



Creating a Five Year Strategic Plan For the Neptune City School District

Mission Statement

The Neptune City School, in partnership with the parents and community, will support and sustain an excellent system of learning, promote pride in diversity and expect all students to achieve the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards at all grade levels enabling them to become responsible and productive citizens

Meeting # 1 Strengths & Challenges

On June 7, 2018, Neptune City administrators, staff, board of education members, parents, and community members, fifty-three (53) in total, came together for Meeting #1 of the strategic planning process. We began with a welcome and introductions by Board President, Christine Oppegaard. Dr. Debra Mercora, Superintendent, presented the State of the School report. Kathy Winecoff then gave a review of New Jersey School Board Association's (NJSBA) strategic planning process.

We reviewed the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. The topics for the first evening focused on identifying district strengths and challenges and creating a vision for the school district. Participants were asked to brainstorm on the strengths and challenges for the Neptune City School District. Participants gathered in randomly assigned groups, eight groups in total, engaged in brainstorming the strengths and challenges. After group discussion, each group identified their consensus points and presented those to the full group of meeting participants.

Following the reporting out from the small groups, we were able to identify common themes from the activity. Those common themes will be consolidated into possible goal areas to be further developed at Meeting #3.

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

Group Consensus District Strengths & Challenges

“Black Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Dedicated staff & teachers	Positive messaging
Added Tech	Understanding cultural differences in the community
Staff works well with limited resources	Limited funds
Improved relationship between the school & Boro	Parental involvement
Boosters	Retaining staff
Reaching out to Alternative Funding Sources	

“White Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Teachers	Leader in Me (start sooner rather than later)
Girls on the Run	Parent Involvement
Yoga	Life Skills
Chromebooks	Too much coddling
Boosters	More rounded programs (Gifted & Talented)
Foundations	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$

“Yellow Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Amazing teachers	Grade reporting – parents don’t go on PowerSchool
Chromebooks in Middle School	Parent participation
Google Classroom	Value needs to be placed on education – make school a priority
Wilson Boosters – carnival, book fair	Keep NC kids in NJC
	Finances
	Add STEM / STEAM full program

“Dark Blue Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Technology	Financial
Shift in reading programs	Community perception
Leader In Me program	Diverse needs of students
Staff willingness to learn new things	Parental involvement
Staff thinking outside the box	Motivating students

“Dark Green Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Caring community	Not enough subs
Friendly staff	Expectations for parents, teachers, coaches . . are unclear
E alert	Oversight of extra-curriculars

Neptune City Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Home-town feel	Reduction in population is affecting funding
Dedicated teachers	Is E-communication effective?
Little peer-pressure	Parent support
The KIDS!!!!	Funding is based on inaccurate numbers
Working with parents to us current means of education	Money doesn't support students with special needs
Crossing guards	
Police presence	

“Orange Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Communication	Communication – advanced notification
Faculty dedication	Enrollment / Funding
Diversity	Discipline
Small community	- No follow through
Small class size	- PE – recess removal
Community partnerships	- Collective punishment
	ESL support
	School library
	DARE continue after 5 th grade

“Light Blue Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Students	Money
Teachers	Additional support staff
Leadership	Technology
Support staff	21 st Century opportunities
Maintaining resources	More PD – multicultural training
Communication / collaboration between staff and administration	Supplies
PD	Parent communication
Boosters	Mind sets in the community and school
	Students going to other districts
	Trust

“Purple Dot” Group

Strengths	Challenges
Teaching staff	Decreased enrollment
Support staff	Transient population
Community involvement	School funding
Facility	More involved students in after-school activities
Student presentations, example: wax museum, Egypt Night	Teacher turnover
Communication with parents	
Diversity	

Based on the information gathered from this meeting, the common themes for challenges facing the Neptune City School District that may be incorporated into goal areas include:

Neptune City Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

- Lack of funding
- Staff dedication
- Community perception
- Technology
- Good use of available resources
- Parent involvement
- Student motivation
- Decreasing enrollment
- Diversity
- Trust – or lack of
- Keeping the kids in the town
- Communications
- ESL and ELL support

The second strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

Woodrow Wilson School Gymnasium

Meetings are scheduled to begin promptly at 7:00 pm
(6:30 pm Sign-In)

Bring a friend / colleague to our next meeting!

We look forward to seeing you!