

SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE
HILLSBOROUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION
October 21, 2015

The Hillsborough Township Board of Education will be conducting a special meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 21, 2015, at the Auten Road Intermediate School library, 281 Auten Road. Action will not be taken at this meeting.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT Deena Centofanti, Judith C. Haas, Jennifer Haley, Thomas Kinst, and Lorraine Soisson

ABSENT Dana Boguszewski, Steven Cohen, Debashis Dutta, and Gregory Gillette

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Jorden Schiff, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lisa M. Antunes, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, and Mr. Matthew Bouldin, Assistant School Business Administrator/Assistant Board Secretary and many other members of Board of Education Administration.

Board of Education members and school district administrators came together on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 to conduct preliminary strategic planning work in preparation for the scheduled community engagement work sessions.

The following is a summary of the consensus ideas and individual ideas generated in each group.

Where do we see ourselves in five years

Group 1

CONSENSUS:

1. Suitable and appropriate space for every learner
2. Renewed philosophy on learning as a process as opposed to focus on outcomes
3. Enhanced curriculum that disintegrates traditional subject boundaries

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Comfortable learning space/environment for every student to strive for their best
2. Today we almost have a cutting edge curriculum - 5 years from now = cutting edge
3. Academy track high school courses (starting in middle school)
4. Full early childhood
5. Better and comprehensive mental health support
6. Better schedule for the high school so more kids can take a variety of courses
7. Greater employee support for stuff (EAP) program
8. Expanded electives in technology, and blended classes in other disciplines
9. Sustainability
10. Climate control -- not too hot, not too cold
 - a. Air conditioning
11. Strides in decreasing achievement gap

12. Space/classrooms for all teachers/staff (no carts, no traveling/no sharing rooms unless for a co-teaching purpose)
13. Truly safe schools/security features
14. Children who are more concerned with the process of learning and grading rather than the outcome grades
15. Smaller class sizes
16. Kids take ownership for their learning
17. Anti-bullying (peer relationships) workshops at elementary level
18. Science labs in ARIS

Group 2

CONSENSUS:

1. Safety - Physical and mental
2. Universal full day kindergarten base/foundation of going forward
3. Dynamic internships/partnerships employer/schools/global
4. Building schools for sustainability
5. STEM - Early on and broader - global offerings

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Dynamic-internship to job/employment partnership between schools and businesses in the community
2. New high school with programming/design for 21st century learning -- universally designed for all learners
3. Virtual classrooms/club experiences that connect us globally and connected to travel/service learning for each grade
4. Full day kindergarten
5. Low student to teacher ratio
6. Reduce busing
7. Community outreach
8. Better lunch program
9. Early language program
10. Technology - iPads
11. more building/space needed
12. Global connection
13. "Green schools"
 - a. Environment - kids aware of environment, becomes part of decision making process that includes environment as factor in all decisions - an environmentally friendly school
14. Alignment of teacher - student characteristics/traits to maximize teachers impact on student academic growth
15. Enhancement of programs to better equip students to be prepared for workforce
16. Partnership with employers (expand J&J) career goals - what skills/training is/are required to be successful - "preceptorship programs or internships" broader availability to all
17. Expansion of high school
18. Safety in schools especially during times children may be more vulnerable (e.g., when kids are getting on/off bus
19. Safe kids -- safe from threats/danger but also safe from stress/pressure can hurt them
20. Promise for future - schools pride path to successful future for kids - college, trade

21. Technology - kids exposed to cutting edge technology - STEM -- math/science emphasized
22. Travel/world - kids have opportunity to interact with kids from around the world

Group 3

CONSENSUS:

1. Full day K
2. Smaller class sizes
3. New high school
4. Strong comprehensive K-2 program
5. Performing art center
6. Stronger grammar though HS

