



**Wednesday, January 12, 2022
Community Linkages Committee Meeting**

**Subcommittee of the Board of Education
Appleton Area School District**

All members will be participating from remote locations

Time: 4:00-5:30 PM

Members of the media or general public may access the meeting via the live stream broadcast on the Appleton Area School District YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChO-l09YGgt4uKnCWYvt8Pw>.

For remote attendance via telephone, please dial: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 916 3123 5324

Any special needs or any requests for accommodations related to accessing the meeting should be sent to Clara Kopplinger, at kopplingerclar@aasd.k12.wi.us or (920) 832-6126, at least 24-hours in advance of the meeting. This would include any person for whom it would be burdensome or infeasible to use the primary method(s) of remote access established by the District.

1. MEETING OPENING

Subject	A. Roll Call
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	1. MEETING OPENING
Type	Procedural

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Subject	A. Approval of Agenda
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
Type	Action

Subject	B. Approval of Minutes from December 20, 2021.
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
Type	Minutes

Minutes aren't official until they are approved at the Committee meeting.

Subject	C. Approval of Minutes from January 6, 2022.
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES
Type	Minutes

Minutes aren't official until they are approved at the Committee meeting.

3. DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEMS

Subject	A. Community Linkages Proposed Plan (Draft)
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	3. DISCUSSION AGENDA ITEMS
Type	Discussion, Information

File Attachments

[Proposed Community Linkage Plan.pdf \(338 KB\)](#)

4. ACTION AGENDA ITEMS (Only Board Subcommittee members can vote on Action Agenda Items. Although additional Board of Education members may be present, they do not vote.)

Subject	A. Proposed Community Linkages Plan - Bringing the Proposed Plan to the Full Board for Consideration
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	4. ACTION AGENDA ITEMS (Only Board Subcommittee members can vote on Action Agenda Items. Although additional Board of Education members may be present, they do not vote.)
Type	Action, Discussion

5. ADJOURN

Subject	A. Adjourn Meeting
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	5. ADJOURN
Type	Action

6. FUTURE MEETING(S)

Subject	A. TBD
Meeting	Jan 12, 2022 - Community Linkages Committee Meeting
Category	6. FUTURE MEETING(S)
Type	Information

Purpose of Community Engagement:

- Strengthen our schools and increase student opportunities and achievement
- Foster gathering diverse opinions from a wide variety of stakeholders to inform board decisions
- Understand the full impact of Board decisions on stakeholders
- Gather quantitative and qualitative data by engaging with stakeholders

To accomplish our stated purpose of community engagement, the following goals and objectives have been established.

Goals and expectations:

The community engagement plan, as part of coherent governance, seeks to address how the board:

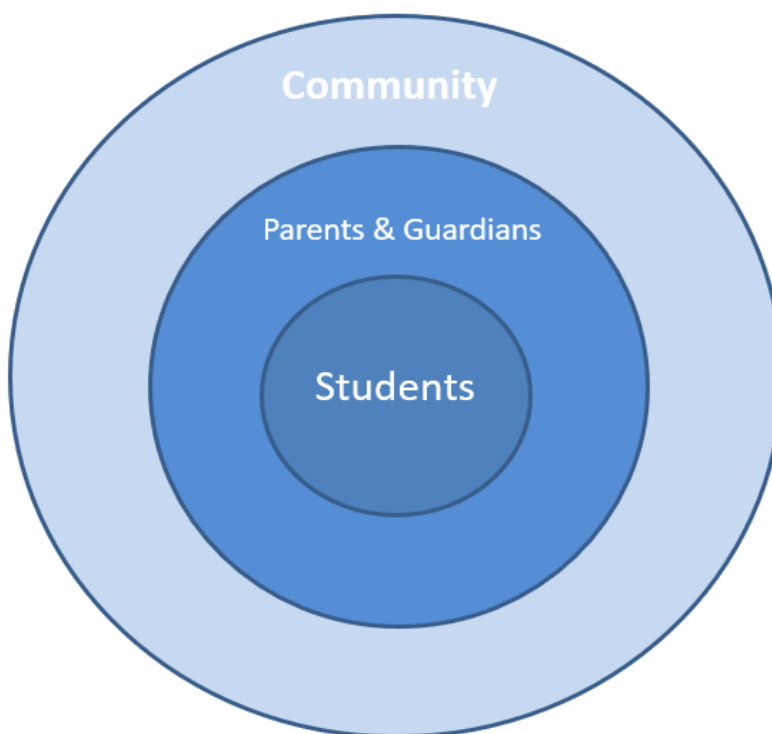
- Consistently and deliberately engages with community stakeholders on topics of concern and interest.
- Proactively engages with the community on an ongoing and planned basis to understand concerns and expectations. Ensures stakeholders' viewpoints are obtained in a timely manner and are valued and respected.
- Strives to gather broad, diverse opinions from a variety of stakeholders to inform Board decision making.
- Provides opportunities for the Board to communicate their collective vision for the district and provide for the rationale of decisions and policies. Assists in understanding the impact of the Board's decisions based on the impacts on stakeholders.
- Builds trust between the Board and the community through consistent and meaningful engagement.

