



## Creating a Strategic Plan for the Norwood Public School

### Mission Statement

The Norwood Public School District is dedicated to educational excellence. In partnership with the family, staff and community, our mission is to meet the educational needs of each child by providing the programs and environment necessary to: Enable every child to reach full potential; promote self-esteem, respect, responsibility and appreciation of diversity; develop knowledge, skills and academic achievement; consistent with the New Jersey Student Learning Standards; prepare each child for continued education and responsible citizenship; instill a life-long passion for learning.

THINK ~ LEAD ~ SERVE

### Session 2 of 3

#### Developing a Vision for the Norwood School District in the Next 5 Years

On November 5, 2018 Norwood School District administration, staff, parents, and community members came together to continue the strategic planning process. The second meeting's topic focused on creating a shared vision for the Norwood School District in the next five years.

The meeting, facilitated by Matt Lee and Charlene Peterson from New Jersey School Boards Association, began with an overview of the Strategic Planning process and the steps taken at the October 2, 2018 meeting.

To begin the visioning process, participants were asked to picture themselves away from the district for 5 years, and returning to find the Norwood School District on the cover of TIME magazine, with the caption "Schools that Succeed." The participants were asked to envision what was written in the magazine article that warranted such high recognition – what programs / services / curriculum / student outcomes / best practices / facilities would you expect to see in your school that are succeeding? 21<sup>st</sup> century skills were highlighted in a video clip.

The various stakeholders then gathered in three randomly assigned groups to brainstorm their visions of how the district achieved this remarkable success. Each group was asked to write a title for the article and come to a consensus on up to 10 key visions. Each group's outcomes were shared with all meeting participants. The session concluded with the identification of common threads throughout the groups' work and four broad goal areas for the next meeting.

## ***Norwood School District Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes***

### **Group Work**

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all consensus points are recorded and posted on the district's website ([www.wearenorwood.org/](http://www.wearenorwood.org/)) to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process. Individual responses for those who were unable to attend this session can be shared via the district's website.

### **Green Dot Group: "Norwood teaches to the why"**

Key Visions – Year 2024:

- Revolutionary learning
- Creating a passion for learning
- Adapting to changing times
- Being mindful of own needs
- Creating an awareness for a safe learning environment

### **Red Dot Group: "Generation Alpha: Classroom of the Future"**

Key Visions – Year 2024:

- Interactive classrooms
  - Desks
  - Surround sound music-soothing
  - Everything available online including all assignments (K-4, 5-8)
  - Lighting/windows
- Parent-teacher communication-daily
- Balanced education
  - More electives
  - Grouping by learning preferences
  - More opportunities to exercise
  - Coping skills
- Separate elementary and middle schools

### **Black Dot Group: "#beyondtheclassroom"**

Key Visions – Year 2024:

- Community
- Communication
- Highly-qualified staff/Continuing education
- Global citizenship
- Growth beyond the classroom
- Student empowerment
- 21<sup>st</sup> century careers

## ***Norwood School District Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes***

### **Broad Goal Areas:**

**Four goal areas** emerged from the common themes identified by the group at large:

- Social/Emotional Learning
- Future-Ready Facilities & Staff
- Nurturing Student Readiness
- Student-Centered Authentic Experiences

The group felt that communication/collaboration was a point that should be addressed in each of the goal areas.

### **Next Meeting:**

**The third strategic planning session is scheduled for:**

**Thursday, December 6, 2018 (Snow Date: Tuesday, December 11, 2018)**

**7:00 – 8:30 pm at Norwood School**

During the December 6th meeting we will review the outcomes from Sessions 1 & 2 (Strengths & Challenges, Visions) and develop broad goal statements for each of the four goal areas above that emerged from Session 2, and related objectives for each goal area.

**Please join us. Everyone is welcome! We look forward to seeing you!**