



## Creating a Strategic Plan for the Allendale Public Schools

### Session 2 of 3

#### Developing a Vision for the Allendale School District in the Next 5 Years

On March 9, 2023, Allendale Schools administration, staff, and parents came together to continue the strategic planning process. The second meeting's topic focused on creating a shared vision for the Allendale Schools in the next five years.

The meeting, facilitated by Matt Lee from the New Jersey School Boards Association, began with an overview of the Strategic Planning process and the steps taken at the February 9, 2023 meeting.

To begin the visioning process, participants were asked to picture themselves in 5 years in the audience as the Allendale Public School district is receiving an award for outstanding achievement in education - "Schools that Succeed." The participants were asked to envision what was written in an article found on Google which describes what the district did to warrant such high recognition – what programs / services / curriculum / student outcomes / best practices / facilities would you expect to see in your district that led to such success?

The various stakeholders then gathered in four randomly assigned groups to brainstorm their visions of how the school achieved this remarkable success. Each group was asked to write a title for the article and come to a consensus on up to 5-8 key visions. Each group's outcomes were shared with all meeting participants. The session concluded with the identification of common threads throughout the groups' work and five broad goal areas for the next meeting.

#### **Group Work**

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all consensus points are recorded and posted on the district's website (<https://www.allendalek8.com>) to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

**Group #1**

**Title of Article: Leaders in Education Learn from Allendale Schools!**

**Key Visions:**

- Develop/Nurture good humans
  - Well adjusted “resilient” executive function.
  - Independent but collaborative accountability
  - Compassion
  - Civic responsibility
- Optimize learning spaces to support students’ well-being.
- Leading the way in teaching, admin & curriculum.
- Students have confidence to use their voice for a positive change.
- Create a safe environment where students can be their authentic selves.

**Group #2**

**Title of Article: Allendale: fostering independence & excellence through challenge & diverse experiences**

**Key Visions:**

- Independent learners.
- Independence of ideas.
- Programs that value all interests and experiences.
- Creating anti-fragile students.
- Kindness.
- Maintain academic rigor.
- Physical plant expansion.
- High quality supported staff.

### **Group #3**

**Title of Article: Leaders in modern, forward-thinking curriculum**

**Key Visions:**

- Computer Science/Technology STEM & Entrepreneurship.
- Teaching self-regulation & resilience through the arts & PE.
- Service learning woven through the grades.

### **Group #4**

**Title of Article: Inherited knowledge**

**Key Visions:**

- Access to on/off campus facilities to address multi-faceted needs to prepare students to socially, academically & emotionally to prepare them for their future.
- Citizens display knowledge, understanding and behavioral modifications and acceptance.
- Clear communication that addresses student/parent community needs.
- Educated students regarding social media on & off campus and understand the emotional consequences.
- Acceptance of a diverse community and promoting the diversity of all relating to religion, sex, gender, race, education, etc.

### **Broad Goal Areas:**

**Five goal areas** emerged from the common themes identified by the group at large:

- Social Emotional Learning/Health & Wellness
- 21st Century Skills/Curriculum
- Community & Culture
- Personal Growth, Life Readiness & Resiliency
- Learning Spaces & Optimized Staffing

### **Next Meeting:**

**The third strategic planning session is scheduled for:**

**Thursday, April 13, 2023**

**7:00 – 8:30 pm at Brookside Learning Commons**

## ***Allendale Public Schools Strategic Planning Meeting #2 Outcomes***

During the April 13 meeting we will review the outcomes from Sessions 1 & 2 (Strengths & Challenges, Visions) and develop broad goal statements for each of the five goal areas above that emerged from Session 2, and related objectives for each goal area.

**Please join us. Everyone is welcome! We look forward to seeing you!**