



**Workshop of the School Board**  
**Virtual/Eisenhower Community Center Boardroom**  
**June 1, 2021 — 5:00 p.m.**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

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| <b>I. Fielding International Presentation</b> | <b>R. Fielding/ N. Streng/<br/>R. Mhiripiri-Reed</b> |
| <b>II. Board Goal Attainment Conversation</b> | <b>J. Bouchard</b>                                   |
| <b>III. Board Retreat Planning</b>            | <b>J. Bouchard</b>                                   |
| <b>IV. Superintendent Goals</b>               | <b>R. Mhiripiri-Reed</b>                             |



# Report to the School Board

## Board Retreat Planning

June 1, 2021

Report Prepared by

Jennifer Bouchard, Board Chair

### Overview

In past years, the Hopkins School Board has hosted retreats for Board members to engage in team building and goal setting. This practice was disrupted by COVID-19 last year. Retreats are published to the Board calendar as workshops and open for the public to attend.

### Primary Issues to Consider

Chair Bouchard is asking Board members to consider the following questions before our discussion on 6/1:

1. Are you interested in participating in a 1/2-day retreat in August?
2. What are possible dates/locations for the retreat?
3. What are topics you would like to discuss during the retreat? (ex. TEAL organizational structure, innovative learning practices/environments, restorative practices, anti-racist/equitable policymaking, etc.)
4. What types of team building activities would you be most interested in? (ex. leadership style activities, culture building activities, etc.)
5. What are your ideas for our 21-22 Board goals?

### Supporting Documents

Board Goals, 2021



## **Goal 1: Learning, Innovation, and Equity Leadership**

Understand the implementation and evolution of the distance and hybrid learning models used during Covid-19, and how they align with Vision 2031.

In Hopkins, we are redesigning public education from the ground up to prepare all students to thrive in our VUCA (volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous) world. Vision 2031 informs the distance and hybrid learning models the district is required to design and implement according to MDE guidance and MDH health metrics during Covid-19. As these models continue to evolve throughout the school year, it is important that the Board and our community understand various aspects of their implementation and the models' alignment with Vision 2031.

### Action Items:

The Board will receive regular updates from the Superintendent and staff members from the myriad departments within the district that help operationalize these models.

The Board will engage our Student Board Representatives, members of the Student Equity and Inclusion Committee, and other Hopkins Schools students to learn from their experiences with hybrid and distance learning.

Board members will host virtual community engagement sessions with an emphasis on reaching families who are most vulnerable and/or have not historically been engaged by the Board to hear about their experiences with the distance and hybrid learning models.

## **Goal 2: Operational Leadership**

Sustain bold investments in Vision 2031 while restructuring the budget to more accurately reflect projected revenues and expenses in the context of Covid-19.

Similar to districts across Minnesota, Hopkins is operating in an economic environment where state and federal funding for public education have not kept pace with inflation or the evolving needs of



our students. Moreover, the circumstances surrounding Covid-19 have caused unprecedented financial challenges for public schools across the entire country. Our challenge and opportunity as a Board is to create and maintain a budget structure that aligns with and will sustain the work of Vision 2031 during and beyond the current period of Covid-19.

Action Items:

The Board will continue to work with our Citizens Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC) to understand the current budget structure and opportunities for restructuring it to sustain Vision 2031.

The Board will consider Cabinet's recommendations for aligning the budget with Vision 2031.

The Board will clearly communicate our budgeting process and opportunities for community involvement via multiple channels. Board members will host virtual community engagement sessions to hear community input on proposed budget recommendations.

**Goal 3: Operational Leadership**

Design and implement an adaptive plan for public Board meetings and workshops as we continue to move through Covid-19.

The circumstances surrounding Covid-19 require alternative ways of meeting publicly in order to do the business of the Board. The Board's priorities for serving the Hopkins Schools community during this unprecedented time include accessibility for meeting participants and viewers, transparency, and the health of our Hopkins Schools community.

Action Items:

The Board will work with our district leadership team to develop meeting models that we can use based on current health data throughout the school year.

The Board will establish a more direct process for public engagement during Open Agenda at virtual meetings.



The Board will ensure that information on the Board page of the district website is current, accessible, and available in multiple languages.

#### **Goal 4: Operational, Equity, and Innovation Leadership**

Reform and create policies that will inform equitable, inclusive, and innovative practices throughout the district.

Creating and monitoring district policies is one of the main responsibilities of the School Board. As the needs of our community evolve, so must our policies and the practices they inform. The School Board will work collaboratively with students, staff, and community members to reform and create policies to ensure that all of our community members can thrive in our system.

##### Action Items:

The Board will reform and create policies to support holistic safety, mental and physical health, anti-racist educational environments, and authentic inclusion of our neurodiverse, LGBTQ+, and gender non-binary students, staff, and families.

The Board will engage our Student Board Representatives, members of the Student Equity and Inclusion Committee, and other Hopkins Schools students to learn from their experiences and hear their input on proposed policy changes.

The Board will engage with members of our district advisory committees, staff, and community experts to learn from their experiences and hear their input on proposed policy changes.

Board members will host virtual community engagement sessions to hear community input on proposed policy changes.

#### **Goal 5: Learning, Equity and Innovation Leadership**

Engage in professional development to understand and implement next practices in education.



In order to continue the innovation and equity focused work of Vision 2031, our Board must understand not just best, but next practices in education. This work has become even more urgent as we navigate the dual pandemics of Covid-19 and systemic racism. During the coming school year, we will engage with the work of educational thought leaders locally, nationally, and internationally. Bringing these perspectives to our collective work will help us build a public school system that ensures every student has what they need to be successful.

Action Items:

Board members will identify individual learning goals based on the scope of their Board responsibilities.

Board members will access information from education thought leaders in a variety of ways, including trainings, workshops, and online and print resources.

Board members will share their learnings with Board colleagues and community members during workshops, meetings, and community engagement sessions.