



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Park Ridge School District

District Mission Statement

The Park Ridge School District is committed to the mission of educating all students to achieve the New Jersey Student Learning Standards at all grade levels. The district will nurture all students to be lifelong learners, ethical and responsible citizens, and independent, productive members of a global society.

Session #3 of 3

Developing a Broad Goal Statement and Supporting Objectives for Each Goal Area

On March 16, 2017 Park Ridge Public Schools administration, staff, parents, board members and community members came together to continue the strategic planning process. The third and final meeting's topic focused on developing a broad goal statement and 4-5 supporting objectives for each of the four goal areas identified at the conclusion of the February 16, 2017 meeting. These goals will represent a shared vision for Park Ridge Public Schools over the next five years.

Matt Lee and Charlene Peterson from the New Jersey School Boards Association facilitated the strategic planning process. The group was provided with an overview of the January 19 and February 16 meetings and then the goal writing process was introduced that included definitions, the connection to the work from the first two meetings, and the components of a goal statement.

Participants were able to self-select a goal area of interest to them – Student Health & Wellness, Student Lifelong Learning Desire, Student-Related Communication & Leadership and Physical Resources. Each goal area group was tasked with writing a broad goal statement and developing around four to five accompanying objectives that reflected the strengths, challenges, and visions relative to their goal area as determined in Meetings 1 and 2.

Group Work

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

Park Ridge Public Schools Strategic Planning Meeting #3 Outcomes

Goal Area	Student Lifelong Learning Desire
Goal Statement	To instill an interest in, and commitment to, lifelong learning that will enable our graduates to thrive in the future.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Explore innovative ways to increase available enrichment programs (ex. share clubs with Pascack, other high schools). 2. To develop programs that stimulate your personal and practical life skills (ex. cooking wood shop. 3. Expand the curriculum in key areas example standing steam World languages social skills hands on. 4. Plan to maintain class size for staff succession and coordination between the schools.

Goal Area	Student Communication and Leadership
Goal Statement	Create an environment that fosters effective communication among all stakeholders, and the characteristics of leadership to enhance the educational experience.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create independent thinkers capable of working in teams. 2. To develop our students to possess effective communication skills necessary for life 3. To develop our students to possess leadership skills necessary for life. 4. Increase opportunities for effective communication among students, parents, teachers, and administrators. 5. Develop and provide tools and opportunities for leadership skills. 6. Encourage character-building through community and Civic involvement.

Goal Area	Student Health and Wellness
Goal Statement	Create a culture where the mind and body of the child is cultivated.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For the Park Ridge schools to build a collaborative environment for Child Health and Wellness. 2. For the community, including parents, students and staff to have an awareness that mental health support is a vital part of student success.

Park Ridge Public Schools Strategic Planning Meeting #3 Outcomes

Goal Area	Physical Resources
Goal Statement	Create a flexible learning environment that maximizes school and community resources to allow students to fully explore their potential and the world around them.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create an outdoor club that explores and immerses students in nature to foster an appreciation for our natural environments and develop citizens that protect our nature resources. (suggested actions: funding for outdoor club; create a DIY program for example, a hammock and go hike Harriman and set up your DIY equipment) 2. Develop classroom size guidance to maintain effective "student to teacher" ratio appropriate by grade to create an optimum learning environment. (suggested actions: Research external guidance; develop a policy to set classroom size number; develop a plan B for additional space needed short term and long term; foster community support for plan B) 3. Create or find an appropriate space to house modern maker equipment so our children can have hands on experience, transforming their ideas into physical realities. (suggested actions: develop a curriculum; find a space, obtain equipment) 4. Create a curriculum for our students to explore our town's infrastructure systems and volunteer programs, so that they foster an appreciation for the elements of community. (suggested actions: create a curriculum; send out students to investigate and report back; have students research to investigate technics and technology used by other communities; allow higher grade students to participate and influence community programs)

Next Steps

A final report summarizing the work and input from the three strategic planning meetings will be generated by New Jersey School Boards and presented at a Park Ridge Board of Education meeting on May 2, 2017 for consideration by the Board.

The administration is tasked with writing action plans – one for each objective under each goal statement, that will identify the specific tasks needed to accomplish the objective, who is responsible, the resources needed, the timeline over a 5-year time span, and the indicators of success. These action plans should be shared with all of the strategic planning meeting participants.

It is recommended that an annual review of the strategic plan take place and that the strategic plan will serve as the basis for the development of the annual district goals.

Thank You

Park Ridge Public Schools Strategic Planning Meeting #3 Outcomes

Thank you to everyone who participated in the strategic planning process. The outcome of the plan has been shaped by the input of every participating member. You have provided the district with a 5-year roadmap that reflects the aspirations of the various stakeholders for your students.