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Full day kindergarten
2. Smaller class sizes
 - a. K-5
 - b. Student - teacher ratios
3. Early intervention for dyslexia - beginning kindergarten
4. Some curriculum for reading/spelling testing matrices in all elementary schools
5. Consolidated services
6. Improved/current technology
7. Better identification/screening for developmental delays - autism, dyslexia, etc
8. Global connection
9. Mentorship/leadership programs
10. Increased volunteering
11. Hands on learning
12. Parent strategy workshops
13. A new modern high school capable of providing a state of the art education
 - a. Ability to provide an experience centered and college readiness for all students
14. Continue to be a leader in the area of technology education
15. Having a district performing arts center
16. A strong state of the art K-2 program targeting reading needs early
17. STEM across the grades and strong science program - to make other districts look at us
18. New buildings
19. More grammar programs
20. Stronger stress on developing formal writing
21. Working to give benefits to the average student
22. Adding different learning styles into the classroom (visual, audio, etc)

Group 4

CONSENSUS:

1. Full day kindergarten
2. A/C all rooms in all schools
3. Maintain academic success in all disciplines
4. Technology coaches specific to grade level

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. A second high school
2. AC in all schools
3. More language options in elementary schools
4. Us of textbooks
5. Smaller elementary class sizes
6. All teachers using course pages
7. Full day kindergarten
8. Vocational and tech programs
9. AC in schools
10. Increase maximum requirement for math/English/Science
11. More teaching staff to accommodate LRE
12. Better trained teachers on computer
13. Technology
14. Continued use of Chromebooks throughout district
15. Start times for schools more in tune with developmental appropriateness
16. Homework policy consistent across the district (no grading?)
17. Lower teacher to student ratio - not done on a homeroom level but actual class size

Group 5

CONSENSUS:

1. STEM opportunities starting young (including advanced science)
2. Block scheduling to allow a more comprehensive curriculum to include more class selection and life skills
3. Expansion of technology to include online classes, availability of Chromebooks in younger grades, international engagement and coding skills

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Block or rotating schedule/common lunch
2. Activity period built in during school day (ARIS through HHS)
3. Upgraded facilities
4. Increased STEM opportunities at younger ages/interdisciplinary opportunities
5. Community service opportunities (Votech)
6. School to work opportunities
7. Activities across schools
8. Advanced science - available as of 6th grade (same as other subjects like math, reading writing) and STEM
9. Grades 1-4 have actual, meaningful grades - Consistency throughout vs. culture shock in 5th grade
10. "Standard math" (vs. lattice) - no "Everyday Mathematics" - not only is current process more time consuming, it is more confusing and cumbersome
11. Chromebooks grade 3 (vs. 5+)
12. Incorporate generic computer-logic lessons into computer time (get children thinking in terms of coding logic)
13. Typing lessons - critical for keyboard use in everything (grades 1-4)
14. Guitar and piano as music choice (grades 5+) - can fit with string instruments (acoustic)

15. Air conditioning in schools (may use when indoor temps reach 7 C)
16. Cursive
17. Internships - help students get part time and/or summer jobs in fields of interest - college (pre-college) - not just for votech
18. Township transportation from after school sports/clubs at set time
19. Uniforms
20. Looking for a job
21. Two-way feedback with school communication
22. Tele-studenting
23. Academic accelerator option
24. Internship/real world experience
25. Employment and college readiness
 - a. High acceptance level to top tier colleges
26. Alternative to college prep (e.g., trade, vocational)
 - a. Broader options
27. Fiscally strong with reserves
28. Public-private partnership
 - a. Corporate involvement and funding
29. High grades/assessment and scores throughout all socio-economic areas
30. Partnerships with other schools in NJ to share resources
31. Greater spirit of volunteerism
32. Parents being part of "Newcomers Club"
33. Grants - capitalize opportunities to fund alternative funding sources
34. Financial and social and emotional literacy
35. Funding for the performing arts
 - a. A new performing arts facility
 - b. Funding for the arts should be as important as funding for sports
36. Make online classes more accessible - HHS
37. Delay the start of the school day at HHS
 - a. Students are exhausted and can't focus
 - b. It would improve grades
38. Provide more leadership opportunities for high school students to interact with younger students - not letting the divide in age/grade disrupt the schools
39. Revising the classes that would satisfy the requirements at the high school
40. Give the younger students more choice when it comes to electives (e.g., robotics, arts, sciences)
41. Funding for schools besides taxes
42. Real life/world skills
43. Community outreach
44. Common core math
45. Advanced science in lower schools
46. Lower schools need real schools
47. Ability to maintain the most comprehensive curriculum and school program
48. Longer school day encompassing time for recess, study time and extra curricular/charitable activities
49. Utilizing technology for international engagement
50. Acceptance by the state of its responsibility to fund education

