



A Community of Learners

Superintendent Entry Plan Update

TO: School Board
FROM: Trisha Kocanda, Superintendent

September 23, 2014

Update on Activities, Timelines, & Progress:

The Goals of the Superintendent Entry Plan include the ability to:

- Gain valuable feedback from stakeholders to serve as a highly informed leader.
- Identify the appropriate goals and work priorities.
- Demonstrate commitment to leading the community by engaging with individuals and groups, listening to feedback, and leading with integrity.
- Assist with the development of a shared vision.

The best way to gain valuable feedback from stakeholders is to spend time engaging in meaningful dialog and listening; through this process, I am taking notes and identifying themes and patterns.

Since the August Board meeting, I have had the opportunity to meet with following community members:

- Erin Austria, from the Winnetka Public Nursery
- Chris Cahill, from the Winnetka Caucus - Schools Committee
- Robert Bahan, the Village Manager
- Rebecca Wolf, Director of the Winnetka/Northfield Library
- Linda Yonke, Superintendent of New Trier High School

I have also met with the staff at Greeley and Washburne Schools, and have both initial and verification meetings scheduled throughout the rest of this month and October with both certified and non-certified staff. Also scheduled are Student Focus Groups. I will be meeting with students from grades 4-8 to learn what is most important to them and to ask

Students about their ideas to improve school experiences. My goal is to gain an understanding of what is currently working well, what is in need of attention, and what innovative ideas can we move forward with to take our District to the next level.

Emerging themes, innovative ideas, challenges and concerns are being captured. Already I am seeing how these conversations are leading into community building and opportunities to collaborate and work more closely together. For instance, we are re-instituting regular intergovernmental meetings hosted by the Village, collaborating with the Park District on defining shared services, and developing a school district and library group to brainstorm ways in which our programs can support one another.

Next Steps

Parent meetings, continued conversation with community members and affiliate groups are being scheduled for October and November.