

Shelton Public Schools

Strategic Planning Steering Committee

Nov. 15, 2016

4:00 p.m.

Conference Room B

Central Administrative Offices

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chris Clouet, Beth Smith, Joan Tichy, Jim Colandrea, Kathy Riddle, Tina Henckel, Dan Ebert, Dina Marks, Lorraine Rossner, Ken Saranich, Darlisa Ritter

AGENDA:

1. Reflection on: *The Future of Work*; presentation by Joe Carbone

- a. Interesting message regarding how the work place and work training will change in the future as well as how personal choices are made by individuals and how those individuals venture forward regarding their choices and what is truly best for them and future life choices
- b. How will our work for our strategic plan change and evolve over its development
- c. Make sure to involve the correct model in our strategic plan in so much that we follow the correct path
- d. More thoughts and discussions to follow.....

2. Updates from the Focus Groups

- a. **Community** – K. Riddle – will be conducting a meeting on 11/17 – build a data base of support – tracking the interest as well as the connections between members of the community and the schools – engage more with community conversations to establish relationships to a greater degree in order to provide opportunities to our students and the greater community – more to come
- b. **Innovation** – K. Saranich – at our last meeting we participated in two activities – initiation of a relaunch – SIS held a forum with students to talk to them about what they thought “innovation” was – it was an enlightening experience for both faculty and students – What does innovation mean to you? What does innovation look like in school? How does that work for you? What were students opinions – what are most important to them - Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, Content Knowledge, Project Based Activities/Hands On, Leadership Skills, Imagination, Effective Communication, Choice – these are things that students felt are important with respect to how they feel and learn in school – biggest “take-away” – *“Innovation does not mean Technology”*

- c. **Career Pathways** – B. Smith – reviewed data points from previous forums – started discussion of career pathways – how do students make choices – course selection and career pathways – what about students’ skill sets??? – authentic learning projects in grades 4, 6, 8, & 10 – how would this look – what is necessary – what about rubrics – what does this type of project based learning look like?????
- d. **STEAM**- T. Henckel – finalizing the top 5 items of most important things – what do students need to be the most productive that they can be – ex. keyboarding for future effectiveness – what are the best “soft skills” to know or learn – event????? – District-wide Open House – do not create events in isolation – plan cohesively – in and outside of the school day – also completing work on the NSF Grant – National Science Foundation Planning Grant – creating a STEAMSCAPE for informal science within the community – also exploring opportunities with the Connecticut Science Center and continuing Professional Learning
- e. **Humanities** – J. Colandrea – have composed 5 focus areas: citizenship, social justice, traditions, creativity, & interdisciplinary – definitions will be forthcoming – develop a program that will endure – ex. what might you do during intermission in the form of a “talk” – messages need creation

3. S.W.O.T. Exercise & Homework

- a. The exercise was handed out and we will work on it for the next meeting
- b. Take a look at the Hyde Park Document – p. 15 – start the process of what our list might look like

4. Core Convictions; Defining & Refining

- a. Bring a preliminary list of your “10 Things” that your group has developed

5. Other Issues

- a. The Commissioner of Education Diana Wentzell would like to come and visit Shelton and this may become a reality in the near future

Next Strategic Planning Steering Committee meeting on:

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Conference Room B

Central Administrative Offices

Lunch will be served!

Thank you for your leadership on this journey!