

NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

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Paul J. Sally, Ed.D.
Superintendent

To: Board of Education
From: Paul Sally, Superintendent
Re: Strategic Planning Update
Date: April 16, 2018

In January, I gave an update to the Board of Education reviewing the structure of the last strategic plan and laying down principles to guide a new one. At that time, I also reported to the Board that I was reaching out to potential facilitators who would help me structure and run the process of creating the new plan, including engaging the community and other stakeholders. I am happy to announce that we will be working with Dr. Linda Hanson, a highly respected administrator and educator. Over her years in education, Dr. Hanson has held multiple roles, including Superintendent of High School District 113 (Highland Park/Deerfield), and has facilitated many strategic plans, including the North Shore Special Education District's (NSSD) most recent plan.

In initial discussions with Dr. Hanson, she concurred with the assessment that the previous strategic plan had a strong foundation and the mission and beliefs could be revisited and updated, but did not need to be reinvented. She felt that the overall structure of the new plan could be streamlined compared to last plan, and she emphasized the importance of staying true to the idea that we would continually evaluate our progress and have the plan actively guide our annual goals and planning cycle.

The broad timeline has the Board of Education reviewing the Strategic Plan in December 2018 for final approval in January 2019. Other stages in the broad timeline are as follows. The *Planning Stage* has started and will continue through the end of the summer. This stage includes the formation of the Core Planning Group composed of students, staff, teachers, and administrators. That group will meet before the next presentation to the Board of Education in June. The *Launch and Engagement* stage will start on the first day of the 2018-19 school year and continue through early October. This stage includes speakers, a community engagement evening, and a survey. The Launch and Engagement stage is followed by the *Development Stage*. The work in this stage centers on the Core Planning Group, but will involve targeted stakeholders as well. The Development Stage ends with the *Unveiling and Approval* stage in December and January. The implementation and integration into the Annual Planning Cycle follows in January through June 2019 and beyond.

A detailed timeline and structure will be presented to the Board of Education at the June 2018 meeting. I am looking forward to engaging the school and community in an exciting process of thinking about what our school is, imagining what we want our school to be, and how we will get there.

I look forward to answering the Board's questions about the initial stages of our Strategic Planning Process.