



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Mount Arlington Public Schools Meeting 2 – December 5, 2023

District Mission Statement

To ensure that our children succeed personally, academically, socially, and physically. Through our commitment and passion to promote excellence, we will continue to provide our students with a safe, challenging, and inspiring learning environment so that each student may achieve his/her full potential. In partnership with the community, our students are provided with a sound foundation to support a lifelong journey of opportunity and success.

Session 2 - Developing a Broad Goal Statement and Supporting Objectives for Each Goal Area

On December 5, 2023 Mount Arlington parents, board members, staff, administration, and community members came together to continue the strategic planning process. The final meeting's topic focused on the development of a broad goal statement and four or so supporting objectives for each of the goal areas. These goals will represent a shared vision for the Mount Arlington Public Schools over the next five years.

Board president Rachel Byrne opened the meeting then Charlene Peterson and Kelly Mitchell from New Jersey School Boards Association facilitated the strategic planning process. The group was provided with an overview of the previous meeting and then the goal writing process was introduced that included the connection to the work from the first meeting and the components of a goal statement.

Participants were divided into three breakout groups – one group per each goal area:

- Student Learning
- Resource Allocation
- Supportive Learning Environment and Community

Each goal area group was tasked with writing a broad goal statement and developing accompanying objectives that reflected the strengths, challenges, and visions relative to their goal area as determined in the first meeting.

Small Group Work - The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups.

Goal Area	Student Learning
Goal Statement	To create and maintain a learning environment that is inclusive, challenging and structured to maximize students learning potential to create a sound foundation.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To provide ongoing and meaningful professional development.2. To increase student achievement scores by incorporating a rigorous curriculum.3. Expanding educational programs to advance the practical application of technology.

Goal Area	Resource Allocation
Goal Statement	To responsibly allocate resources that support and meet the needs of the Mount Arlington School District community.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Upgrade and expand facilities to meet the needs of district growth.2. Increase security to building infrastructures along with increased security utilizing resource officers.3. Identify and utilize grants and shared services to reduce educational costs.4. Identify target transportation programs to lower overall transportation costs.5. Investigate the feasibility of preschool expansion.

Goal Area	Supportive Learning Environment and Community
Goal Statement	Create a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment that supports student diversity and community involvement.
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Utilize community resources to expand school programs – e.g., library, rec department, lake.2. Introduce additional tools that support mental health and SEL for all (staff, students, families).3. Provide additional training and certification for staff to support multilingual learners.4. Develop a formal channel for MTA & Roxbury staff to co-create curriculum to increase collaboration across districts.

Next Steps

The administration will develop action plans to accomplish the goals/objectives. A final report summarizing the plan will be generated by New Jersey School Boards and presented at an upcoming Board of Education meeting for consideration by the Board. All participants and interested stakeholders are encouraged to attend.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who participated in the strategic planning process. The outcome of the plan has been shaped by the input of every participating member. The district has been provided with a five-year roadmap that reflects the aspirations of the various stakeholders for Mount Arlington’s students.