



Meeting Summary

Meeting Title: Special Education Task Force Committee	
Date: December 19, 2019	Time: 3:45pm - 5:45pm
Facilitator: Mike Hansen, Deputy Superintendent, Richland School District Dr. Sara Sorensen Petersen, Clinical Assistant Professor of Education, Washington State University (WSU) Tri-Cities	
Attendance: Amanda Fish, Special Education Teacher Annamarie Carlson, Middle School Parent April Gardner, Middle School Parent Brian Moore, Assistant Superintendent Constance Morelock, Special Education Teacher Craig Smith, High School Parent Eugene Nemeth, High School Parent Heather Castleberry, Alternate Elementary Parent Jill Ives, Special Education Teacher - ABSENT Kelly Roseberg, Elementary Parent Kiley Hodges, Special Education Administrator Kim Maldonado, General Education Teacher Laurie Price, Special Education Teacher Mandy Cathy, Special Education Administrator Meg Fallows, Community Agency - ABSENT Michael Summers, Elementary Parent	Mike Stevens, Alternate High School Parent Molly Judkins, General Education Teacher - ABSENT Myriam Bradshaw, Elementary Parent Nicole Blake, Teaching, Learning & Curriculum Administrator - ABSENT Nicki Sintay, PSE Representative Rachel Carter, Itinerant Staff Member Rena Yecha, Special Education Teacher Rick Donahoe, School Board Member Shana Borms, Principal - ABSENT Summer Zumini, Special Education Teacher Tamra Harrison, Alternate Middle School Parent Tim Praino, Principal - ABSENT Tonya Goche, High School Parent - ABSENT Tracy Blakenship, Special Education Administrator - ABSENT Zac Carpenter, Middle School Parent - ABSENT
Task	Notes
Introduction	The committee started by reviewing basic assumptions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The system needs improvement. No one is to blame. ● Everyone is doing the best that they know how to do.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Some things are out of our control. We will focus on what we can control. ● We may not agree with everyone and everything all of the time. ● Conversation and collaboration are key to understanding multiple perspectives. ● The more informed we are, the better our decisions and recommendations will be. ● We are not there YET - but we WILL get there! <p>Next, the group norms were reviewed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Assume positive and noble intent ● Be open-minded ● Meeting space is a safe zone ● Give constructive feedback ● Use active listening ● Be prepared to participate ● Stay on topic ● Be solution-oriented <p>After reviewing basic assumptions and group norms, the essential questions for the day were given:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the vision and/or mission of the Richland School District's (RSD) special education program? 2. What are the priorities of the RSD's mission/vision statement(s)?
<p>Debrief December Community Meeting</p>	<p>At tables, committee members were asked to think of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Three things that went well at the community meeting ● Two things that could be improved ● One aha moment <p>After committee members discussed the three prompts at their table, they were asked to share out with the group. Below are some comments made by tables.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Things that went well <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was a better turnout than the first community forum. ○ There were good ideas for methods of communication

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The last twenty minutes of content was good - discussion about inclusion, inclusive services, etc. ○ There were good interactions ○ Opportunity for engaged conversation ● Things that could be improved <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Having more people attend. ○ Changing the date to a Monday instead of a Thursday. ○ Using a Parking Lot for community members so we can follow up with them later. ○ Input feedback and less introduction and review. ● Aha moments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was a lot of value in listening to stories to learn how to improve our system and gain a better perspective. ○ Took away that people are still upset. ○ People felt like they were left hanging. ○ There was positive feedback on facebook.
<p>Develop Final Draft of District Vision/Mission Statement(s)</p>	<p>The committee reviewed information from the past community forum where the community gave input on their draft vision/mission statements. At each table, they were asked to identify words and phrases that should be considered in the vision/mission statement(s).</p> <p>Next, the tables spoke out while Dr. Petersen typed vision/mission statement keywords and ideas onto the projector screen. Below show some of the key thoughts from each table.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The vision statement should be kept short and simple. ● Could use Richland School District's current vision statement, while changing our mission statement to clarify the needs. ● Should include the community and stakeholder responsibility in the statement(s)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Include a continuum of services. <p>The committee discussed the difference between a vision and mission statement, and how one statement should act as the overarching umbrella, and the other statement should describe details on how we will get to where we want to be.</p> <p>After the committee spent time together coming up with different words they felt should be included in the statement(s), they decided to continue thinking about the statement(s) for the next couple weeks.</p>
<p>Closing → January 30th Meeting</p>	<p>Dr. Petersen will help wordsmith the ideas for the statement(s) the committee started to develop. Petersen will send them out to the committee and ask for input from committee members. Once she receives input back, she will edit the statement(s) and then send out a poll to the whole committee so that we will have an idea coming back what people are thinking in regards to the vision and mission statement(s).</p> <p>The next community forum has been moved; therefore, the next committee meeting will be held on January 30th.</p>