

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2015 6:00 PM Central

HS CONFERENCE ROOM

705 N 9th Street
Arlington, NE 68002

Micheal Dwyer: Present

Matt O'Daniel: Absent

Teri O'Flaherty: Present

Greg Sampson: Present

Bruce Scheer: Present

Luanne Sundberg: Present

Present: 5, Absent: 1.

1. Special Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call

2. Approve Meeting Agenda

3. Consider and Discuss summary feedback from the Community Engagement stakeholders meetings.

Marcia Herring from NSBA provided the board with summary documentation from the Community Engagement meetings. She provided the board with examples of how to use this information in their development of goals and future planning. During the discussion the board and Marcia discussed the next steps for the board in utilizing this information and expanding upon the engagement opportunity.

4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.



Arlington – Community Engagement

Goal Area: Academic Performance/Programs

Objective: All students will demonstrate growth that allows them to meet their full potential in a global society.

Performance Indicators: (What can the district do to show growth and/or progress in this area?)

- Ensure differentiated instruction is delivered to meet the needs of all students
- Continue to strive towards and achieve 100% proficiency
- Prepare students for successful careers through course offerings and partnerships with higher education
- Achieve 100% graduation rate
- Offer career ready programming that meets the needs of all students
- Facilitate an environment with an adequate amount of resources that allows all students to excel
- Provide post-secondary support for all graduates
- Establish a community environment and/or culture that promotes a strong education system
- Monitor and expand the variety of courses offered
- Ensure students across all major subgroups are achieving 100% efficiency
- Utilize post-graduation data to ensure adequate preparedness and life skill
 - Follow-up with recent graduates via phone, email – invite graduates back for focus group discussions
 - Make certain all students walk!
- Develop a database of parents, community members, post-graduates, and/or experts that can be available to the district staff. These people are a great resource as guest speakers and a source for real world experiences.



Arlington – Community Engagement

Goal Area: Building, Grounds, and Transportation

Objective:

Provide a safe and secure learning environment for the students of Arlington Public Schools.

Performance Indicators:

- Complete an upgrade of the mechanical infrastructure of the school within 5 years
- Complete implementation of security measures including:
 - Complete a District Needs Assessment and obtain bids
 - Budget for the upgrade as well as ongoing needed and scheduled maintenance
- Complete a Needs Assessment of the security of all district facilities and implement actions needed as a result of assessment. This includes all areas of security/safety – i.e. securing entrances, fire exits from rooms – security of exterior windows, etc.



Arlington – Community Engagement

Goal Area: Budget / Finance

Objective:

Provide a quality education for the most efficient use of district resources.

Performance Indicators:

- Sustain the average cost per student
- Improve average ACT composite score in comparison to other schools of similar size and geographic area
- Increase option enrollment
- Seek available grants
- Effectively maintain facilities and day-to-day operations
- Grow graduation rates and higher GPA
- Provide college credits in High School toward technical programs
- Grow vocational education opportunities as well as career ready course work



Arlington – Community Engagement

Goal Area: Parent/Community Relations and School Climate/Learning Environment

Objective:

Engage the community relationships to build and retain a working-environment for the benefit to students and stakeholders.

Performance Indicators:

- Community Relationships:
 - Establish quality communication between the Fair Board, Village, School District, and Local Businessmen
 - Define if social media is helping us can hurt us
 - Reimplementation of continued education for adults – technology, arts, shop, etc.
 - Continue a quality relationship with Washington County Sheriff's Department

- Social/Climate
 - Study buddies with high school and Over 60 Center
 - Sustain safety and stay up-to-date
 - Address potential language barrier



Arlington – Community Engagement

Goal Area: Technology

Objective:

Provide opportunities to learn effectively and live productive in an increasingly global and digital society.

Performance Indicators:

- Provide the best technology available to make sure students are on the leading edge of the technology curve.
- Equip students to support individual creativity and innovation.
- Enhance communications and collaboration
- Utilize the tools provided on the ISTE Website
- Research & Information fluency
- Equip students with critical thinking skills, problem solving and decision-making
- Digital citizenship (?)
- Technology operations & concepts
- Implement and sustain One to One device ratio
- Provide internet access for all students
- Integration of technology in the classroom (as it pertains to specific subjects – with how quickly technology changes we will always be chasing a moving target.



ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

I. Identify what you liked about the Community Engagement experience?

- Getting to talk to community members ☺
- A great opportunity to communicate with stakeholders in APS and talk about our future.
- I enjoyed meeting community people – I’m a teacher, but don’t live here! Thank goodness for name tags!
- The experience brought together a vast range of different people with varied experiences and knowledge of ways to look into the future of what our school should strive to be.
- Getting the crowd “mixed” up. Good groupings.
- It was great to meet together with other community members both new and those who had lived here for many years. The sharing of ideas, so necessary, was important and interesting to all.
- Great Participation – Many Alumni ☺ Sharing experiences and life with the students.
- Seeing and hearing various community members come forward and talk openly about their experiences and to share their opinions.
- The small group sharing was valuable and enlightening about various perspectives from different factions of the community.
- I appreciate the effort the board took to get us all here – the invitation alone would probably not have gotten me here at this busy time, but the phone call was a real personal touch. We are a great community and we have a wealth of knowledge and really care about each child that comes through this school.
- Random groups – new ideas, different perspectives.
- The board being open to community feedback. Great facilitation.

