



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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**TO: Members, Board of Education
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

FROM: Chris Jasculca

RE: Strategic Plan Update

DATE: June 28, 2011

District 97 recently completed the fourth year of its five-year strategic plan, which was adopted by the Board of Education on August 22, 2007. The plan supports the district's mission to guarantee that each student achieves optimal intellectual growth while developing socially, emotionally, and physically through a system distinguished by:

- Exemplary instruction focused on each student
- Commitment to the needs of a diverse population
- Meaningful partnerships with families and the community
- Celebrations of the power of art, music, and language
- Confident students challenged to be educational risk-takers

This update on the strategic plan contains the following information:

- Recap of the plan's seven strategies
- Events, activities and accomplishments from the 2010-2011 school year that were tied to the strategic plan/specific strategies
- Sampling of proposed events, activities and goals for the 2011-2012 school year that are tied to the strategic plan/specific strategies

In addition to being part of the board packet for this meeting, the report will be made available to the general public on the home page and strategic plan page on the district's Web site. These pages can be accessed via the following links:

- Home page – <http://www.op97.org/index.html>
- Strategic plan page – <http://www.op97.org/meetings/sp/index.html>

Strategies

- Strategy I – We will ensure the highest academic achievement for each student.
- Strategy II – We will make each student the active agent of his/her educational experience.
- Strategy III – We will establish a culture of inclusion that respects and promotes diversity.
- Strategy IV – We will ensure learning experiences that develop the whole child to accomplish our mission and objectives.

- Strategy V – We will guarantee that all necessary resources, including financial, will be available and aligned with our mission and objectives.
- Strategy VI – We will ensure the highest caliber staff who will lead the district in its mission and objectives.
- Strategy VII – We will constructively communicate internally and externally.

Events, Activities and Accomplishments from 2010-2011

Below are the events, activities and accomplishments from the 2010-2011 school year that were tied to the strategic plan. The strategy/strategies they correspond with are in parentheses.

- Passed operating referendum on April 5, 2011 (Strategies I, II, IV, V and VII)
- Completed first year of the technology plan – teachers were provided with laptops and received training and professional development throughout year; increased use of wireless network and software such as Google Apps; each school received regular classroom LCD carts; schools received IEP carts that consist of an LCD projector, Dell laptop and HP color printer and serve as the main technology resource for IEP meetings; completed comprehensive technology inventory (Strategies I, II, V and VII)
- Continued implementation of PBIS and RtI – PBIS stations, lessons and celebrations incorporated into school-day activities; several schools recognized by Illinois PBIS Network for demonstrating implementation and sustainability of the PBIS process through measurable criteria; RtI model implemented across all schools; principals and staff have had professional development throughout the school year on the key RtI concepts; focus on team structures, including building-based RtI teams, grade level teams, department teams, professional learning community teams, data teams; nearly 30 percent decrease in the number of reported discipline incidents in middle schools during the first half of the school year (Strategies I, II, III and IV)
- Studied/discussed ways to improve the Gifted/Talented and Differentiation program – hosted forums in October and April; met with GTD staff to identify how program might better meet the needs of students (Strategies I and IV)
- Implemented MAP assessment – used to measure student progress and identify areas for improvement; principals and teachers received professional development on the MAP assessment and how to use the data to inform instruction; student performance data was presented to board on March 22, 2011; parents provided with student MAP progress reports in fall, winter and spring of the 2010-2011 school year (Strategy I)
- District 97 Early Childhood Achievement Task Force developed in January – examined differentiated learning activities, monitored student progress, and communicated with parents and the public regarding student progress; new early kindergarten readiness process developed and a brochure that highlights curriculum expectations was drafted (Strategy I)
- Adopted new world language curriculum (Strategies I, II, and IV)
- Elementary teachers received professional development on differentiation in the classroom using the new *Treasures* reading series (Strategy I)

