

Strategic Planning: The stakeholder input, organized by exit outcomes can be found below.

I recommend the school board review the document to ensure the ideas are placed under the proper exit outcomes.

Becker School Board

June 2012

Exit Outcomes

- **Students will become self-directed learners, self-disciplined, and autonomous workers, while being critical thinkers with a drive for innovation and problem solving.**
 - Students should not lose sight of the importance of history – guides where we go
 - Challenge students, high rigor for coursework
 - Communication skills, writing (developing a thought longer than a paragraph) and oral, reading, collaboration, and vocabulary
 - Ability to work with others on a team and respect other opinions
 - Work with students individually to make sure their needs are met
 - More flexibility of the school day. College/work mirror some real world day
 - Students should have the ability to deal with change
 - Accelerated classes in middle school
 - Have good study habits, be hard workers, good work ethic
 - Expect students to be challenged more and deal with harder applications
 - Should have a well balanced education – Arts, Languages
 - Know where to find information
 - Global mindedness/global markets/global economy
 - Students should be taught what community members were taught in school
 - Let students take risks on their own, let them know it's OK to make mistakes
 - Ensure each student reaches his/her potential

- **Students will demonstrate proficiency of core academic standards by meeting or exceeding developmentally appropriate benchmarks for academic competency.**
 - Expect the district to lead and provide direction in providing a quality education for all
 - Kids should be learning at their grade levels with high rigor
 - Prepare students to be college and technical school ready
 - Know how to read, write and do simple arithmetic
 - Students should know the fundamentals of the history of our country
 - Expect students to achieve higher standards of achievement
 - Make sure students are well rounded and know Math, English and Arts

- **Students will have the opportunity to pursue expertise in areas of personal academic or career interest.**
 - More language classes should be offered (Chinese, Russian)
 - Expand classes to include post secondary economics and honors biology
 - More Vo-Tech classes should be offered e.g. small engines
 - More center based individualized learning opportunities
 - Balanced educational approach – Arts, Extra Curricular
 - Teach trades, basic math, drafting, machining
 - Small town feel but keep pressure on better offerings
 - Earlier exposure to foreign languages so students are prepared for the changing world
 - Offer more clubs that students are interested in
 - Individual learning plans, customized for students to challenge them and allow students to excel at what they are good at

- **Students will effectively collaborate and communicate using an array of media.**
 - Know how to understand and interpret media bombardment; and media bias
 - Understand how technology has changed the workforce, digital citizenship

- **Students will demonstrate the ability to effectively apply life skills.**
 - Students should know basic living skills (Checking, Rent, Student Loan Info)
 - Be prepared in case technology goes away
 - We should teach more current events, geography, know about the world and politics
 - Having a business class is good
 - Know where to get good information and decipher what is reliable
 - Teach critical thinking and problem solving skills – students should be able to gauge if things are legitimate and be able to judge their validity; students should think independently; ask questions.
 - Students should be able to write a business plan
 - Students should have good speaking and job interviewing skills

- **Students will effectively use technology to function in a knowledge economy.**
 - Students should use up-to-date technology and be able to apply technology in real-life situations including communication through technology
 - Keep and expand one-to-one iPad program
 - Homework calendar on iPads should be mandatory to help students be organized
 - One on one initiative for iPads at the middle school
 - Students should be 21st Century Learners – use technology as a resource, for communication, to get better jobs and be prepared for the future
 - More advancement in technology, stay in stride with technology

- **The district will properly maintain up-to-date school environments where students are physically and emotionally safe and secure.**
 - Need to show the need for new or better facilities before the voters will accept
 - Upgrade the facilities and have a hockey arena
 - Protect students from bullying
 - New auditorium is needed to accommodate students
 - Have a safe learning environment... create a classroom environment free from students misbehaving
 - Have a warmer more inviting physical environment (classrooms are too sterile) so students can be more involved in interaction to create unity
 - Update swimming pool
 - Expand building capacity

- **The district will maintain the financial integrity of the school district.**
 - If money went into classroom would support a referendum – not for teacher’s pay
 - We should be restricting open enrollment to make sure we have adequate supplies and room
 - Class size is not that important I would not provide additional financial support for that
 - Willing to provide financial support if we know what the money will be used for
 - The need for financial support must be demonstrated
 - The district should make staffing and financial decisions that foster a “better than average” school
 - Watch the budget
 - It would be difficult for me to support a referendum given the current teachers
 - Would support if the money would bring about academic achievement
 - Improve the financial situation of the school district
 - Would pay more if class sizes less than 20
 - Would pay more for expansion of mentoring
 - Be willing to pay for some curriculum that is not currently offered
 - I would pay extra to maintain class sizes
 - I would provide financial support to support teachers salary (sustainable income)
 - Would provide additional financial support for swimming pool update
 - To support my own child’s learning I would pay more taxes
 - Willing to provide more financial support if we had more Vo-Tech classes and all day kindergarten

- **Administrative Means**
 - Hire good people
 - Maintain the small town feel
 - It feels that money is being wasted now
 - There should be better communication about class offerings
 - The district should support the community as a whole, parenting skills

- Accountability for teachers in their curriculum – provide oversight so that parents don't have to
- Beef up school pride, staff pride – its lacking, we [staff members] need more praise
- Willing to pay more taxes for a new, larger auditorium
- I am proud to be from Becker and be part of the system of a model district
- Board and Administration need to make better budget staffing decisions before I would provide additional financial support
- Staff support is there and offered through professional development – equip us for the roles we have – not only teachers but support staff as well
- Becoming a leading district – not the case now... how do we get back to being the envy of other districts, Becker should be a leader in the state – it comes with hard work & doing what's right
- The drama program should continue to prosper at the middle school
- What is being taught now and how it is being taught is questionable
- Maybe there is a better way than the block system to schedule time
- Tell us what is being taught. Accountability of the teachers to the parents of what they are teaching (movies, books)
- Community should be more involved at the school
- The block schedule helps teachers and students build relationships
- Don't raise school board member salaries
- Expand diversity programs
- The school district should be politically correct
- Fewer political views should be exposed in classrooms
- Retain good employees we have many good dedicated employees
- I would provide additional financial support to help my younger brother
- Becker should provide a balanced education
- Would support education but don't want to be priced out of a house
- Ensure that standards for employees are established and held
- Transparency
- Have five blocks plus 1 Study Hall
- The school atmosphere should be more open
- Students could pay for elective classes or enrichments
- There should be a performance base pay system for teachers
- Classrooms should be more interactive and engaging
- I should not have to watch over the curriculum
- Recognize staff as trained professionals - training and experience deserves that. Staff development – we [employees] don't have the time to sit down and talk about things
- Maintain teacher/student ratio
- Increase enrollment
- Move towards a performance based system of fire/hire/promotion for school staff
- Staff should be treated as experts and valued
- Support additional money if used for student, competency in reading, comprehension,

and mathematical skills

- Have more student engagement with the community
- Don't teach opinions, teach what is needed to know to do the task
- Hold students accountable for their choices
- Don't need new Everyday Math "fancy way" (it is frustrating when we can't use the math we way we were taught to help our students)
- Use the resources we have
- Don't skip over ideas
- Continue the mentoring program
- Need more communication between staff and board
- Recognize that staff decisions and opinions given in and out of classroom are based on what we think is best for kids out of pure motives, "Innocent until proven guilty"
- Not having to share equipment\Continue the tutoring programs for students who need help
- Professionalism
- Staff need the right tools to expect success