

Special Public Forum
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education

June 13, 2005

A Special Forum of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the Little Theater at South Orange Middle School, 70 North Ridgewood Road, South Orange, New Jersey, on June 13, 2005.

1st Vice President Mila Jasey called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, the Libraries, The Star Ledger, the News Record and all schools.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Bennett, Mr. Betheil, Ms. Crawford, Mr. Frazer,
Mrs. Jasey, Mr. Latz, Mr. Little, Mrs. Wren-Hardin

Absent: Mr. Miller

8 MEMBERS PRESENT

DISCUSSION

Discussion: Updates from Strategic Planning Action Planning Teams—Mr. Betheil

Mr. Betheil presented an overview of the Strategic Planning process, including the status of the first draft of the action plan and the steps ahead for finalizing the plan. Time was made available for discussion of Strategic Planning topics before moving into small group discussions. Small groups met to discuss the following areas: measurement and resources, early childhood education, diversity and equal opportunity and access, curriculum, special education, and responsibility and accountability.

Small group reports given to the assembly included the following points:

Measurement and Resources ñ *presented by Mrs. Jasey:*

- ☐ Need consistent meaningful measurements
- ☐ Delegate work of Assistant Superintendents
- ☐ Not a ìtest-prepî program
- ☐ Multiple measures should be used
- ☐ Lack of integration of goals
- ☐ October workshops to engage community

Early Childhood Education ñ *presented by Mrs. Wren-Hardin:*

- ☐ Early childhood education missing from Goal 1
- ☐ Assessment upon registration for Kindergarten
- ☐ Address decreasing the achievement gap

Diversity and Equal Opportunity and Access ñ *presented by Mr. Bennett*

- ☐ Key issue for future of district
- ☐ Separation by race may begin at an early age
- ☐ Race and class are not the same; may be issues other than race

- ☐ Diversity coordinator position needed

Curriculum ñ *presented by Dr. Mingin*

- ☐ Reality of implementation may be difficult
- ☐ Budget constraints exist
- ☐ Areas in action plan that need to be removed

Special Education

- ☐ Concerned about general and Language Arts program
- ☐ Should be researched-based programs
- ☐ Consistency of addressing all needs
- ☐ Need staff development
- ☐ More vocational programs needed ñ transition to work
- ☐ Space concerns of bringing special education programs in-district

Responsibility and Accountability ñ *presented by Donna Smith*

- ☐ Some items could be implemented by the committee
- ☐ Need to determine a schedule for measurements
- ☐ Determine how to present data on non-quantifiable items
- ☐ Address individual needs of students
- ☐ Everyone has to assume responsibility

Board of Education adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Karla Milanette, Board Secretary