



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Morris County Vocational School District

District Mission Statement

The mission of the Morris County Vocational School District is to provide vocational and enrichment programs that inspire and prepare students to succeed in today's world and pursue tomorrow's opportunities.

Session 2 of 3

Developing a Vision for the Morris County Vocational School District in the Next 5 Years

On December 14, 2015 Morris County Vocational School District administration, staff, parents, students and community members came together to continue the strategic planning process. The second meeting's topic focused on creating a shared vision for the Morris County Vocational School District in the next five years.

The meeting, facilitated by Charlene Peterson and Mary Gassman from New Jersey School Boards Association, began with an overview of the Strategic Planning process and the steps taken at the November 16, 2015 meeting.

To begin the visioning process, participants were asked to picture themselves away from the district for 5 years, and returning to find the Morris County Vocational School District on the cover of TIME magazine, with the caption "21st Century Success." The participants were asked to envision what was written in the magazine article that warranted such high recognition – what programs / services / curriculum / student outcomes / best practices / facilities would you expect to see in your school that are succeeding? 21st century skills were highlighted in a video clip.

Approximately 30 participants then gathered in four randomly assigned groups to brainstorm their visions of how the district achieved this remarkable success. Each group's outcomes were shared with all meeting participants. The session concluded with the identification of common threads throughout the groups' work and four broad goal areas for the next meeting.

Group Work

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 group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

Morris County Vocational School District Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes

Red Dot Group:

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
Expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perhaps multiple campuses • One large campus • Modification – facilities, program 	Students to know how to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effectively communicate • Adapt to change • Problem solvers – critical thinking skills
Corporate partnerships	Cross disciplinary connections
Maintain small school feel (Class numbers, student-teacher ratio)	Diversify fourth year on campus option (Maybe ½ year elective)
Shared time campus <u>and</u> full time campus	Recognize what we are. Specialized training
Partnering shared time student and parents into school	Positive relationship with different school districts (building on what we have)
Morris Tech, MCVSD, MCST – clearer identity	

Purple Dot Group:

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
2 campuses/new campus	Our own busses
Charging stations	Multiple media centers
“Genius Hour”	More parking
Less structured/more college feel	Vocational evolution/multiple pathways
Alternative creative workspaces	Multiple perspectives from different teachers
Band room and sports fields	Experiential design of curriculum
Common lunch block	Interdisciplinary and interaction across curriculum
Common teacher planning time	Diversity
End of day activity period	

Orange Dot Group:

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
Greater school spirit	Smaller class sizes
Increased elective and extracurricular/athletics	Increased dual enrollment
Access to cutting edge resources	Global connections
Strong interaction with industry thought leaders (career exploration)	Strong positive public image
Accepting all qualified students and serving in a larger (pretty) facility. On-site fields or transportation	Students will be innovators, creators, thinkers, leaders, problem solvers, technology savvy.
Infusing new programs to meet labor demands	

Morris County Vocational School District Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes

Black Dot Group:

Vision - Initiatives	Vision - Initiatives
Large, state-of-the-art facility and equipment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowing us to serve a larger number of students • Enabling the District to hire more diversified faculty 	Graduating students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a viable transition/action plan • Have a professional network or mentor(s) • Established alumni network • Individualized credentials/skills and original products (capstone, badges, etc.)
Enhance extracurricular activities	Providing 7 th and 8 th grade exploratory programs
More active Advisory Council that partners with students, teachers, and programs – creating authentic learning opportunities	Interdisciplinary and/or integrated academic programs

Broad Goal Areas:

Four goal areas emerged from the common themes identified by the group at large:

- Expansion
- Culture and Climate
- 21st Century Skills
- College and Career Readiness

The third strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Monday, January 11, 2016

7:00 – 8:30 pm at Morris County School of Technology, Building 4, Culinary Dining Room

During the January 11th meeting we will review the outcomes from Sessions 1 & 2 (Strengths & Challenges, Visions) and develop broad goal statements for each goal area that emerged from Session 2, and related objectives for each goal area.

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