51. Full day K and PreK for all

Group 6

CONSENSUS:

1. STEM - elementary through 12th grade
2. Facilities and program for universal full day PreK and K
3. Performance space at high school
4. Increased world language options

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. English and math/science programs should be up to the standards with other countries that are already doing better than USA
2. Bridge the gap between teachers and students (e.g., we have highly educated/experiences teacher but all kids have different understanding level - we can use technology to bridge this gap where in teacher provides website, etc to kids to better understand the subject matter
3. Look at our neighboring town like Princeton and see what strategies they are using and collaborate with them
4. Include STEM activities in elementary school
5. SAT is for 3.5 hours, prepare kids from 4th or 5th grade onwards to sit for that long to take the test so that its not a challenge for kids to sit that long
6. Universal PreK and K (and facilities to support this)
7. Large performance/presentation space
 - a. Updated/more advanced
8. Bilingual offerings
9. Built in remediation/enrichment time in the schedule
10. More resources for mental illness
11. Reduced homework load
12. More class options for English (in high school)
13. In general more opportunities for specialization
 - a. Options for different types of high school programs (arts, science, etc)
14. Green technology and programs (solar power, recycling, etc)
15. Smaller class sizes
16. Full technology based classes/curriculum
17. High school - real world experiences (internship program)
18. More science enrichment program like REACH to improve STEM knowledge and prepare the kids for high school
19. Online tools be used more effectively at school
20. Smaller class sizes in AP classes and in general in high school
21. Don't let the summer science program in high school

Group 7

CONSENSUS:

1. State of the art facilities to accommodate our changing world
2. Full day K/early education/gifted and talented/world language
3. Academic programs that encourage opportunities, growth, exploration
4. Learning without boundaries

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. New state of the art high school that solved
 - a. Schedule restrictions (adding a period and course offerings)
 - b. Equalized class size
 - c. Additional focused programming
 - i. Recreation
 - ii. Agriculture
 - iii. Academy and targeted areas
 - iv. Concurrent enrollment
 - v. Robotics
 - vi. Swimming
 - vii. STEM, et. al
 - viii. Coding
 - ix. Cooperative programs (work/study)
 - d. Facilities that allow us to branch out, not hold us back
 - e. Asynchronous learning spaces
 - f. Make spaces
 - g. Extracurricular and athletic offerings
 - i. Pool
 - ii. Ample fields
 - iii. Reduced travel (athletic and vocational)
 - h. Theatre space (performing arts center and rental/summer concert series)
 - i. Professional development space
 - j. Built-in structure for teacher communication, data analysis, PLCs
 - k. Traffic flow on campus (cars)
 - l. Traffic flow in buildings (stairways and intersections that handle capacity)
 - m. Ample parking
2. All day K
 - a. With time to play - learn through play
3. Themed schools
4. More student: teacher contact time
5. Independent learning
6. Professional development designed by teachers
7. Coding classes (e.g., classes that reflect our changing society)
8. Universal PreK
9. Daily foreign languages (especially starting in K and younger years)
 - a. make fluent
10. AC in all schools
11. Gardens at each school (ask Lowe's to sponsor, Home Depot and Tractor Supply)
12. Gifted and Talented at earlier grades - evaluated and implemented in math, sciences, arts - not just social studies
13. STEM, STEAM, STREAM earlier in schools
14. More selection for lunches
 - a. Separate tables for children who wish to eat peanuts at lunch
15. Themed high schools - votech, science, math, STEM

16. Inclusion for special needs students
17. Readiness for college, votech, straight into job force
18. Earlier identification of special needs
19. More accounting classes, real world ideas, life skills
20. Physical movement in classrooms
21. Classroom size
22. Programming/statistics
23. Keep our good teachers happy
24. Mandatory volunteering (75 hours)
25. Dyslexia screening
26. Suicide prevention
27. Anti-bullying, empathy taught
28. Block schedules, like in college