Our plan for community engagement includes:

1. Engagement target, defining who we are intending to engage
2. Tools and methodologies we will use to conduct community engagement
3. Specific examples of how we intend to use the tools and methodologies to engage the community

1. Engagement target:

Developing our approach to coherent governance community engagement will need to address each of the following engagement groups:



Students, as our primary clients and focus for all policies and decision making, are a key engagement group. The Board will target specific community engagement tools to establish two-way communication between the Board and the district's primary clients.

Parents/guardians have a unique role as the district's key partners in meeting the educational needs of the students. By collaboratively developing policies and educational approaches that are fully supported and re-enforced by parents/guardians, student achievement is enhanced. Establishing a strong partnership where educators and parents/guardians work towards common, and well supported objectives can greatly increase the outcomes for students.

Community members are the owners of the district and represent a wide range of interests and encompass students, parents, taxpayers, and many other community members. Actively engaging the overall community can encourage greater understanding and support for educational programs and policies.

As we consider engaging our target stakeholders, we intend to adhere to the values of:

- **Respect for diverse opinions:** Our community engagement will ensure that there is equity of access and opportunity for the different stakeholder groups to voice their opinions, whether in support or in opposition to board policies and decisions. The Board will consistently seek all opinions, including any voices that may not appear to be represented. The Board may need to find creative approaches to ensure equal representation of all stakeholder groups.
- **Respect for stakeholder access:** The Board will ensure venues are equitable overall for stakeholders across the entire district, and ensure all areas of the district are represented, especially considering options for those who may have transportation challenges and language barriers. The Board will ensure that reasonable accommodations are made for any community member.
- **Respect for stakeholders' time:** The Board will ensure that our engagement activities are predictable, planned carefully, and widely communicated so board members and stakeholders can schedule well in advance to increase participation.
- **Respect for sharing information:** The Board member representatives should share their engagement experiences with the full Board in an efficient way such that all Board members benefit from the engagement, even when not personally participating.

2. Community engagement tools and methodology:
 1. **Focus group engagement**, which is a targeted group with a specific objective and workplan. The invited attendees have specific knowledge or experiences that are highly relevant to the stated objective and workplan. Focus groups have a specific objective and topics to be addressed and are time-bound. The results of the focus group are shared formally with the board at a regular board meeting. The topics of the focus group should align with the board annual workplan or board result policies.
 2. **Informal engagement**, which provides a forum for community stakeholders to dialogue with board members on any topic or question. For example, board members are periodically available for community stakeholders to provide their point of view, ask questions and engagement with board members. Because informal engagements do not have a formal agenda, the number of board members participating cannot constitute a quorum. To facilitate attendance and availability, informal engagements can be conducted at various community settings and not necessarily at school facilities.
 3. **Community Conversation**, which provides a public forum for interested members of the community to have a conversation about a specific topic of interest or concern. If a large turn-out is anticipated, an impartial facilitator can be beneficial as well as conducting the meeting at an offsite location. Community conversations can include key volunteer groups, community thought leaders, non-profit organizations, and the general public. Community conversations can include surveys, expert forums, town hall style meetings, and listening sessions.
 4. **Thought leaders**, which gathers a group of community leaders who have a strong interest in public schools, and act as an advisory group to the Board. The Thought Leader group is comprised of representatives from key areas of the community that may include business leaders, elected officials, community organization leaders, educators from higher education, parents/guardians, and other key members of the community. The Thought Leader group requires up-front planning and work to identify individuals who are well-regarded for their role in the community. Meeting with a consistent group of thought leaders periodically can facilitate understanding of challenges and goals. The thought leaders can provide counsel and insight as to how to manage challenges, offer insights as community leaders, as well as gain an understanding of the Board's goals and objectives for their support and advocacy.

3. Examples of community engagement activities:

Combining the engagement target groups and the engagement tools, provides examples of community engagement that could be used in the future:

	Students	Parents & Guardians	Community
Informal engagement	-Lunch with the Board -Visit to classrooms to observe classes -School tours -Student representatives on Board	-Conduct Board meetings at local schools -Visit PTO meetings -Parental surveys	- “Coffee chats” - Community surveys - Attend school & community events
Focus group	- Recent graduates - Student target groups according to topic	- Parent focus groups according to topic - Parents of students with disabilities - Parents of ELL students	- Community partners - Non-profit groups - Educators & staff - People with disabilities - Diversity groups
Community engagement	- Town hall meetings - Expert forums - Listening sessions - Surveys	- Town hall meetings - Expert forums - Listening sessions - Surveys	- Town hall meetings - Expert forums - Listening sessions - Surveys

Through meaningful engagement with all our stakeholders, we seek to further the goals as outlined in the Board’s result & operational expectation policies including:

- **Raising student achievement:** By engaging parents, and other stakeholders in the community in defining academic goals, standards, curriculum and measures of progress, community engagement can be a powerful driver for raising student achievement.
- **Strengthening the whole student:** Focus and engage the community on the various social and health conditions that can impede successful learning to foster student achievement.
- **Strengthening communities and schools:** By convening the community around education issues, the school board can take a leadership role in leading people to engage in activities that improve community life and our schools.
- **Achieve operational excellence and responsible stewardship of resources:** Engage community to align resources to district priorities to ensure student success with maximum efficiency and excellence.