

Strategic Planning Meeting

September 16, 2019

Attendance: Scott Mills, Scott Elzey, Gene Donaghy, Tim Wilson, Jeff Miller, Karen Harris, Corey Crug, Erin Newcomb, Ginger Butcher, Kristen Wall, Dee Dee Larkey, Brooke Orellana, Adam McAfee, David Parker, Angie Topp, Kent Kotesky, Layne Gerber

NWCS Strategic Planning Committee overview: Scott reviewed the history of the strategic planning committee

Current Target & Goals:

- A. **Positive & welcoming environment-** We want a warm and welcoming environment when guests and families when they come to our schools.
- B. **Marketing our schools for the great things we do –** Our overall district enrollment is down slightly this year. The out of district student enrollment is critical for NWCS to maintain programs. NWCS must continue to market our schools to both in district and out of district families.
- C. **Increase the awareness of the Graduate Profile-** The Graduate Profile was established in June of 2012 and has grown organically but now must be more explicit to students, staff and parents.
- D. **Create a careers awareness & preparation model- K-12;** Our high school counselors told us that 50% of our junior class did not know what they wanted to do after high school. SPC determined that NWCS needed to help students explore their possibilities so each student would have Plan A & Plan B by their junior year. In other words, we want our students to have vision and options for their future when they graduate from NWCS.
- E. **Implement student-led conferences:** Student led conferences are an effort to give students the format and forum to speak for themselves about what they are learning, what their strengths are, what areas they can use growth, and what their aspirations for the future are. NWCS has experienced mixed results. Conferences are well attended at the elementary and reasonably well at NMS. NHS still struggles to attract parents to conferences (we haven't cracked the code yet).

Career Awareness and Preparation plans for 2019-20 in each building

NMS Tim Wilson shared NMS had a career day for Law Enforcement last week for 7th graders. NMS uses Naviance, a software program that is a college and career exploration tool for students. There are 17 lessons and surveys for students to complete to aid their exploration. 6th grade toured Roemke manufacturing, 6th grade band goes to Sweetwater Sound for a tour. 8th grade goes to the court house, JA Finance Park, 8th grade college visits by teams, teen court through Family Centered Services will be at the NMS, related arts is exploring careers in their course work, technology is expanding, what's inside the computer, animation, how to create video games, artificially

intelligence, PE has been looking at life-long fitness and areas in health. Karen asked about military. Scott suggested contacting Mike Stohler with the Air National Guard.

LES- Ginger shared counselor area, OES & LES work together, guidance does career lessons with classroom, 5th grade does career café (she does a lunch and interest inventory) College Go Week, Careers on Wheels. 5th grade will make career museum with QR codes so students can scan and listen, 4th grade dress as careers, Health Fair brings in fire department, health department, finance and variety of community members, Pre-K -dress up for career, 1st- have community members come in, 2nd gr- mock business project, 4th gr- guest speakers, 5th gr- Genius hour research JA has focus in each grade level.

OES- 4th grade is going to Biz Town, Kdg- walking to fire department, 1st- drawing what they want to be when they grow up, 2nd grade-applies for classroom job, 3rd- look at careers in math and science, 4th & 5th grade – research colleges, 5th grade will continue to ask parents to come in and talk about their career and math

NHS- guest speakers will be coming in, Appeals on Wheels(an actual court appeal) , Adams Wells Manufacturing Alliance convocation, Wells County Career Expo Nov. 21 in Bluffton, job shadowing in 9th gr, students are encouraging junior & senior to do more college visits and vocational, Kevin Morris mechanics classes can earn 18 college credits, career classroom focused lessons, Naviance (lessons), expanding middle into high school robotics, 126 students are enrolled in ICE and internships, dual credit opportunities, AP classes, CTE (4 year college bound and can earn college credits with whoever we are partnered with)

Student-led conferences plans for each building for 2019-20

NMS- parent/teacher/staff feedback has led NMS to take a salad bar approach, small group will do home conference, small group wanted the traditional parent-teacher conference. Oct 9 & 29 (3:30-7:30) Teachers are reaching out to parents this week to see if they would prefer a student-led at home, student-led at school or teacher parent conference. They are trying to reach out to every parent to meet their needs.