Group 8

CONSENSUS:

1. Appropriate learning environment including cooling and heating
2. State of the art high school set up as academies with robotics lab, athletic center with pool and art center
3. True gifted and talented program with advanced and honors courses is all grades
4. All day Kindergarten

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Academy high school (similar to Red Bank)
 - a. Science
 - b. Arts
 - c. Entrepreneurship
 - d. Etc
2. New high school with state of the art facilities
 - a. More space for students to learn and grow
3. All day K
4. Block scheduling at the high school and possibly middle school
5. Upgraded facilities to include proper heating and cooling systems
6. Preschool - revenue generating - parents pay
7. AC in all classrooms and schools
8. Enough classroom space available to accommodate all programs in all schools for all students
9. Solar power for all schools
10. Incorporated STEAM including arts - removed 'silo' boundaries of all the disciplines
11. Prepared students for future job even though we can only imagine some of them at this point
12. Flip the classroom
13. Emphasis on technology and resources for it
14. Most importantly integration of disciplines so students can explore what they have drive for in a hands on way
15. Assessment of state standards yet trying to do all we can not just what is required
16. Teacher assessments that give them the freedom to show their passion and elicit passion from their students

17. Later start for high school students (let sports adjust)
18. Bookbags allowed at ARIS
19. Option for the marking periods at ARIS (6 instead of 3 -- you pick 3 and 2 must be new)
 - a. Art
 - b. Vocal music
 - c. Computers
 - d. Drama
 - e. Video editing
 - f. Robotics
20. Advanced science starting at ARIS
21. Better aftercare
22. Before care in all schools
23. Discontinue elementary grading system (1, 2, 3) and use ARIS + system
 - a. ARIS grading is a shock to 5th graders
24. Better elementary lunches
25. More space in classrooms
26. Modern technology
27. Bring back NJASK
28. Extend 1:1 take home to all grades -- snow day programming
29. Green tech
30. Establish schools as community centers
31. Extend STEM to elementary schools
32. Offer new languages/virtual learning
33. Expand course offerings
34. Extend school day
35. Descalate honors courses
36. Trude gifted and talented program

Group 9

CONSENSUS:

1. Provide more flexibility for:
 - a. Mindset
 - b. Time
 - c. Facilities
 - d. Learning applications
2. Virtual applications and technology use
 - a. Choices
 - b. Increase comfort level
 - c. Global economy
 - d. Needed skills for work force
3. Generate curiosity - exploring:
 - a. Smaller class sizes
 - b. Can they apply what they learn in different environments

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. More virtual (distance) learning opportunities

2. A curriculum driven by application based learning - how can learning be applied
3. Courses to teach children how to manage credit, household finance
4. We are in a strategic planning meeting. How are we teaching kids to be strategic. Implement workshops that allow for strategic planning
5. Increased student responsibility for learning
6. Students will have coding, design/fabrication experiences
7. Students will feel part of the decision-making process
8. Students will feel that they are respected and accepted as individuals
9. Students will be active participants in the educational community
10. More career electives
11. Global education
12. Teaching staff is well versed in a multitude of educational technology uses
13. Flexibility in scheduling
14. Would like to see more participation in school science fairs starting in elementary schools. The science fairs help kids in elementary school to start to think out of the box
15. Generate curiosity in kids

Group 10

CONSENSUS:

1. Build a new state of the art high school that has programs for college bound students, those seeking immediate employment, students interested in the arts, and connections to the community
2. Program and scheduling changes that better meet the needs of all students that don't limit students' opportunities (no either/or) -- ex: block scheduling (more time on task)
3. Connecting the schools with the community
 - a. Service clubs and activities
 - b. Parents associations working more closely with Board/Administration
 - c. Offering services to the community
 - d. Mentorships (local businesses)
 - e. Aftercare
4. Full day kindergarten

