



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Mullica Township School District

Mission Statement

In an effort to prepare students to be college and career ready, the mission of the Mullica Township School District is to celebrate diversity by creating an emotionally and behaviorally safe learning environment where academics and the arts are esteemed.

Session 1

What are the Strengths, Achievements and Challenges of the Mullica Township School District?

On November 16, 2021, Mullica Township School District administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, and community members, twenty eight (28) in all, came together to initiate strategic planning. The topic for the first evening focused on the strengths, achievements, and challenges of the Mullica Township School District. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Board President, Susan Brownhill. Mr. Andrew Weber, Superintendent, presented the current “State of the Schools” report. Facilitators Mary Ann Friedman and Michelle Kennedy, from New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), were introduced and provided an introduction to the strategic planning process.

We reviewed the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. The topic for the evening focused on identifying district strengths and challenges. Participants gathered in randomly assigned groups, five groups in total, and engaged in brainstorming the districts strengths and challenges. After group discussion, each group identified their consensus points, “Top 10” strengths and challenges, and presented those to the full group of meeting participants. The larger group then identified “Common Themes” that had occurred throughout the smaller groups.

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.

Mullica Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Group Consensus: Strengths, Achievements & Challenges

Fuchsia Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Technology / STEM Programs	Size / Facility space
Teaching Staff	Communication (parent preparedness, methods of communication and special programs)
Agility / Resilience in putting students' best interests first	Transportation
Size / Attention on Students	Staffing
PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention & Support)	WWTP – Wastewater Treatment Plant
Extra-Curricular programs / Student Choice (garden, ACES – Afterschool Coyote Experiences, clubs, exploratory	
Fair distribution of funds	

Orange Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Social-Emotional Learning	Addressing racial inequities
PBIS	Science Lab update
Child Study Team (CST)	HVAC
Individualized supports	
STEM	
ACES	
Counseling	

Black Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Garden program	Open air classroom (Pavilion with seating)
Trips	Communication
Sensory Room	Intervention for at risk students
Inclusive environment	CST support for Special Ed teachers & students
Full day PreK	Collaborate with gen ed teachers/students
1:1 Chromebooks	Curriculum for most at risk students
Security	
Outside supports	
SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) - PBIS	

Mullica Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Dark Blue Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Garden education	Standard communication channels Middle to Primary (Website)
Staff	Communication of student achievement / local newspaper
Exploratory program	Facilities update to parents
Enrollment options (attracting students)	Increase social / emotional programs (bullying)
Response to COVID	Keep taxes down
Communication	Expand utilization of Media Center / Garden
Up to date curriculum	Volunteer Program

Dark Green Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Technology	District communication – uniform platform / timely manner
PBIS	Staffing
Class sizes	Special Education – 504/IEP communication / training
Security	Busing → COVID related issues
Extra programming – ACES → AM/PM, clubs	PreK / K 1:1 technology
Teacher communication	YMCA only for AM/PM care for younger students
Facility → overall (and garden)	Outdoor Learning Environment
High School Choice through GEHRHSD	Interventions for primary students – Reading / Math
MSA (Middle States Accreditation)	Scheduling – whole district moving at the same time

Mullica Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Following each group reporting out on their consensus points, the large group identified the following **common themes**:

- Communication
- PBIS
- Technology
- Special Ed
- Extra-Curriculars
- Staff
- Volunteers
- Facility
- SEL
- Security
- Transportation
- Class Size
- Student achievement
- Outdoor spaces

The second strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 6:30 pm, Mullica Twp. Cafeteria.

Sign-in begins at 6:15 pm.

Meetings are scheduled for 1.5 hours. Meetings start and end promptly.

During the December 9th meeting we will create a shared vision together for the future of the Mullica Township School District . . . we will talk about our aspirations and expectations for our students and our school district.

Please join us. Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome! We look forward to seeing you!

Please RSVP by calling *the Superintendent's Office.*