

Strategic Planning 2018-2023 Executive Summary

Woodland District 50 embarked on creating a new strategic plan in the fall of 2017 in order to provide a common sense of direction through mission, vision, strategic direction and goals for 2018 through 2023. Woodland had just completed the most recent strategic plan. Like most strategic plans, the effort was organized around the following:

What do we do?
How do we do it?
Who do we do it for?

To drive the conversation, the Board of Education created a mission statement describing what Woodland District 50 is and a vision statement of what Woodland District 50 aspires to be.

Mission

Woodland District 50 empowers our children to reach their potential by providing exceptional learning experiences that foster critical thinking in a nurturing learning community.

Vision

Together, inspiring tomorrow's creators, thinkers and leaders

Throughout the process, we collected ideas and opinions from students, staff and community members through an electronic survey and focus groups conducted in October followed by two evenings in November of community meetings. At the core of the discussions and survey questions were five focus areas of study developed by the Board of Education:

Student Learning
Student Well-Being
Finance and Facilities
Staff Recruitment and Development
Community Relations and District Pride

The survey, developed to collect stakeholder opinions on the focus areas of study, was available from October 10 through October 24 and drew responses from 1,058 people with 69 percent being parents, 23 percent staff and 8 percent community members.

During this same time, focus group meetings were held to get in-person feedback on the five focus areas of study. Groups included seventh and eighth grade students, parent groups, PTA, community officials, and teachers and administrators. Feedback was received from 65 stakeholders.

The data was used to plan the two meetings in November wherein 91 community members, including middle school and high school students, came together as a strategic long-range planning committee and dialogued regarding their views on what is important for the future of Woodland schools. The two evenings - facilitated by board members or administrators who

trained in October on how to lead the groups - not only provided valuable information to develop goals in the plan, but the time spent also enhanced relationships with Woodland stakeholders.

Seventy-three individuals who attended the long-range planning committee meetings completed evaluations. Of those who responded, 92 percent (67) said the two days were beneficial in supporting collaboration for creating a five-year plan, 93 percent (68) said the focus areas of study matched their expectations of what is important for Woodland, and 90 percent (66) felt their voice was heard.