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PROGRESS UPDATE ON BOARD OF EDUCATION GOALS

APRIL 3, 2017

As we approach the last quarter of the school year, I thought it would be appropriate to provide the Tuckahoe School Community with a progress update on the Board of Education's Annual Goals, which were adopted in September 2016.

1. SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

The Tuckahoe School Board has provided ongoing support during the transition of the new Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Director of Finance and Facilities, Director of Health, PE and Athletics, MS/HS Assistant Principal and Interim Director of Middle School Education. Professional development activities for the administrative team included a summer retreat, APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review) trainings, School Safety workshops and active memberships with various educational leadership organizations. The Board has been supportive of numerous proposals brought forth by the administrative team to enhance and expand opportunities for students such as adding professional staffing to address enrollment needs, the establishment of a new elementary special education program, the THS Senior Internship program, four additional co-curricular clubs and four new athletic teams.

2. BOARD TRAINING, SELF-EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT

To support the transition of three first year Board of Education trustees, a significant amount of time and energy has been invested in professional development and training. The entire Board participated in summer and mid-year retreat sessions that included goal setting sessions, legal trainings and school building tours. In addition, Board members completed courses in Essentials of School Board Governance and Fiscal Oversight Fundamentals through the New York State School Boards Association. The Board of Education also has reviewed financial data, student performance and professional information on a regular basis.

3. DISTRICT CAPITAL PROJECT

The Board has carefully considered recommendations for a potential capital project from the District Facilities Committee and KG&D Architects. These recommendations have been presented to the public, and numerous community members have provided valued written and verbal feedback to the District. The Board has been analyzing the impact that expanded and improved facilities will have on the quality of education in the Tuckahoe Schools, and intends to make a final decision by June 2017 on a proposal a bond for a public vote in the fall of 2017.

4. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

The Board successfully negotiated and approved contracts with the TTA (Tuckahoe Teachers' Association) and the TAA's (Tuckahoe Administrators' Association) in November 2016 and March 2017 respectively. A comprehensive review of compensation structure for all TTA co-curricular stipend positions is being performed, and negotiations are expected to commence before the end of the school year. CSEA's (Civil Service Employee Association) contract negotiations are still in the planning stages, and initial negotiation dates are being scheduled.

5. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT & BUDGET PLANNING

This year, the Board of Education has added personnel to address our increasing enrollment, and approved programs that enhance our students' educational experience while operating within the NYS imposed tax cap. Based on early projections, the District expects to end this fiscal year with a net surplus approximately \$1,000,000 due to effective cost saving and revenue generating initiatives. The Board's fiscally conservative approach will enable our district to add staff and enhance program in the 2017-2018 School Year (as outlined in the Superintendent's Proposed Budget) without overriding Tuckahoe's .8% Allowable Tax Levy.

6. STATE MANDATES & REQUIREMENTS

In November 2016, the Board adopted an updated Two-Year Special Education plan and Professional Development plan. In December 2016, the Board of Education approved a new APPR (Annual Professional Performance Review) plan aligned with Education Law §3012 for all professional staff. The Board supported professional development training and approved an independent evaluator to ensure the successful implementation of our plan. In March 2017, the Board of Education approved the District's Smart Schools Investment Plan in accordance the NYS Smart Schools Bond Act.

7. STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

The Board adopted a revised version of years four and five of the District's Five-Year Strategic Plan. Formal presentations on strategic plan progress are scheduled for the April and May Board of Education meetings. Conducting a follow up District needs assessment for 2017-2018 is still under consideration.

8. POLICY REVIEW

During the summer of 2016, the Board of Education reviewed and adopted an Online Banking policy and Information Security Breach and Notification policy. In November 2016, the Board reviewed and adopted new School Safety Plans and approved Safety Teams aligned with NYSED Law, and revised our Student Records Policy. In March 2017, the Board a reviewed and adopted Charging of Meals and Health Insurance policies.

9. IMPROVED COMMUNICATIONS

In September 2016, the District established several new Board of Education liaison positions to facilitate and promote both internal and external communication with our community. Board liaisons were assigned to William E. Cottle, Tuckahoe Middle School, Tuckahoe High School, Tuckahoe PTA/SEPTA, the Tuckahoe Schools Foundation, the Town of Eastchester and the Village of Tuckahoe. In addition, Board liaisons actively served on the District's contract negotiations teams, Budget Advisory and Capital Project committees. Communication efforts for the Community Special Vote to Purchase 110 Ridge Street included presentations at Board of Education meetings, presentations to the PTA, town hall style meetings in Chester Heights, the Village of Tuckahoe and Bronxville Manor, coverage in three local newspapers and a district-wide mailing to over 2,200 homes.