

Special Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
November 21, 2016

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in Auditorium at Columbia High School, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood, New Jersey, on November 21, 2016.

Board President Elizabeth Baker called the meeting to order at 7:29 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: Ms. Baker, Mrs. Daugherty, Ms. Jones, Mrs. Lawson-Muhammad, Ms. Maini, Ms. Pai, Mr. Sabin
Ms. Smith, Mrs. Wright

Absent: None

9 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DISCUSSION

STRATEGIC PLAN - *Dr. Ramos*

Overview

Dr. Ramos presented a Powerpoint presentation on the Strategic Plan. The Strategic Planning process has multiple phases, with a wide variety of perspectives included in every step along the way.

This began with the Superintendent inviting the full community to share their ideas, recommendations, and concerns on the issues most important to them in a series of events and communications in Fall 2015, including an Education Summit in which more than 1,500 community members came together.

The next phase of the process was the development of a Strategic Direction document using community input as the foundation. A committee of 27 people from across the community engaged in a 3-day facilitated process in January 2016, to co-create this document, which sets the vision and direction for the district's new Strategic Plan. This document was accepted by the Board of Education in February 2016. Action Planning teams were then formed for each of the 9 strategies developed by the Strategic Direction Committee. The teams included educators, parents, students, and other community members who volunteered to share their passion for innovative education and commitment to the very best for SOMSD. The teams met for 9 months to develop Action Plans - implementation steps for each strategy consisting of reasonable pieces of work that move us towards the mission.

The teams created a total of 46 different action plans. This document contains the "Deliverables" or results statements for each of the plans. A deliverable represents a to-do.

The Action Planning Team Deliverables contain 9 Strategies including:

- Strategy#1 - Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
- Strategy#2 - Multiple Student Supports
- Strategy#3 - Student Engagement
- Strategy#4 - Professional Development
- Strategy#5 - Cultural Competency
- Strategy#6 - Partnering with Families
- Strategy#7 - Facilities, Administrative Structure, Scheduling
- Strategy#8 - Community Expertise and External Resources
- Strategy#9 - Communications

Ms. Wright reminds the board that the public must be given the opportunity to speak at a public meeting.

Mrs. Grierson and members of the strategic planning committee present strategies and the deliverables of each strategy, many added comments to the Powerpoint presentation.

Dr. Ramos states that at the December 21, 2016 Board meeting Board members will be asked to:

- Adopt the Strategic Direction
- Accept the Action Plan
- Authorize administration to carry out the next steps:
 - Prioritize plans
 - Create a 3 year action plan
 - Incorporate some items into the next budget.

Board members thanked Dr. Ramos and all involved in the process and expressed excitement to have been a part of the process. Board members also discussed the next steps in the process.

[presentation on file in the Board Secretary's office].

Ms. Baker asks if anyone wishes to address the board

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

NONE.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS EXPRESS THEIR GRATITUDE TO THE ACTION PLANNING TEAMS AND THE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR TIME AND EFFORT TO CREATE THE ACTION PLANS.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Session on Monday, December 19, 2016, at 6:30 pm in the Columbia High School Guidance Conference

Room to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session at 7:30 pm in the Columbia High School Auditorium, 17 Parker Avenue, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in its annual Reorganization Meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at 7:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

MOTION made by Mrs. Wright, seconded by Ms. Pai, that the Board of Education meet in Executive Session prior to the December 19, 2016 Public Meeting to discuss personnel, legal and Special Education matters, negotiations, and security, the nature of which will be made public at a future date. Motion unanimously approved.

MOTION made by Mrs. Wright, seconded by Ms. Pai, that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 10:00 p.m.

Paul Roth, Board Secretary