



Chesterfield Township School District

Creating a Strategic Plan for the Chesterfield Township School District

Mission Statement

The education of the youngest generation is “THE MISSION” of all adult citizens of Chesterfield Township. We strive to accomplish this in partnership with home and community. As mandated by state and federal guidelines, our goal is to teach our students the skills necessary to achieve proficiency in the most current NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards.

The school leadership must provide the necessary resources and facilities that support a positive learning environment. In a rapidly changing community, Chesterfield Township Elementary School is committed to providing a safe environment in which to prepare all students to become responsible, respectful citizens and active life-long learners, with an appreciation of self and others.

Session 1

What are the Strengths/Achievements and Challenges of the Chesterfield Township School District?

On April 23, 2015, Chesterfield Township School District administrators, Board of Education members, education staff, parents and community members, thirty-two (32) in all, came together to initiate strategic planning for the Chesterfield Township School District. The first evening's topic focused on the strengths, achievements, and challenges of the Chesterfield Township School District. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Chesterfield Board of Education Vice President, Mr. Jignesh Shah. The Superintendent, Mr. Scott Heino presented the current “State of the School.” Facilitators Jesse Adams Jr. and Kathy Winecoff, from New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), were introduced and Jesse 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 the school districts strengths/achievements and challenges. Participants gathered in randomly assigned groups, four groups in total, engaged in brainstorming the strengths/achievements and challenges. After group discussion, each group identified their

Chesterfield Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

consensus points, “Top 10” strengths/achievements and challenges, and presented those to the full group of meeting participants.

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 web to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

Group Consensus: Strengths/Achievements & Challenges

Team One:

Strengths/Achievements	Challenges
Writers workshop	Workshops implemented inconsistently
Readers workshop	Supplies for workshops/curriculum
Workshop resource allocation needs provides opportunity to strategies	School based extracurricular activities are basic (sports)
Beautiful building and town setting	Gifted and Talented and advanced programs seem to be lacking
Safe community	Increased number of challenged students
Teacher quality is very good	Stuffing to accommodate growth
Family support	Support staff for building grounds and administrative services are strained
Diverse community	2% tax cap
Manageable class size – except 6th Grade	Health Care costs
Investment in the future	Lacking technology
Growing and attractive community	

Team Two:

Strengths/Achievements	Challenges
Improved student achievement	Growth
Diversity	Budgetary concerns (i.e. funding and property taxes)
New school	Communication
Commitment to technology	Special education support
Caring and embracing teachers and staff	Lack of advanced learning for students (systemic)
Responsive teachers	Traffic
Parental support	Hiring excellent teachers
Community	Developing teachers
Caring committed special education bus drivers	

Chesterfield Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Team Three:

Strengths/Achievements	Challenges
Sense of community	Community involvement
Climate	\$ Dollars
Staff	Parking
Building	Staffing (nurse, specials, etc.)
Security	At risk-Special Education (low growth/achievement)
PTA	Growth
CPEF	Responding to change
Growth towards initiatives (writing, communication)	Access to meetings (audio/video)
Academic achievement	New staff/professional development
Class size (K – 5)	Technology
	Increase in Gifted and Talented

Team Four:

Strengths/Achievements	Challenges
Building	Hold onto small community values in a large district
Sense of community	Money
Dedicated staff	Meeting needs of diverse learners
Diversity	Willingness to change
Compassion	Meet the mandates imposed on district
Improved academics	Logistics with larger student population
Positive school climate	Staff support with increased numbers
Technology – OK now	Parental involvement
School – Core of Community	Staffing assignment consistency – Turnover
Support groups (PTA, Police, FUND, CTAA, CTASSA)	Communication between school/community
	Divided community – Old/New
	Technology
	Clear vision to work to common goal – Firefighting

Chesterfield Township School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

After reviewing the small groups' consensus points, the large group identified the following **Common Themes:**

Strengths/Achievements	Challenges
Sense of Community – How to Retain?	Money
New Building	Managing Growth
Diversity	Technology
Staff	Meeting Needs of Diverse Learners
Safe & Secure Environment	Sustaining Community Involvement
School Climate is Positive	Staff Support and Needs (# of staff)
Academic Achievement	Staff Development
Support Groups	Inconsistent Learning Strategies in the Classroom
	Increasing Outreach to All Stakeholders
	Parking/Traffic
	How to Bridge the Divide Between the Old and New Community?

The second strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Wednesday, May 13, 2015
from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at Chesterfield Township Elementary School.
Sign-in begins at 6:45 pm.
Meetings are scheduled for 2 hours and end promptly.

During the May 13th meeting we will create a shared vision together for the future of the Chesterfield Township School District . . . we will talk about our aspirations and expectations for our students and district.

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

Please RSVP to the Office of the Superintendent at lnice@chesterfield.nj.k12us.com