

**Community Engagement Committee
Agenda
Location: Half-Round Room, Bixby Library**

**August 17, 2017
6:02-7:23 PM**

Present: Diana Raphael, Kristina MacKulin, Laurie Gutowski, Chris Cousineau, Kathryn Wyckoff, Finn Yarbrough

1. Kristina M. moves to accept minutes of 5/16/17 meeting, Laurie G. seconds. Motion carries.
2. Convocation plans. Student representative Kathryn W. will introduce the vision statement to the convocation, and Diana R. will request board Chair Sue Rakowski to introduce Kathryn. Diana suggests this script:

“Good Morning. For those of you who don’t know me, my name is Kathryn Wyckoff I am a sophomore this year. I have lived in Addison County my whole life. For the past year Megan Tarte and I have been student members on the Community Engagement Committee. This committee is comprised faculty, staff, board members and students. Our charge for the 2016-17 school year was to engage the community in order to craft a vision statement for the new unified Addison Northwest School District. To do this our committee used various platforms and questions to engage students, parents, and faculty, staff and community members. We visited an Age Well luncheon at the Amory Lane Senior Housing Project to get feedback from seniors in our community. We were present at all the Open Houses, used Front Porch Forum and school newsletters, held a neighborhood focus group and presented at faculty meetings. At our own meetings we sorted out all the feedback we received and pulled out action words that specifically spoke to the concept of a vision in order to craft the statement I am about to share with you. Other feedback that was more specific and addressed how we achieve our dream has been archived for a future date. Our vision is our dream. It is the sail of our ship while our mission is the wind that fills that sail.

We envision a kind, collaborative, and creative community for all that nurtures a diverse and accessible learning environment. Students will flourish as critical thinkers and productive citizens, cultivating resilience in an ever-changing world.

Moving forward our committee has a lot of work to do this year. We will work with each school to develop its own mission statement that reflects its individual character whilst supporting our common vision.”

3. Open House parent rollout: 9/20 VUHS, 9/21 elementary schools:
 - a. Procedure for soliciting dialogue about the vision statement, to move towards school mission statements; discussion about where to locate ourselves in order to best encourage participation. Several format ideas suggested (chalk-talk, formal dialogue, etc.). We settle on posting a chalk-talk before the open-houses, soliciting action ideas about the key words from the vision statement. Finn Y. will

write the instructions, which will also be shared in newsletters. Kathryn W. will make announcements on the PA the morning of the VUHS open house.

- b. Finn Y. presents infographic: revisions suggested.
4. Committee membership: discussion about how to recruit incoming student members.
5. School Councils discussed as a method to help individual schools have a more active role on the unified board. Wide-ranging discussion on what existing governance structures might be an appropriate venue for this engagement: PTO, principals' offices, student council, as well as CEC sub-committees are all suggestions. It would be prudent to approach schools with some open questions before making assumptions about the best way to ensure individual school representation and participation in the unified board.
6. Committee charge, possibly to be adapted from the infographic: "We are committed to bringing the schools and the community closer together, so that all residents of our towns are empowered stakeholders in the wellbeing of future generations." No action taken.
7. Next meeting set for 6:00 p.m. on September 28th, at the Bixby Library.
8. Meeting Adjourned at 7:23 p.m.