Strategic Planning Chairman Meeting
Monday, January 1, 2019
10:00 a.m.
Conference Room B

Members in Attendance: Chris Clouet, Lorraine Rossner, Ken Saranich, Beth Smith, Kristen Santilli, Kathy Riddle, Gavi Ziu-Pires, and guest Martha Parkins

Agenda:

Strategic Planning 2019 – *What does Innovation mean?*

- **Innovation** – noun – the action or process of innovation
- **Synonyms:** Change, alteration, revolution, upheaval, transformation, metamorphosis, breakthrough; A new method, idea, product, etc.
- **Plural Noun:** innovations “technological innovations designed to save energy”

Updates: Share information on the recently printed Strategic Planning Booklets and “Shelton’s Vision of a Graduate” Posters

- **“Keys to Success” – District Committee Work**
  - **Overview Presentation** – Martha Parkins
  - The “study skills” committee has morphed into “Keys to Success” Committee – currently a 6 member committee
  - What do our students need regarding these “soft skills”
  - Start with three skills *(possible milestones)* to focus on in a roll-out this fall:
    - **Digital Organization**
      - What skills do students need to remain “organized” digitally
  - Explicit technology instruction
    - Digital Expectations by Grade Level
    - Universal Expectations across the district
  - How do we get this work embedded within the “Milestones” expectations of the district

- **Presentations Opportunities**
  - Currently opportunities within the established “milestones”
  - Real-world skills to use throughout their educational careers as well as in the “real world”
  - Aligns to “student-led” conference

- **Active “Good” Listeners**
- Explicitly teach these skills – work with a partner – share another’s view point – Habits of Mind – “active” listening supports active learning
- What constitutes a “good” or “active” listener

- A “rough” overview of the “K.to S.” committee work was shared with the committee chairs – reminding all that this is a working document of the committee work to use as a structure or framework for the future

Committee Chair Reports/Updates:

- **Humanities** – Kristen Santilli
  - Humanities Committee met last week – about 14 members showed up for this informational meeting to discuss “milestone” implementation on the elementary level – detailed discussion – implementing and rolling out additional milestones – continued discussion re: News and Media Literacy as well as Habits of Mind reflection on a student level – how these purposeful activities can be implemented across all grade levels

- **Career Pathways** – Beth Smith
  - Multiple opportunities for students to be exposed to selections and choices they have about their chosen “career pathway” – suggestions is made to “map out” career opportunities at SHS – also continued planning for the “academy of innovation” at SHS – Grade 8 Open House will be this Thursday, 1/17/19 at SHS

- **STEAM** – Gavi Ziu-Pires
  - Gavi has inherited the chairmanship of STEAM – once goals and expectations are outlined we will begin holding committee meetings again to move forward with the work of the committee

- **Innovation** – Ken Saranich
  - Upcoming Chamber of Commerce visit to the School of Innovation at SIS – working closely with SHS to establish their Academy of Innovation – ongoing implementation talks and developments about innovation within the district

- **Community** – Kathy Riddle
  - On **Thursday, April 4th** at Shelton High School we will be hosting an event called “Generations - art, music and innovation” beginning at 5:00 p.m. The focus is to highlight not only what is taking place in the Shelton Public Schools but in our community as well. The community focus group will meet on **Thursday, January 31st at 5:30 in room 341** at Shelton High School. Please feel free to attend or extend the invite to any of your staff. Kathy will be reaching out to you directly or your liaison in the near future to talk about how you feel your school can be best represented.
Next Steps in light of a tight budget.................we may have to slow down but not stop moving forward and doing the good work to improve education and serve kids.