LES- Less obstacles with one teacher, vertical collaboration are used as a way for teachers to share what they are doing in their classrooms for conferences, some grade levels set out materials for parents to explore (reading level ex.) teachers send home surveys to parents, teachers meet one morning to schedule siblings so families can be there once, parent feedback did show that some parents value that time with just the teacher, some teachers sent home a pre-conference form asking parents what they would like to discuss and this helped teachers be efficient

OES- Parents gave great feedback, some feedback the parents wanted one on one time with teacher. Dates are Oct. 10 & 14.

NHS- feedback (127 respondents) 70 % attended the choice conference, NHS is looking at going back to the traditional format but having students be more involved. The high school will continue to have students. The high school will be doing a hybrid.

Social/emotional training/plans for data from each building

The notion of social and emotional learning has been moving to the front of educational issues and has bubbled up through the Strategic Planning meetings. NWCS has started to investigate more regarding social and emotional learning as well as learning more about trauma-informed learning & instruction. Theresa Casto has considerable training in the field and provided professional development on the topic to all staff on Aug. 9th. Her presentation was well received.

NMS- *Theresa came in and talked with staff, staff watched Paper Tiger and had debrief session (abuse, divorce, drugs & alcohol)*

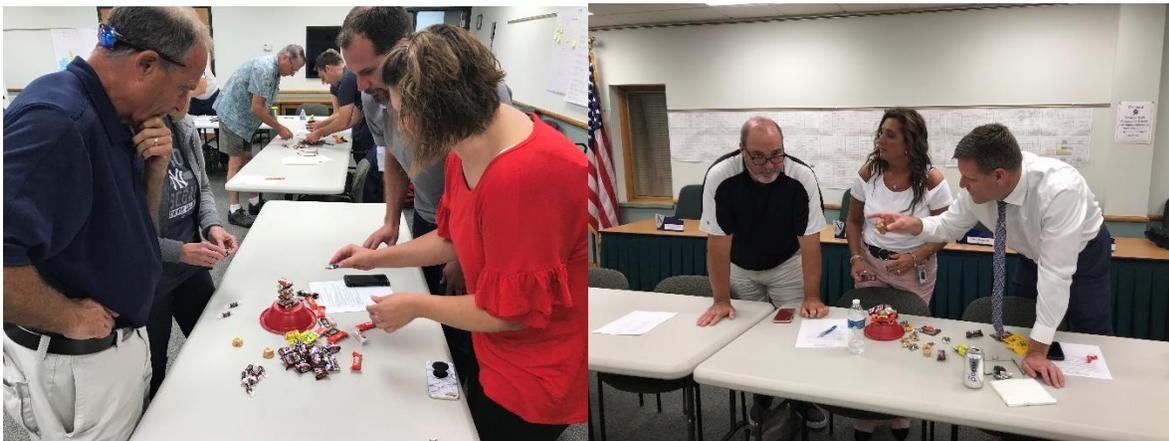
LES- *Theresa is coming once a month to continue training during staff meeting, sensory room filled with items, Kathy & Cami attended a training last Friday about social emotional*

OES- *Dee Dee is trained in trauma in the classroom. Dee Dee started the year with trauma training for staff, classrooms will have a calm down area in their rooms, track with QR code, we have purchased items for a “calm room” and will track data with QR, will start a brain gym, a team of teacher is being sent for a social emotional training, Cami and Dee Dee will also be going to showcase in Richmond, just started a touchpoint board for the high needs, social emotional curriculum*

NHS- *Theresa came in, “Get School” tour, Lauri Disetel*

Scott led SPC in an activity. He divided the attendees in 5 groups of 3-4 people. Each group was given a bowl full of candy. Each group was instructed to dump out the candy on the table, place the bowl upside down and then stack as much candy as possible on the flat surface of the bottom of the bowl that rests on the table when the bowl is right side up.

After the activity, Scott debriefed what this activity represented. The bowl when right side up and full of candy represents all the good things that we would like to do. The bowl, when upside down and holding only the candy we are able to stack on the bottom represents on the thing we have time to do. So the bottom of the bowl represents the restriction of time. Moving forward, in order to continually improve, we must also think of what things we must stop doing even though we may like them.





Next Steps Toward Improvement:

With that thinking, we need to assess feedback from Naviance to help understand how we can help kids be prepared for the college and career readiness.

We need to consider what barriers we have preventing us from doing a better job with less effort.

We need to study research to find out what works by reviewing John Hattie's Visible Learning findings & Mike Schmoker's guidance in his book Focus.

This is where we will begin on Oct. 28th at the next Strategic Planning meeting.

Scott also encouraged members to invite others to join us and shared that he hoped we would have to change venues because of large numbers.