INDIVIDUAL THINKING

1. Restructure the school day with longer blocks of time per subject
2. Problem-based learning: more of this
3. Creating global citizens
4. Preparing students to be knowledgeable about the use of technology to make the world a better place
5. Fostering a community of lifelong readers and writers (e.g., one school, one book)
6. Developing programs for gifted children in many areas -- music, arts, math, science, technology, etc.
7. Providing more guidance counselors to provide needed services and strengthen the ties between home and school
8. All schools air conditioned
9. Better scheduling - high school
10. Metrics developed for all planning objectives and reported on (reason explained for not meeting)
11. Parent Teachers Association representative at Board of Ed

12. More money for arts vs. sports
13. New and larger high school
 - a. Prepares all graduates for the rigors of college or for immediate employment (working restaurant, auto shop, cosmetology) as well as a wide variety of academic offerings
14. Block scheduling in the middle school and the high school
15. More hands on activities for students and more research opportunities in the high school (preparation for college)
16. Service clubs
17. Expansion of activities (extracurricular) for all students all all abilities and interests
18. Early primary education, including preschool in a new facility designed for that type of learning
19. Seeing that the schools are the hub of the town, new, opened, used by all for various activities

Group 11

CONSENSUS:

1. Special needs advocate
2. Create math and science labs - after school, tutoring centers (all schools)
3. Full day Kindergarten
4. New updated facilities
 - a. High school
 - b. Annex hallway
 - c. Turf fields
5. Real life skills
 - a. Respite training
 - b. Gardening for nutrition, science, and engineering projects
 - c. Financial planning/management

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. No PARCC
 - a. NJ ASK if necessary
2. Typing classes
3. Easier way for parents to check online class info for teachers' classes using a uniformed way
4. Spelling tests
5. Turf field
 - a. Extra field for soccer/JV
6. Full day Kindergarten
7. Real life skills in home economics (financial planning, note taking, paying bills, managing finances, credit cards, etc)
8. Math lab open for students before and after school like colleges have, could host parents as well (Hard to help children with math with the new books and different methods). This would be for extra help and advancement
9. Eco friendly gardening around and in the schools using outdoors to
 - a. Build structures (engineering)
 - b. Water flow, gardening (science)
 - c. Healthy foods (nutrition and medicine)
10. Selling produce (business)
11. Keeping consistency in standardized testing instead of changing each year

12. Career hands on training in high school
13. Back to basics (spelling, cursive, typing)
14. More opportunities for special needs
15. Increased integration between special needs and typically developing children
16. Coordination with special needs communities and after school activities
17. Sensory friendly after school activities/judgement free zones
 - a. Concerts
 - b. Sporting events
18. Respite training for high school age children
19. Advocacy coordination
20. Advanced science
21. REACH in high school
22. BJ back on the drama program
23. Choosing your related arts classes
24. Enlarged annex in middle school
25. Better lunches
26. Air conditioning
27. Senior parking for all at high school
28. Tutoring center
29. World language labs (advanced)
30. More variety of courses
31. New high school

Group 12

CONSENSUS:

1. Facilities that are flexible to accommodate a variety of programs
2. Improve sports facilities for pride, fine arts, clubs, Kindergarten, crisis facility
3. Improve emotional intelligence/anxiety/issues in an elementary setting

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. New high school
2. Better salaries for the educators
3. More college/scholars credit
4. Full day Kindergarten
5. Divide the middle school up with a new middle school
6. More focus on homework and levels of curriculum
7. Preschool program at the high school with a child/teacher course
8. A teacher/education course tied to a college
9. A counselor in every elementary school with a curriculum
10. Less standardized tests with more focus on curriculum that may not be common core
11. Use Genesis to input grades for elementary school
12. More opportunities for clubs in the middle school/intermediate school
13. More college visitation trips for the high school students
14. Apprenticeships programs for the high school students
15. More team teaching in the intermediate school or middle school with collaboration time for the teachers