- Seeing that other parents shared the same concerns/ideas as I have.
- Hearing different ideas from different perspectives.
- Learning about others ideas – the variety of resources available to address the needs.
- Listening to what other members of the community are concerned about. Hearing the praises of the community in what they feel our schools strong points are.
- Fun to hear different perspectives and how others feel about and view the school system.
- Listening to new ideas.
- The board taking the time to listen to patron concerns/ideas.
- The idea the board is looking at the newest and best ways to help kids.
- Beginning a conversation, and the different perspectives that are in our community.
- Seeing everyone who cares.
- There were many ideas that were openly accepted. People from many backgrounds.
- The ability to share information and ideas in an open forum.
- Enjoyed hearing multiple points of view and opinions.
- Learning more about the school and potential ways to try to use what we have and care for it.
- I felt this community engagement was very beneficial to the community and school I liked the discussion and the ability to report out.
- Variety of participants.
- Having an open forum to talk about the issues and celebrate the accomplishments.
- Learning from the other members of our community and reflect upon what we can do better!
- I think this was a great tool to give one school an idea where they need to go: Being involved in something like this was great.

II. What did you learn from the Community Engagement process?

- That we are blessed! Everyone wants to do their part. ☺
- How we can improve and what we're doing well already.
- That we actually have community engagement! These people really are stakeholders in our district.
- That we have a great school and have many positives to build on.
- During the "mix" ups – heard opinions ideas from folks I have never spoken to or with.
- We all want to work together to make school the best it can be for all students in this global society.
- What a GREAT School we continue to have. Thanks to the teachers and town (community).
- Hearing about what the school currently offers, but what we could do more of and do better.
- There are numerous and excellent ideas in the community and allowing a variety of individuals to contribute will build stronger schools.
- Lots of similar mind sets, but also thoughts that opened my eyes to needs and progress
- Positive and negative perceptions of the school.
- The opportunity to hear different perspectives.
- Learned that there are several employees/administrators/community members who are just as passionate about this community and want the kids to succeed.
- The strengths of the Arlington schools.
- A better understanding of funding and other processes that I was not aware of before.
- I learned a great deal from others in the community.
- What others feel is important about how the district moves forward in education.
- Most of the community members understand the challenges that our school is facing and are willing to do what they can to fill or meet the need.

- Different ideas and how parents and community members feel about what the schools are doing.
- New people add lots of ideas.
- I met staff that I had not met before.
- There is an attitude that we want to improve on what we are already doing well. There will always be challenges. Communication is critical.
- It was obvious that the folks involved were interested and wanted to give input.
- It is very difficult there are no right answers. Some of the future issues are going to be difficult, but still need to be addressed.
- New ideas and solutions from many different people.
- I learned that the community of Arlington has very high expectations and they are a very close knit community. They are willing to go above and beyond for one another to succeed.
- People are willing and anxious to be a part of the educational process.
- There are a lot of people that care about the school system even if they don't have children/grandchildren enrolled.
- Concerns of our community, what we need to improve upon, and a lot about the ideals of our district.
- There's a lot of things that go into teaching kids.

III. What would you do to improve the process?

- Nothing! It was great!
- A bit more time to further the ideas we came up with.
- Well done!
- It was great! Thank you!
- Ask students, too? Or is that already being done?
- I'm not sure – going to have to wait and see if anything comes out of it!! Talks cheap...
- One thing that was not mentioned – mixing church/state? (Faith Base and Community)

- Keep the talks going. Don't limit meetings to the same group of people. Encourage and invite different knowledgeable people.
- I would go further with the engagement sessions into a true strategic planning process.
- Maybe a quieter time of year, but really good discussion and diverse group of people brought together to discuss education.
- It was a great experience!
- Communicate the results and the follow up
 - Personally – I would be willing to present on personal finance and/or the process and requirements of having a licensed CPA – I have a passion for both of these. (Jean Brown)
- Encourage other community members to get involved in the school and especially the young people in the community.
- Since this was first year I don't think there is much to improve on. I think time given was perfect and hopefully a lot will be taken from these meetings.
- Nothing – very beneficial to me.
- I thought the process was beneficial may possibly have needed additional time.
- Well ran.
- During the first meeting, it seemed like there were two camps, one for expansion and one for keeping the same size. I think it would be good to define a direction before these types of meetings to help people focus on an outcome.
- My hearing is not good therefore I missed a great deal.
- I felt it was very well organized. Great job!
- The questions are loaded, where do we go from here?
- The tables tonight came up with some great ideas; however, I would think that having people that specialize in budgets or technology would give you better ideas.