



Learning is our Mission

September Recap

As I settle in to my position as Superintendent of Schools, communication with all of our stakeholders is an essential goal. The importance of getting to know you, and your vision for our schools and our district is a valuable asset in school leadership. In order to achieve this goal, we have instituted Wolverine Discussion Dens! These are open communication meetings. Anyone can attend. We held our first meeting on September 27, 2017. The topic was, "Planning Our Year."

At the meeting, participants were welcomed and we set our goals for the evening as follows:

- A goal of this session was to disseminate information about our district goals, our goal setting process and our educational priorities.
- Another goal of this session was to obtain candid feedback which is not necessarily going to result in a consensus, about our priorities. The most important thing to us is that all perspectives are captured for consideration.

A presentation of our 2017-2018 Board of Education Goals ensued. Participants used sticky notes to highlight questions and make comments during the presentation.

BOE GOAL 1: The Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education will promote equity of learning for all students via analysis of students' success in multiple facets of school life, including assessment data, curricular viability, Federal sub-group data disaggregation, attendance data, and discipline data. Through implementation of data-driven, strategic actions, student achievement will increase by an average

minimum of (three) 3% in each subject area of our state mandated assessments (PARCC).

BOE GOAL 2: The Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education will foster active technology use by all community stakeholders by increasing access to technology and devices, providing for the acquisition and dissemination of knowledge via technological resources in concert with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, engaging our community in support of our district, and compiling annual electronic survey completion data. During the 2017-2018 school year, the District will increase classroom devices by a minimum of 15%.

BOE GOAL 3: The Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education will maintain the financial integrity of our district while providing quality programs that meet or exceed the needs of all students by prioritizing funds in order to support the continued development of high quality programming, green initiatives, and clean, well-maintained learning environments while achieving a balanced annual budget.

After reviewing our Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education Goals, we reviewed our District and Board Mission Statements.

- District Mission Statement: "Learning is our mission."
- Board of Education Mission Statement: "The Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional Board of Education is focused on fostering the full potential of each student."

Then, we used the following guiding questions for our discussion:

1. What is your overall perception/ impression of how well the WPRSD is doing in fulfilling this mission?
Participants indicated that the district was positive, having more strengths than weaknesses, yet there are always areas in need of updating and improvement.

2. Based on your overall perception, what should be the WPRSD improvement priorities?

Priorities included:

- Improve underperforming schools as measured by NJDOE criteria
- Expand blended learning curriculum at all levels
- Improve students' basic academic skills
- Increase academic rigor and raise performance expectations
- Promote students' creativity and self-motivation
- Improve School District Data Management Systems
- Enhance the district Website
- Utilize SMS communication
- Provide a viable, enhanced curriculum for academically advanced students
- Increase tutoring
- Balance sports and the arts

3. Question: How important is it to set a higher standard than average for student performance? Participants agreed that we should have high standards, but did not want the standards to be unobtainable.

To close the session, participants evaluated the session positively, from format to content, and the meeting was adjourned.

I hope that you can join us for the next meeting on January 31, 2018, at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Conference Room. when we will discuss our District Budget. RSVP to Joyce Rose at: rose.j@woodstown.org.

Please feel free to email any additional comments to me at: grossman.v@woodstown.org

Moving on to New Chapters

Our Board of Education accepted the following resignations, with regret:

First Name	Last Name
Marybeth	Foyle
Jennifer	Kraft
Elizabeth	Locke
Michelle	Ottaviano
Donna	Tillis
Michele	Timberman

Welcome New Staff!

High School

Teacher	Marcie	DiGregorio
Food Service	Nancy	Hennig
Full time Para	Christie	Nelson

Mary Shoemaker Elementary School

Full time Para	Holly	Booth
Lunchroom Aide	Debbie	Gaston
Part time Para	Alexis	Giova
Nurse	Stephanie	Williams

Early Childhood Learning Center

Part time Para	Donna	Sliwinski
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In Our October Edition:

Be on the Lookout for our WOLVERINES OF THE MONTH!

