

**PERU ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 124 BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING MINUTES  
SENICA'S OAK RIDGE GOLF COURSE  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024, 4:00 P.M.**

Present: Patti Leynaud, Simon Kampwerth Jr., Josanne Bruins, Austin Taylor, John Atkins, Alison Goode. ABSENT: Rob Ankiewicz.

Others Present: Superintendent Jamie Craven and IASA Field Director/Facilitator Ralph Grimm.

**Strategic Planning Activities**

From 4:05 PM - 8:47 PM facilitator Ralph Grimm guided the Board of Education through a Strategic Planning meeting (his agenda enclosed). Activities included a review of the existing plan and SWOT analysis including identified areas for future goals.

**Key Words To Describe the District:**

Nice Facilities

Financially Responsible - Good Stewards of Tax Dollars Progressive

- STEM, Behavioral Specialist

Open with Curriculum

Strong Leadership

Strong Reputation - Leader in Illinois Valley Highly

Effective & Caring Educators Supportive Families

Solid Board - Respectful on One Another Student

Focused

No Board Member Personal Agenda's

Committed Board

Community Partnerships

**Board Non-Negotiables**

Contracts

Ensuring children are learning in a safe environment

Maintain PreK

Expand ESL Staff/Services  
Student/Staff Focused  
Class Sizes - Keep Small at Elementary  
Facilities that meet our Needs  
Keep Tax Rate as Low as possible Teacher  
and Administrative Retention  
High Expectations for Student Growth vs Attainment

### **Strengths**

The Board of Education  
Staff

Community Support  
Administrative Staff  
Facilities Curriculum  
Forward Thinking  
Communication

- Among Board
- With Parents

Physical Location in the State  
Facilities that are Physically Safe  
Transportation System  
Stable Enrollment  
City Sales Tax Agreement (2010) to build a new school  
Extracurricular Activities  
Expos - STEM, Band, Choir, Art

### **Weaknesses**

Communication with non-parent stakeholders  
Increase in Enrollment - Impact on Facilities - Transportation  
Facilities (Northview) at Capacity  
Culture & Climate Issues

- Behavior
- Stress on System
  - Special Needs, social work, psych, etc

Staff not cohesive  
Time - Not enough time for staff  
Curriculum  
Community Partnerships

- Career Exploration

Property Taxes - Possible Freeze (Threat) District  
Finances - Financial Cliff (Threat)

### **Opportunities**

Partnerships w/ Area Trades - Career Exploration Blue  
and Red Christmas - Food Gifts Partnerships with  
community organizations Collaboration with area  
districts (Shared Services) New Subdivision is being  
built

Outreach with Local Businesses

Attracting new businesses

Cooperation with area Community College Adding

Foreign Language

Reintroduce CTE Courses

### **Threats**

Financial Cliff - Economy/EAV

Teacher Shortage

Board Turnover

Teacher/Administrator Shortage

Migrant Influx

Economic / Financial Instability

Facilities and how to fund

Large Increase in Enrollment (short and long term)

Transportation Issues

Political Environment and/or Focus

Safety of students and staff

- Physical & SEL

Student Discipline and Escalation of Behaviors

### **Identified Focus Areas (Each Board Member had 6 Stickers)**

Culture & Climate Issues (12)

- Behavior
- Stress on System
  - Special Needs, social work, psych, etc
- Teacher Retention (1)

Student Focused (3) - Student and Staff Focused (2) (5) Safety of  
students and staff (3)

- Physical & SEL

Facilities that Meets our Needs (2) - Facilities and how to fund (1) (3)

- City Sales Tax Agreement (2010) to build a new school (2)

Financially Responsible - Good Stewards of Tax Dollars (2) Partnerships with Community Organizations (2)

Curriculum (2)

- Career Exploration?
- Foreign Language?
- CTE Courses?

Communication with non-parent stakeholders (1) & Among Board (1) (2) Collaboration with area districts (Shared Services?) (1)

### **Next Steps**

Superintendent Craven shared that all documents will be reduced to writing and a draft set of goals will be brought to the board at the regular March meeting for review with the anticipated approval date being the regular April meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The Board adjourned at 8:47 PM

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Board President

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Superintendent