

Creating a Strategic Plan for the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District

Our Mission

The North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District, a district committed to innovation, personal excellence, high achievement, and community partnership, provides all students with personalized opportunities through a broad spectrum of exemplary educational experiences to develop their fullest potential, to foster lifelong learning, and to become responsible citizens in a continually changing society.

Session #2 of 3

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

On Tuesday, February 13, 2018 North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District Administration, staff, Board of Education members, parents and community members, came together to continue strategic planning. The second evening's topic focused on creating a shared vision for the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High 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 our schools on the cover of Time magazine, as a district of “Schools that Succeed”! 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.

Thirty-eight 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.

Blue Dot Group

Article Title: "Holistic Approach to Developing the Individual"

Key Initiatives:

1. Continue to volunteer to host, develop, and expand Polytech programs with other districts in Hunterdon County (both academic and vocational)
2. Continue to expand and stay responsive to new developments in physical, emotional, and social health
3. Continue to support inclusive programs that address students with special needs & gifted students
4. Create opportunities for contributions, empowerment, and leadership within the school and among the community through an array of non-traditional subjects.

Black Dot Group

Article Title: "#eduForefront"

Key Initiatives:

1. Teacher coaches across all subject levels
2. Project-based learning
3. Consistent and optional feedback from students and parents (every class)
4. Broadening curriculum (multiple levels of P.E.)
5. Consistent teacher expectations (homework)
6. Update facilities and space
7. Awareness and attention to stress management
8. Multiple academy offerings
9. Forefront technology
10. Encourage failure to increase success
11. Encourage individuality

Red Dot Group

Article Title: "Lighthouse Concept"

Key Initiatives:

1. Career / practical integration with community
2. Mentors / relationships
3. Soft skills
4. Project-based learning
5. Capstone project
6. Civic involvement

- Student liaison
7. Digital portfolio
 8. Schedules/structure

Green Dot Group

Article Title: Aspirations & Hopes

Key Initiatives:

- Lower stress and anxiety levels
- Teach healthy use of technology
- Improve students' verbal communication skills
- Highly qualified STEM instructors
- Merit pay for teachers
- Build more partnerships within the community
- Encourage students to take electives outside of their comfort zone
- Consolidating K-12 district
- More field trips
- Senior workforce collaboration with community
- I.B. (International Baccalaureate) School
- 10 months of instructional time + 1 month of professional growth
- 1 homeroom teacher for all 4 years
- Year-round school
- Update science labs and facilities with state of the art equipment designed by people in the field!

Orange Dot Group

Article Title: "Breaking Barriers: How NHV Enables Extraordinary Student Success through World Class Innovation"

Key Initiatives:

Individualized Learning

- Individual "career" plan
- Flexible plan—provides sense of control
- Blended Learning
 - Online class vs. in class, etc.
- Collaborative opportunities

Community Collaborations/Opportunities

- Engage alumni after they leave the school

- Measure success
- Underutilized resource
- Job ops, info sharing, coaching

Facilities (World Class Leader)

- Set up for fluid activity
 - Adapts to whatever you need it to be
- Technology that enables current/future learning
 - Multi-media, teleconference video
 - Not always sitting at desks
 - Social media/phone usage awareness, emotional impact

From the above outcomes, and the work from our previous meeting, common themes emerged, from which we identified the following four goal areas for the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District Strategic Plan:

Goal Areas from the Common Threads

- 1. Curriculum and Instruction; Teaching and Learning**
- 2. Health and Wellness**
- 3. Facilities**
- 4. Developing Partnerships / Community Engagement**

The third and final strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Tuesday, March 6, 2018
 6:30 pm sign-in, 6:45pm start time
 Voorhees High School, Main Cafeteria

The challenge for the meeting will be to:

- Write a broad goal statement for each goal area –
 - Develop objectives under the four goal areas 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!