- Launched Web site for technology department – features tech resources, tips and tools for staff (Strategies I, VI and VII)
- Developed respect code and implemented it district wide (Strategies I, II, III and IV)
- Holmes won Green Award from the Environmental & Energy Advisory Commission in recognition of "its leadership and ingenuity in helping make Oak Park an earth-friendly community to live in" (Strategy II and IV)
- MANNkind was formed – a student-directed, service learning organization at Mann School (Strategies II and IV)
- The special education department hosted a workshop titled "Parents and Teachers Talking Together" – participants developed six goals for the district to work on during the 2010-2011 school year (Strategies III and VII)
- Independent audit for fiscal year 2010 rendered an unqualified audit that featured no internal control or compliance deficiencies (Strategy V)
- Performed residency verification for every District 97 family with a child entering kindergarten through eighth grade for the 2011-2012 school year (Strategy V)
- Through the efforts of the director of buildings and grounds, District 97 will receive approximately \$22,000 from the Federal Emergency Management for expenses incurred to clean up from the blizzard in February (Strategy V)
- Cabinet members, principals and assistant principals participated in an Administrator Academy workshop (Strategy VI)
- Committee for Collaborative Communication was launched - administrative committee comprised of board members, district administrators and community members that was charged with providing recommendations regarding how to improve and enhance two-way communication among the district's internal and external stakeholders. (Strategy VII)
- Families using digital backpack increased by more than 100 (Strategy VII)
- Launched new community listserv that featured improved format/layout and provided analytics that allowed us to measure the effectiveness of the resource (Strategy VII)
- Modified district's main Web site to make it more user friendly and easier to navigate (Strategy VII)
- Superintendent Roberts participated in a community chat at each school – introduced himself to staff, parents/guardians and community members; shared his vision for the district; answered questions about wide range of education-related topics (Strategy VII)

Proposed Events, Activities and Goals for 2011-2012

Below are the proposed events, activities and goals for the 2011-2012 school year that are tied to the strategic plan. The strategy/strategies they correspond with are in parentheses.

- The new “Snap Shot” screenings developed by the Early Childhood Achievement Task Force will be administered to all incoming kindergarten students between August 2 and August 15; once finalized, the new curriculum expectations brochure developed by the kindergarten teachers will be used for grade level planning and as a vehicle for communication with parents/guardians and the public (Strategy I)
- Implement second year of the technology plan – striving for three-to-one student to machine ratio; continued professional development, including teacher proficiency certification; further integration of technology in the class (netbooks, iPod Touch carts and iPad carts, etc.) (Strategies I, II, V and VII)
- Recommendations for world language program – increase from twice a week for 30 minutes per session to four times a week for 20 minutes per session in K-2; add two FTE Elementary World Language (FLES Spanish) staff positions to support added minutes at primary level two; perform ongoing evaluation; monitor progress to assess value of more frequent contact; provide reports at mid-year and year end; work to find creative solutions for expanding the time and “touches” as K-2 cohort moves up through system while continuing to support growth at intermediate and middle school levels; increased options for sixth grade; world language teachers will continue their work during summer to revise the curriculum for FLES, PSIP, and middle school level classes (Strategies I, II and IV)
- Pilot Fast ForWord during summer to measure effectiveness of the program and determine possibilities for future implementation (Strategies I and II)
- Investigate partnership with the Oak Park Township on FACE-IT program (Strategies I, II and IV)
- Further implement RtI - each school will have a building-based RtI action plan that will guide its efforts for the 2011-2012 academic school year; shared district-wide goal for the 2011-2012 academic school year to develop, sustain and coordinate principal leadership of the RtI process in each building; beginning in September, the building principals will attend monthly meeting with curriculum coordinator to share experiences, expertise, and guidance, and ensure consistency across all schools (Strategies I, II, III and IV)
- Make changes to the GTD program – provide differentiation support to students in kindergarten through second grade via push-in to regular classrooms (math/reading - approximately five hours per week); offer support and resources to address differentiation needs of high learners (two hours of GTD planning per week); provide direct service to students in grades three through five in the areas of reading and math (math acceleration will occur for students both with the GTD and classroom teachers); identify ways to provide direct service to middle school students in content areas other than math (Strategy I)
- Restructure Multicultural Center and summer school (Strategies I, II, III and IV)
- Launch redesigned family of Web sites in August 2011 (Strategy VII)
- Research possibility of podcasting and Webcasting board meetings (Strategy VII)
- Administer parent/guardian and staff climate surveys in October 2011 (Strategy VII)