16. Emotional intelligence for children - educate them young on this and make it part of formal curriculum k-12 to reduce risk of suicides, bullying, etc
17. More opportunity for creativity and fun, be more “in the moment” and less “get you ready for the next school year”
18. Longer school days to enable longer lunch period and more creative activities
19. Allow entire family to attend school family functions (e.g., not allowed at some elementary schools)
20. Volunteer activities/opportunities for children to connect with the community
21. Engineering/technology electives and courses for 7th -12th grade
22. Possible academies for STEM, preMed, Humanities
23. Comfortable/climate controlled (AC)
24. Fine and performing arts center for school/community with improved facilities for arts/music/drama for 7-12
25. Flexible learning environments for all kids (varied seating/work stations, common areas/lounges to promote collaboration) and flex learning/exploration across all grades
26. High school guidance
 - a. Follow or be able to follow graduates for support (bonus year)
 - b. College counseling to match outside sources
 - c. Percentage of students that sought outside help
 - d. 24 hour rule and confirmation when letters are sent to universities
 - e. Scholarships based on merit not just financially based
27. Crisis center
 - a. For students and teachers
 - b. Behaviorist/psych on site
 - c. Home visits available
 - d. Anxiety is #1 killer
28. Sidewalks
 - a. Consistent care of ice, snow, goose poop
 - b. Pride
29. Facilities and staff
 - a. More support for instructional staff
 - b. Leaky roof
 - c. No air and 90F in September and October
 - d. Relocating is not ok, compromises support

Group 13

CONSENSUS:

1. Strategic thinking, creative problem solving, and genuine learning
 - a. Idea labs
2. Created an environment of holistic student well being--gender neutrality in things like STEM, happy less stressed students, mindful
3. Facilities that foster education, growth, development and creativity (a mix of town and private)

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Global competency
2. More improvisational skills among students

3. After school lab (like Maker Spaces)
4. Happier, less anxious kids
5. Mediation in the classrooms (mindfulness training)
6. Combine learning with service to society
7. Continued wide array of educational options that remain current with both educational and societal changes
 - a. No constraints by facilities, money, history
8. Vocational education - give choice of prep for workforce vs. prep for college
9. Focus on STEM in a gender neutral way
10. Wider options in gym - things like yoga or rollerblading
11. Healthier choices in the cafeteria
12. After school clubs/activities for everyone
13. More strategic thinking/puzzles
14. Develop confident future national leaders from this district
15. Building a stronger platform that connects parents and kids
16. One of the first district to remove stereotypes of girls in school (e.g., robotics, programming, etc)

Group 14

CONSENSUS:

1. Class size reduction at all levels
2. Opportunity to study one foreign language in depth k-12
3. Academies at the high school level
4. Computer programming/coding from early ages

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Public speaking and communication
2. Adjust school times to brain friendly times
3. See how children were prepared to be global citizens and to embrace the world marketplace
4. Learn soft skills such as great communication, team player, public speaking, etc. which are important in the job market
5. Introduce computer programming at an early age and not as an elective
6. Align curriculum to the outside world demands, address needs in job world (e.g., mock shark tank type to encourage business ideas)
7. Offer kids more opportunities in participating in competitions that are academic related and encourage winners (math Olympiad, Google science fair)
8. Robotics for intermediate and middle school kids
9. Class size reduction at all levels (Special education students should be included in homeroom count regardless of how many periods they spend outside classroom)
 - a. For a more personalized learning experience
10. Opportunity to study one foreign language k-12
11. Retrofit all buildings with secure entrance (locked foyer, then enter into an office, not a hallway)
12. Full day Kindergarten
13. Include a K-2 curriculum based on themes
14. Professional development - using all the technology we are so proud to have
15. Parent education series (similar to the one the Princeton independent schools run (Princeton Common Ground))

16. Performing arts center for PD/shows/competitions
17. Technology used on a daily basis by students/teachers for advancing learning
18. Students actively engaged in the thinking, communicating with one another, organized chaos in the classroom, students engaged in solving problems of concern for them as a vehicle for learning the curriculum
19. Academies at the high school level
20. Partnering with local corporations for internships and scholarships
21. More kids getting into Ivy League schools
22. More tech programs at earlier ages
23. Every child fully fluent in a second language
24. Every child can code
25. Modernize outdated buildings
26. More resources
 - a. Teachers
 - b. GC
 - c. Assistants
27. Expand programs for special needs kids
28. Expand early childhood education
29. Foreign language in lower grades
30. Pay for performance
31. More available and effective way for students to find their path in high school
32. Different areas for a student to pursue that a student would have previously had to go to votech for
33. Better technology integration

Group 15

CONSENSUS:

1. New high school
2. High school scheduling --adds to STEM, arts, work studies, exploring more variety to students to explore
3. Full day K (early childhood education)
4. Variation -- add in-house votech, career readiness, arts/music, sports

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. New high school
 - a. Cater to the size of student body
2. Redistricting/consolidation - sale of HES
3. Next phase of technology (upgrade)
4. Increase in test scores (overall)
5. Upgrades to facilities
 - a. Air conditioning
6. Attracting out of district students for special ed
7. Larger partnership with RVCC
8. Full day K
9. Full or part-time pre K (early childhood education)
10. Proper/appropriate funding formula (State)

11. Varsity team for middle school tennis/new courts
12. New pool
13. Affiliation with technical advanced school for differentiated learning
14. More focus on new/upcoming topics - in education
15. Counselor to student ratio
16. More enrollment in top schools
17. STEM focus
 - a. Advanced science
 - b. Engineering
 - c. Tech
 - d. Math - business, economics
18. More help for children with special needs
 - a. Speech
 - b. More 1 on 1 attention
19. Opportunity for skills training/vocation
 - a. Plumbing/electrical/auto
20. A transition more towards individual jobs/interest
 - a. Less one size fits all
 - b. Education should lead to a good career
21. Students have the ability to take courses to align with their interests (e.g., extra languages, multiple sciences, or arts/music ensembles)
22. A new schedule (rotating drop, or at least an 8 period day)
23. Capabilities for a "late bus" - allowing students to take part in after school clubs/activities that do not have transportation options
24. Honors level arts courses
25. Performing arts capabilities - not a glorified meeting room
26. STEAM

Group 16

CONSENSUS:

1. Better support for special ed students
 - a. CSTs in all schools
 - b. Instructional aids to allow for special ed students in general population
 - c. Inclusive and alternative activities for all students
2. Tech center for programming classes/business setting for application brainstorming
3. Staff tutoring center (use for students in detention)
4. State of the art new high school with more vocational training

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. New, state of the art high school
2. Create club sports teams at all levels (middle and high school) to allow more children the opportunity to gain the value that athletics provides (no cuts)
3. Continue to keep teachers (special ed) with the most current training and continuing education throughout the high school years
4. Remote classrooms at home so a snow day never needs to happen
5. Support for special education students in the general education setting

6. More full time support for special education kids to remain in the general education setting
7. Allow special education students to be in the least restrictive environment (with funding for more aids)
8. A CST in every elementary school - each school should have a CST in its own building so that the talent is not spread too thin
9. Opportunities for all children to participate in sports and be recognized as athletes
10. Inclusive activities for special ed students (e.g., autistic students)
11. Expanded facilities for computer training and app development brainstorming business like facilities (possibly support revenue generation)
12. Teaching facilities/extra help for in school suspension
13. Full day staffed extra help center
14. Onon on one center to help support kids affected by achievement gap
15. Alternative athletics (Freehold)
16. Better support for 504 and IEP kids
 - a. Prep them for skills to succeed in high school
17. Get drugs out of high school

Group 17**CONSENSUS:**

1. Full day Kindergarten (screening)
2. More/longer learning hours (½ days - hours - year)
3. AC district wide
4. Greater individuality in programs
 - a. Foreign language - sign language
 - b. Summer enrichment (HS, G &T, preK)
 - c. SAT prep
5. Safety - building entrance, drills, security
6. Continuity of technology apps and uses
 - a. Vertical

INDIVIDUAL THINKING:

1. Full day Kindergarten
2. No half days/longer school days/longer school year
3. AC in every classroom
 - a. Climate control
4. Full day PreK
5. Early foreign language daily immersion from PreK on
6. G&T programs starting in PreK/K (multifaceted) with more options than just history
7. Pool
8. More integrated technology program/same platform apps at every age
9. More individualized programs during the school year
10. Summer enrichment/classes for high school
11. Sign language as a language
12. Testing schedule (too many days) more teaching hours
13. Safety
14. Student mental health guidance

Special Meeting

October 21, 2015

A motion was made by Ms. Centofanti and seconded by Dr. Soisson to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Aiman Mahmoud
School Business Administrator/

Board Secretary