

Strategic Communications Subcommittee Report

Date: 6/10/16

Committee: Strategic Communications

Chair: Candice deCcsipkes

In attendance: Candice Decsipkes, Mike Lafortune, Lindsay Sterling, Valy Steverlynck

Meeting Date: 6/8/16

Agenda Items and Discussion:

1. New website: Seth shared the new website, answered some questions and sent the website to committee members in order that they could review it and send him feedback.
2. Exit survey: The group made final changes to the draft in order to take it to the board for review. See the attached survey. The recommendation from the group would be to start using the survey this year.
3. Exit interviews: The group decided to recommend to the board that we do interviews with Ed, Mike and Brian, asking them to tell us what RDU5 is doing well and where we could work on improvement.
4. UPP (Unity and Pride Project): The group discussed the pros and cons of renaming the high school, making a list to take to the board.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timing - new superintendent and principal (leadership)• Opportunity - renovation and track and field• Public support from community members• Potential long-term unification• No current evidence of student desire for change• Evidence of adult desire for change	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Timing -- new superintendent and principal (controversial issue on their plates)• Public opposition - loyalty to FHS from community members and alumni• Divisive in short term• No current evidence of student desire for change• Evidence of adult opposition• Could detract from other initiatives focused on student achievement at FHS level• Cost• Energy and time from board to do exploration -- surveys, public hearings, forums

There was an idea from Mike about "middle ground" -- possibly saying Freeport High School Serving the communities of Durham, Freeport, and Pownal; and possibly naming wings in the school after the three towns.

The committee will be meeting again June 22nd (recently changed to June 15th).

Press release recommended? No
Submitted by: Candy deCcsipkes

RSU5 Parent Exit Survey

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this short, anonymous survey. Your answers will be confidential and will help the district improve our schools. Please fill out one survey for each child in your family.

We understand that your child is planning to leave or has left RSU5 schools. Is this true? *(check one box)*

- Yes, my child left or is in the process of leaving
- No, my child is staying in district *(please proceed to the bottom of the survey and press "submit")*

The last RSU5 school your child attended: *(check one box)*

- Freeport High School
- Freeport Middle School
- Durham Community School
- Mast Landing School
- Pownal Elementary School
- Morse Street School

Please check off as many reasons for leaving as apply:

1. We are moving:

- Because we are dissatisfied with our experience in the RSU5 schools
- For reason(s) that don't involve the schools *(please proceed to the bottom of the survey and press "submit")*

2. We are drawn to another educational option for its:

- Athletic program
- Religious affiliation
- Educational philosophy (Waldorf, Montessori, homeschooling, language immersion, etc.). Please describe: _____
- Academic rigor
- Test scores/reputation/ranking
- Other- Please describe: _____

3. My child's needs were not being met:

- Academic support was not sufficient
- Where applicable: Gifted and Talented program did not meet the needs of my child
- Where applicable: Special Ed program did not meet the needs of my child

4. We wanted an academic program that:

- Has a more challenging, rigorous curriculum
- Offers the following subject(s), not offered in RSU5:

- Has higher level course offerings/accelerated programming

5. We are looking for extracurricular activities that RSU5 doesn't offer:

- Please describe: _____

6. We are looking for an athletic program that offers:

- Class A sports
- More competitive sports
- A sport or sports that RSU5 doesn't offer:

7. We had concerns about discipline:

- Disruptive behavior
- Bullying
- Drugs/alcohol
- Other-Please
describe:_____

8. We had safety concerns:

- Please describe:_____

9. Communication from administrators and teachers did not meet our needs:

- Please describe:_____

10. We are looking for more opportunities to be involved in school life:

- Please describe:_____

Please tell us how the district could have better met your needs:

Thank you for completing this survey.

SUBMIT

