



## **Creating a Strategic Plan for the Roxbury Township School District**

### **Mission Statement**

The Roxbury Township Public Schools, a dynamic and thriving district, in partnership with a supportive and collaborative community, inspires and empowers all learners to flourish as ethical and global citizens in the 21st century.

#### **Session 2 of 3**

### **What is our Vision for the Roxbury School District for the Next 3 – 5 Years? What Expectations and Initiatives do we Believe in?**

On February 25, 2014, Roxbury School District administration, Board of Education members, staff, parents and community members came together to continue strategic planning. The second evening's topic was focused on creating a shared vision for the Roxbury Township School District. The meeting began with an overview of the first meeting – the identification of district strengths/accomplishments and challenges.

Then to begin the visioning process, we discussed the idea of moving away from the district for five years and returning, only to find the Roxbury School District on the cover of *Time* magazine as "Schools that Succeed." Approximately 50 participants gathered in four randomly assigned groups to brainstorm what the district did to achieve this remarkable success. After discussion, each group came to a consensus on its shared visions and presented them to all the meeting participants. The session concluded with the identification of common threads throughout the groups' visions and four broad goal areas for the next meeting.

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 work of the groups with the community during the course of the strategic planning process.

## **Group Consensus - "Our Visions for the Future"**

### **Red Team:**

- Collaboration with send/receive districts
- Model for professional development in Morris County
- Engage alumni with new programs
- Continued growth in student achievement
- High proficiency rates
- Well-rounded standard testing systems
- Brought opportunities in areas students are passionate about
- Wide variety of electives and program options
- Vocational annex or rental space
- All students attend college or vocational school
- Partnership with businesses in town
- Corporate sponsors
- Empowering "digital natives"
- Increase applications/use of iPads
- Cutting-edge technology used as an effective instructional tool - focus on younger students
- Staff/supervisors maintaining/sustaining programs
- All green facilities
- Culture of innovation
- Pool
- State-of-the-art facility
- Destination facility that takes advantage of Roxbury's central location making money (rent)
- Whole community involved
- Role models

### **Blue Team:**

- Personalized learning-digital portfolio
- Full-day kindergarten
- Bilingual
- Superior math and science foundation
- Solidified postgraduate pursuits - understand where they're going
- Good study skills and work ethic
- Broader curricular offerings - including trades
- Guidance and support staff at all levels-student mentors
- Early intervention
- Whole child development
- Interactive learning spaces/open floor plans
- Constructivism
- Less focus on testing
- Awareness/access to AP testing (AP potential)
- One-to-one initiative (device)
- Digital textbooks

**Blue Team (continued):**

- Global learning (with one class minimum)
- Social skills/technology balance
- Field experience and opportunity awareness
- Civic responsibility
- Virtual classrooms

**Green Team:**

- Authentic, interdisciplinary, community-based learning tasks
  - Classroom without walls through technology
- Expand school of choice program
- Collaborative, interactive, innovative problem solvers
- Student driven learning, respectful of their individual talents and interests
- Expand foreign language instruction
- Family learning experiences with support
- Community interaction outreach
- Making education meaningful with a creative school day

**Yellow Team:**

- Balance between technology and socialization
- Classrooms w/o walls
- Allows all to voice
- Classroom sharing w/other countries via Skype or Facetime
- SME involvement w/teaching kids
- Virtual classrooms on inclement weather days
- 1:1 technology
- Recruiting educators that fully embrace and can teach innovative uses of technology
  - Focus retention on best teachers
  - In-district trainers (prompts professional development and sense of school community)
- Engage in use of best in class security features in technology
- Learning technology is community-based
- More funds allocated to fine arts – 2nd music teacher at Lincoln/Roosevelt
- Equitable distribution for funds for facilities
- State-of-art science labs
- Add 2nd Floor at HS
- Fully climate controlled buildings
- Full time specialists at each school (stronger programs)
- Full complement of course offerings that meet the needs of all students in the building including at risk students.
- Longer school day and school year for middle school and high school students
- Challenge – fiscal gaps in budget
- Nurturing future global citizens – empathic culturally and communication beyond school walls (globally)

## ***Roxbury Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes***

### **Common Threads:**

After the individual groups reported their visions, the following common threads were identified that connected all of the groups' work.

- Responsible and abundant use of technology
- Balance of socialization
- Expanded language skills
- Enhance vocational programs
- Global learning
- State-of-the-art facilities
- Learning without walls
- Broadening educational experience to include community
- Partner with businesses in community
- More supportive services

### **Broad Goal Areas:**

The four goal areas for the next session that emerged from the groups' work are:

- Student Achievement/Professional Development
- Technology
- Facilities & Finance/Safety & Security
- Culture & Climate/Community

### **Next Meeting:**

The third and final strategic planning session is scheduled for:

**Tuesday, March 25, 2014 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM**  
**Lincoln/Roosevelt School Auditorium, 34 North Hillside Avenue, Succasunna.**

During the March meeting we will:

- Create a goal statement for each of the 4 identified goal areas.
- Develop objectives for each goal area based on the information derived from the previous group work in sessions 1 and 2.

Please join us, even if you have not attended previous meetings. Everyone is welcome. We look forward to seeing you!