**Next Meeting:**

- Monday, February 25, 2019
- 10:00 a.m.
- Conference Room B
- Central Administrative Offices

*Agenda to be determined*
Humanities Meeting 1.10.19

Agenda Items:
Review of Humanities Milestones and Implementation from the 17-18 school year:
- By the end of grade 4
- By the end of grade 8

News and Media Literacy Focus and Impact on the Milestones
Next Steps: Adding milestones to PHS and SHS
Weaving the “Habits of Mind” into the Humanities Milestones

Attendance:
Committee Chair; Kristen Santilli, Principal, Mohegan Elementary School
Department Chair K-12 Media; Joan Tichy
K-12 Department Chair Art; Teresa Piccolo
Natasha Peruzzi Grade 2
Tina Taylor Grade 3
Melissa Fenstemaker Grade 5
Curriculum Leader 7-8 ELA; Melissa Ciszkowski
Curriculum Leader 7-8 SS & Dean of Students; Bob Ayer
Curriculum Leader 9-12 SS; Jim Hill
Curriculum Leader 9-12 ELA; Dana Jeanette Kneen
Jim Colandrea SHS AP
Superintendent, Dr. Clouet
Andrea Clark Media K-4
Gretchen Webster HS Journalism

Milestone implemented last year 17-18:
- Grade 2 Extended Down at Mohegan School with the Milestone Last Year: Living Wax museum in second grade with media tie-in (videos, green room, videos in the community)
- Humanities Milestone: By the end of 4th grade...: biographies- interviews, presentations, etc. “research of a famous person” - Presentation product can vary based on student preference
- Grade 8: personal narrative experience- showed a path with written, map, google slides, etc. to present- gallery walk of each others work- SS teachers (interdisciplinary)

❖ How do we bring to PHS and SHS to implement milestones? What goal or product or project?
    ➔ Use a menu for all grades that
    ➔ expands as students get older/go up in the grades

PHS:
• linking research to reality- interviewing people for careers
• by the end of 6th grade complete an interview for a chosen career

SHS:
• 3 journal entries are happening now
• Capstone is a big undertaking but could become a part of this
• Use of internships, volunteer hours, experiential learning, etc. is possible
• Steering committee discussed resources for community interviews

News and Media Literacy:
• Beyond Fake News- teaching kids how to find accurate information
• See Joan’s shared powerpoint
• This will be shared at each building
• Proposed Milestones for grades 4, 6, 8, and 12
  ○ Define news and media literacy
  ○ Locate and highlight where it already exists
  ○ Identify opportunities to extend, enhance, etc.
• Integrating patience and stamina and then teach identifying persuasive writing
• Process: Access, Analyze, Evaluate, and Create
• Five questions when looking at media
• Separating fact and opinion, assertion vs. verification

Habits of Mind:
• Weave them into the milestones
• Identifying them within the project with students
• Reflection piece possibly
• Use specific books in elementary/middle schools consistently within the grade level or school to infuse habits of mind
• Identifying the habit of mind in elementary, then as they progress through the grades have students reflect on how they apply the habits of mind while they work in the secondary levels

Next Steps:
• Look at what we are doing and connect media literacy to humanities milestones and habits of mind
• See the powerpoint about media literacy
• How do we assess and measure that they are getting it?
  ○ Student products- evidence
• 5-6 has Real World Reading with 3 tasks
  ○ will add the 5 questions to their unit
• Will develop an assessment to prove understanding of “Fake News” using the strategies we will teach
• Early grades need to make sure that students are going to safe websites
• How do bring the message of Fake vs Real News for every grade level K-12
• Teachers need to own this topic and have PD on this before teaching it to students
• Develop a document that covers Proposed lessons for each grade level
• Develop a PD for teachers about the 5 Questions
• Proposed Milestones Spreadsheet created by Andrea and Joan including the Media “Fake News” goals:
  o Make a Grade 10 column on Proposed Milestones
  o Add Humanities Focus Points
  o Look to add “HOM” if applicable
• Meet with grade levels to find places in where products are already in place and see where we can add the 5 questions
• Share Proposed Milestones Spreadsheet with the Humanities Committee to add to the document to share out at our next meeting