies

Language development

Student learning communities based on learning styles

Broaden campus to include choice for students to pursue their interest and passion

Utilize regionalized specialties of other districts to enhance all children’s learning opportunities

Teacher/instructor professional development and opportunities for sabbatical

Hardyston Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes

Regional transportation for after school programs
Education Foundation
Fun, Smiles and “Hi-fives”

Blue Group- Headline” Stepping out of the Box”

Character education- family values and respect, grit
Service learning through partnerships with community and businesses
Project based learning to promote critical thinking skills
Diversified program of studies (STEM/STEAM, arts)
Enrichment program opportunities
Life skills
Out of School/District learning experiences
Break traditional mold of ‘seat time” and explore new ways to motivate students
Staff-continued education including modern elements
Technology-keeping up with the ever growing/changing; media specialists, tech. director

Fuchsia Group- Headline “Creating the Curve”

Sustainable Schools
Entrepreneurship- building and creating
Individualized education for all students
Student drive and student owned education
Real-life/Real World Civics: solving problems to real situations
Job embedded professional development opportunities for all staff
Technology as a tool for digital learning
Harnessing our students’ passions
STEM, maker space, libraries
Leadership for all

Green Group- Headline “Hardyston’s Head Fake”

Robotics and STEM Program
Therapy Dogs for reading
Historical reenactments
Culinary program
Hour of Code for logical thinking
Literary- school newspaper, poetry, book creation
Garden-Hydroponics for life skills
Music- computer assisted composition
Forensic Science
Expansion of arts to include multiple medias

Hardyston Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes

Black Group- Headline “Building a Global Technology Responsible School Community”

Technology integration throughout the curriculum

Enrichment programs

Early identification for need interventions

Foreign Language expansion

Move culturally driven experiences for students

Project based Learning

Valuing the Arts

Improving the special education model

Visionary Common Threads from Group Work

Student Achievement-curriculum and instruction; teaching and learning

Communication and Community Engagement

Technology across the Curriculum

Facilities and Finance

The third and final strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Monday, March 20, 2017

Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 PM (6:45 PM sign-in)

The challenge for the meeting will be to:

- Write a broad goal statement for each goal area-

The three-four goal areas that have emerged from the group work are:

- 1. Student Achievement-Curriculum and Instruction; Teaching and Learning**
- 2. Communication and Community Engagement**
- 3. Technology across the Curriculum**
- 4. Facilities and Finance**

Hardyston Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes

- Develop objectives under each goal area based on the common threads from all previous group work
- Create strategies needed to reach those objectives.

Each participant will be asked to select a “goal area” of their interest and choosing. Participants may want to prepare ideas ahead of time prior to the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you!