

## New Jersey School Boards Association

413 West State Street • P.O. Box 909 • Trenton, NJ 08605-0909 • Telephone: 609.695.7600 • Toll-Free: 888.88NJSBA • Fax: 609.695.0413

# Creating a Five-Year Strategic Plan For the Barnegat Township School District

#### Mission Statement

Our collective mission is to nurture and educate our children in accordance with all curriculum standards to prepare them for responsive citizenship and success in life.

## Session 2 Developing a Vision for the Barnegat Township School District

On March 8, 2022, Barnegat Township School District administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, and community members, sixty-two (62) participants in all, came together for Meeting #2 of the strategic planning process. The topic for the second evening focused on the developing a vision for the Barnegat Township School District. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Superintendent Dr. Brian Latwis. Kathy Winecoff, Field Service Representative for New Jersey School Boards Association reviewed the strategic planning process.

We reviewed the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. The topic for the evening focused on creating a shared vision for the Barnegat Township School District. Participants were asked to picture themselves, having been away from the district for 5 years, returning to Barnegat and seeing their school on the cover of TIME magazine. The article is about Schools that Succeed. In addition to the current programs already in place in Barnegat Township Public Schools, what programs/services/curriculum/student outcomes/best practices/facilities would you expect to see in your school that is succeeding? Participants were encouraged to think "big picture."

Participants gathered in randomly assigned groups, eight (8) groups in total, to develop a shared vision and initiatives. The small groups reviewed the outcomes from Meeting #1, strengths, and challenges, and then began brainstorming on their vision for the district. After group discussion, each group identified their consensus points and presented those to the full group of meeting participants.

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 web to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

## **Group Consensus: Vision & Initiatives**

## **Green Dot Group - "Barnegat INSPIRES"**

#### Initiatives

- Walking in happy and excited to learn
- After school clubs
  - Special Ed inclusive
  - More options
- Curriculum
  - Hands on learning
  - o Integrated content and area programs
- Best practices
  - Student recognition
  - Focusing on encouraging independent learners (choosing their own pathway to learn a specific goal)

**Dark Blue Dot Group -** "Highest Staff Retention in Ocean County. Students See the Benefits"

## Vision:

- Money starts with students
  - $\downarrow$
- Teachers, support staff, counselors
- ↓
- Building admin
- ↓
- Upper admin

Flip the Triangle ▲ ▼

### **Initiatives:**

Highly competitive pay scale and tuition reimbursement compared to surrounding districts SEL (well-being) of staff and students

Better outsourcing of subs, IA's

Yellow Dot Group - "Barnegat CARES - Building the Bridge Post COVID"

**Vision:** Bridging the gap and blending social, emotional well-being with academic success.

#### Initiatives:

- Facility outdoor garden with seating (students)
- Programs
  - Brain breaks
  - o Coming together as a whole community to help support each other and build relationships
  - PBSIS District wide
  - Academic success from positive motivated students
  - Staff rejuvenation if they are not refreshed hard to assist the students

## Silver Dot Group - "Communication is Key"

#### **I**nitiatives:

- Opportunities student choices in their future
- Social-emotional "team"
- Student involvement
- Reach out to community re: teacher retention and budget
- Transportation updates in "real time"

## Bright Green Dot Group - "Barnegat is the Future!"

**Vision:** Creating the citizens of the future, the titans of industry and leaders of change across the world.

#### **Initiatives:**

- Promote humanities (art, music, dance, fashion, etc. at all levels)
- Differentiate learning and instruction
- Fostering a healthy social climate
- Promoting success by recognizing challenges
- Teach respectful curiosity/emotional maturity
- Need a dedicated public relation officer
  - o create a community liaison network
  - o road shows in the community

## **Light Blue Dot Group - "Barnegat leads, the world follows"**

Vision: Initiatives:

High/increase graduation rate Increase level of proficiency – Strong test scores/close achievement gaps	Continue to analyze data to drive instruction
Successful alumni give back to community	Career Day at ROBMS which will help students in choosing classes at BHS
Digital literacy	Typing/cursive classes Microsoft Word certification Google certification *Adding student portal for students to track grades on Genesis Creation of resume and how to write an email
Prepare students for trades	Have military and vocational schools come to present Provide students with different options earlier (add trimesters of cooking, woodshop, etc. to see what students like

## Orange Dot Group - "Barnegat Soars"

Vision Initiatives

85% ↑students at/above reading grade level	Bengal Bootcamp
	Summer Enrichment
98% ↑ Graduation Rate	Tracking based on ability
CTE – Career/Technical Job Shadowing	Community & Business partnerships
	Internships/Apprentices
Teacher Retention / Job Satisfaction	Salary increases
	More staff lounges and appreciation
Separate Kindergarten & plan for population	Re-evaluate buildings/spaces
increases/small class sizes	Staff allocations & flexibility

## Virtual Group #1: - "Barnegat Named Best in Ocean County for Students/Families"

#### Initiatives:

- More vocational/trade programs/curricula
- Specific programs for Special Education child/parents
  - Buddy System/community involvement
- Better Great Schools NJ rating
- More extracurricular opportunities/things to do after school
  - Science Olympiad
  - Knowledge Bowl/Academic challenge
- PTA/PTO at High School
- Innovative staff with new/fresh ideas
- Spreading positive message on Facebook
- New community center

#### **Common Themes:**

- Community
- Staff retention (salaries)
- Students pay attention to them
- Communication
- Vocational
- Mental health
- Rejuvenation district wide
- Positive social relationships

- Transportation
- Inclusion for special education
- Differentiated learning
- Teaching that failure is an important part of success
- Humanities & Arts at an early level
- Teach typing and cursive
- Student involvement

## **Goal Areas:**

- 1. Learner Success
- 2. Social-Emotional Learning
- 3. Community Partnerships
- 4. Finance & Operations

The third strategic planning session is scheduled for:

## Wednesday, April 27, 2022 Barnegat High School Cafeteria

The meeting is scheduled to begin promptly at 6:00 pm (5:45 pm Sign-In)

During the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will review the outcomes from Meetings 1 & 2 (strengths & challenges, vision & initiatives) and develop the strategies for the strategic planning goals for the Barnegat Township School District.

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

Please RSVP by calling the Superintendent's Office