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# **South Harrison Township School District**

# **Strategic Planning Process**

#### Meeting 2

#### Developing a Vision for the South Harrison Township School District.

On Saturday, January 26, 2019, South Harrison Township School District board members, administrators, education staff, parents and community members, twenty-six (26) in all, met to continue the strategic planning process for the school. The second meeting focused on developing a vision for the South Harrison Township School District. The meeting began with a welcome from the facilitator, Terri Lewis, New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), to the members who participated in Session 1 and have returned and to new members joining the group process.

We recapped the outcomes of Session 1 and reminded everyone of the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. We then moved to discussing the topic for the evening; creating a shared vision for the south Harrison Township School District. Participants were asked to picture themselves 3 years into the future and seeing their school district on the cover of TIME magazine, with the caption "Schools that Succeed". The participants were asked to envision what was written in the Time magazine article that warranted such high recognition. In addition to the current programs already in place in the South Harrison Township School District, what programs / services / curriculum / student outcomes / best practices / facilities would you expect to see in your school? Participants were encouraged to think "big picture."

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

## **Group Consensus: Vision – Initiatives**

#### Team One:

Where Are We Now?	What Do We Look Like in 2021?
<ul> <li>Country/rural community</li> <li>Focus on students</li> <li>Independently based to shared services</li> <li>Earlier school choice</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>High student achievement</li> <li>Progressive staff development to secure well rounded students</li> <li>Continued support of special education programs</li> </ul>
How Did We Get There?	Describe Our Students When They Leave 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
<ul> <li>Professional development</li> <li>Communication</li> <li>Continuity</li> <li>Support for the whole child</li> <li>Accountability</li> <li>Consistent focus on data to measure outcomes</li> <li>Continued community involvement</li> <li>More interaction with sending districts</li> </ul>	Academically prepared

#### Team Two:

Where Are We Now?	What Do We Look Like in 2021?
<ul> <li>A small community who believes we prepare competent, well-rounded, competitive and confident learners.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Community of Learners         <ul> <li>Broader global experience</li> <li>Rigorous instruction (seamless scope and sequence)</li> <li>Technology access</li> <li>Coping skills</li> <li>Test prep</li> <li>Time management</li> <li>Explored revenue stream</li> <li>Empower teachers (professional development)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
How Did We Get There?	Describe Our Students When They Leave 6 <sup>th</sup> grade <ul> <li>Competent</li> <li>Well rounded</li> <li>Competitive</li> <li>Confident</li> <li>Engaged</li> <li>Driven</li> <li>Accountable</li> <li>SEL</li> </ul>

### Team Three:

Where Are We Now?	What Do We Look Like in 2021?
<ul> <li>Small town, rural</li> <li>Supportive (family)</li> <li>Teachers (many) are community members</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Academic preparedness / Kingsway         <ul> <li>High expectations</li> </ul> </li> <li>Self Advocates         <ul> <li>Prepare for college</li> <li>Our students have those 21<sup>st</sup> century skills: collaboration, team-building, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Parent involvement – Global citizen "student"</li> <li>Alumni support</li> </ul>
How Did We Get There?	Describe Our Students When They Leave 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
<ul> <li>Infuse technology *appropriately</li> <li>21<sup>st</sup> Century skills         <ul> <li>Involving our students in their learning</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Academically prepared for the transition to the next level (Kingsway, etc.)</li> <li>The ability to self-advocate and have 21<sup>st</sup> century skills to be a global citizen</li> </ul>

### Team Four:

Where Are We Now?	What Do We Look Like in 2021?
	<ul> <li>We will be an inclusive (teachers, administrators and parents), innovative, data driven, high performing culture of socially and emotionally competent, critical thinking 21<sup>st</sup> century learners</li> </ul>
How Did We Get There?	Describe Our Students When They Leave 6 <sup>th</sup> grade
<ul> <li>To get there has been a focus on quality professional development (that includes some guidance around how to effectively and meaningfully infuse technology in the classroom) with an experimental focus to see what resonates the most, and data driven decision making.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Critical thinkers</li> <li>Creative</li> <li>Socially competent</li> <li>Equitable and fair</li> <li>Collaborative</li> <li>Flexible/adaptable</li> <li>Leaders</li> <li>Literate</li> <li>Technologically cognizant/aware</li> </ul>

Five Focus Areas emerged from the large group discussion on the common themes, as follows:

- 1. Student Achievement
- 2. Technology
- 3. Community Engagement
  - a. Communication
  - b. Inclusion and belonging
- 4. Whole Child
- 5. Financial component????

The third & final strategic planning session:

#### Monday, February 11, 219 6:00 pm in the South Harrison Township School Cafeteria Sign-in begins at 5:30 pm. Meeting is 1.5 hours and will end promptly at 7:30 PM

During the February 11th meeting, we will develop suggested goals and objectives for moving forward.

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