

Board of Education seeks input for goals

5.28.04

Overview

The District 742 Board of Education met to consider its goal setting process. The Board decided that the District should ultimately move to a system whereby the Board sets goals for, say, a three year period. These goals would be set as the result of a public process involving stakeholders. The board is in the process of developing a permanent goal-setting process. Over the next several months we will be involving the public as well as district employees, in helping us establish that system.

However, the Board felt that we should set initial goals using an abbreviated process, so that we start out with some preliminary goals. The initial draft of goals represents an effort to set a first set of goals.

First Reading

The Board goal document would have its first reading and discussion at the June 9, 2004, Board meeting. The Board goal document would be adopted at the following meeting, unless at the first reading, the Board determines additional time is needed.

Goal 1: Conduct a Comprehensive Study of Special Education Services

This study will include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- Prevention
- Intervention
- Efficiency
- Effectiveness
- Best Practice
- Alternative models
- Impact of mainstreaming on mainstreamed students
- Impact of mainstreaming on other students in classroom

Product: Report that addresses topics outlined in goal statement. It is expected that the report would include a comparative review of what is being provided in St. Cloud and what might be provided utilizing alternative models. The report should include, but not be limited to, the relative effectiveness and cost of the various models and the number of students who would be served with the various alternatives and recommendations for Board consideration. The Board would initiate the process by issuing Requests for Proposals.

Goal 2: Update Facility Plan

Product: Report updating the short and long range plans for facility development and usage in St. Cloud to include recommendations on the utilization and or disposition of facilities currently not in use for instructional purposes. Adopt a plan which reflects prudent fiscal management and dynamic forecasting relative to educational funding and residential development. The Board will adopt a procedure for selecting a committee, creating a draft report, circulating for comment, and then accepting, rejecting, or modifying the report.

Goal 3: Narrow the Wealth Achievement Gap

Product: Review and initiate programs that will narrow the wealth achievement gap. Obtain information needed to adopt longer term goals and measurable standards.

Goal 4: Increase Enrollment

Product: Promote increased enrollment by stimulating efforts to promote instructional and operational excellence and more effective communication. Adopt and implement a plan to increase enrollment in each of the following areas:

1. Ambassador Development
2. District-wide Communication and Marketing Strategies
3. Improve/enhance teaching and Learning (Building Promotional Strategies)
4. Facilities Planning

Expected results include: (1) Build a site based corps of informed District 742 employees, parents and students who can promote our schools and who listen to community concerns and recommendations for improvements; (2) develop consistent marketing messages delivered through building and district-wide strategies that focus on promoting both existing district excellence and "excellence under construction;" (3) engage community leaders in a process to integrate school planning with community planning; (4) make sure that every family within District 742 who wants a public education is excited about the prospect of attending our public schools (5) increase student enrollment; (5) make recommendations for improved management/employee relations; (6) make recommendations to increase community trust in District 742.

Goal 5: Conduct Efficiency Study

Product: Devise a four year plan for periodic efficiency studies or reports. By June 2005, complete the first report outlining staffing and functions, processes and procedures within St. Cloud School District with conclusions related to overall efficiency and recommendations for consideration relative to the improvement of efficiency.

Administrative Goals

The following goals will be addressed by Administrative Initiatives. The Superintendent will from time to time report progress on these initiatives.

High School Study to include:

- Review of programming and consistency of high schools.
- Effectiveness and efficiency of both high schools.
- How to effectively meet the needs of all students
- Review and analysis of top level academic offerings at all levels throughout the District

Mathematics Study to include:

- Analysis of test scores.
- Utilization of data analysis to address program and/or instructional deficiencies.
- Analysis of female and minority enrollment in advanced mathematics classes, including strategies and recommendations for increasing the number of female and minority students in advanced mathematics classes.

Principal Development Program to:

- Enhance ability of principals to recognize quality instruction.
- Enhance ability of principals to develop teacher leadership skills that will improve the quality of instruction and learning.
- Enhance communication skills of principals