

Community Engagement Committee Agenda

Location: Half Round Room, Bixby Library

August 17, 2017
6:00-7:15 PM

The ANWSD Community Engagement Committee (CEC) shall be comprised of a combination of school board members, faculty, staff, administration and students as determined by the committee. The *initial* charge is to create a strategic vision for education in the school district that reflects community values, and is not limited by the walls of our school buildings or the borders of our communities.

Ground Rules:

- start on time
- share the air, give everyone a chance to speak before speaking again
- assume good intentions
- come prepared
- read emails on regular basis
- follow up on commitments
- let chair know if you will not attend a meeting
- support committee decisions

Meeting Goals:

- CEC next steps
 - Vision statement roll out
1. Accept minutes of 5/16/17 meeting
 2. Committee membership: students, faculty/staff/admin
 3. School Councils; CEC sub-committee membership
 4. Outline and get feedback about the purpose of CEC for the 17/18 school year as developed at the Board retreat in August, along with the specific goals and action steps.
 5. Sue McCormack consultant assistance for CEC work?
 6. Open House parent roll out; 9/20 VUHS, 9/21 elementary schools;
 - a. Finn's info-graphic
 - b. how to present in order to encourage dialogue
 7. Faculty/Staff roll out
 8. Community roll out: suggest we take this up at the September meeting
 9. [Sue Ratkowski's vision mapping](#) aligned with new policies: September meeting;
 10. Committee charge revision to move beyond creating vision: September meeting
 11. Next meeting: we need a different date; October date is in-service; proposal: 9/28 & 10/26

Community Engagement Committee Minutes
Location: Half Round Room, Bixby Library

May 16, 2017
6:00-7:15 PM

Present: Diana Raphael, Kristina MacKulin, Chris Cousineau, Laurie Gutkowski, Kaci Pierce, Judy Elson, Scott Grant, Katherine Wyckoff Absent: Finn Yarbrough, Megan Tarte, Travis Park

1. Accepted minutes of 4/18/17 meeting with two changes. *Absent: Kaci Pierce, **Community Engagement Policy**: Laurie G. provides copies of proposed "community engagement and vision policy" from ANWSU Policy Committee and VSBA*
2. Established meeting third Thursday night of the month for 2017-18 school year beginning August 17
3. ANWSD did not get the community engagement Nellie Mae grant; Diana reported that administration may not be interested in pursuing it further.
4. It was determined that the question the word "that" should stand in the mission statement.
5. Reviewed the Safe Schools Statement for approval by the ANWSD board. The committee felt that the word educational might lead readers to think the statement was only referring to professional educators. The Committee felt that removing educational indicated the larger school community. The committee supports the following statement to be disseminated **now**.

"The Superintendent and Directors of the Addison Northwest School District wish to reassure the members of our community in these uncertain times. We remain committed to maintaining safe and welcoming schools regardless of race, gender, disability, national origin, documentation, religion, sexual orientation, political orientation, or family income. In addition to compliance with federal law, it is also our moral and ethical duty to protect and to provide an equitable education to all of the students who pass through the doors of our schools."

- Kristina M. offered to create a flier with pictures with the Safe Schools Statement (SSS).
- People felt that disseminating the statement **now** was appropriate.
- It should be sent out in all the school newsletters including the Superintendent's newsletter.
- Each school should post it.
- It should appear on the ANWSD website,
- It should be in the Town Clerk's offices and the Central Office.

6. Discussion about rolling out the vision statement. The committee's recommendation is to wait until the fall. Members felt that there is too much going on at the end of the school year and the new statement will get lost if released now. The following places for releasing the vision statement are as follows: town clerk's offices, Open House, newsletters, FPF, Senior Center. Creating a flier with the vision for dissemination was discussed as well.

There was some confusion regarding an action plan activity that faculty from FCS will be doing at their Wednesday after-school meeting. The following mission and vision statements were part of a mailing they got.

Mission of ANWSD: ANWSD will ensure all students learn the academic and social skills they need, in order to live an independent and positive life, both for the immediate, as well as far-reaching, future.

Vision for the next Five Years: In five years (by 2019), our district will be using a personalized learning approach, within a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS), in order that all children succeed.

The committee felt that vision and mission were reversed. It was unclear if this was only for FCS faculty or if other schools were engaging in the same activity. Discussion followed about individual schools having their own mission statements in the future which will align with the ANWSD new vision statement. A question came up about having a separate ANWSD mission statement and the committee agreed that this was not necessary. Judy Elson felt that if schools take on the crafting of a mission statement they will need some direction. Diana mentioned that there is a lot of feedback that did not make it into the vision statement because it had more to do with "how" the vision will be achieved.

Diana said that she would follow up with JoAn Canning about the statements above. She also explained that the ANWSD strategic plan was a plan for the unified board to use similar to a calendar. A sample plan/calendar proposed by the VSBA was shared.

7. Diana reported that the committee does not have the authority to respond to the "obstacles" portion of the feedback the committee received from faculty and staff. That will be addressed by the Superintendent. The committee feels strongly that some kind of response is appropriate to signal to the faculty and staff that they have been heard.
8. The Committee reviewed the VSBA Community Engagement Policy and made some recommended changes that Laurie G. will bring to the Policy Committee.
9. The Committee thought having a logo contest to kick off the school year with some parameters such as including all five towns in the logo and the new Addison Northwest School District in the logo would be a great Community Engagement activity.

10. Judy Elson said that in FCS they have had a Harvest Meal from the school garden that community has been invited to. The meal has been on hold for a couple of years because of teacher burn out.
11. There was no time to watch the Winooski video *We Are the Future of Winooski* but a brief discussion about creating something similar in ANWSD to use for engagement was had.
12. Chalk Talk and further discussion of next steps will happen at the Thursday, June 22 meeting, Bixby Library, 6-7:15 PM.