

## **Strategic Planning Committee**

5/13/2021 minutes

Attending: Tom Burnell, Albert Cousins, Mark Fleischhauer, Christine Natoli, Jaclyn Savolainen, Diane Lyons

### **The mission of this committee**

**Discussions:** Most planning this year was in response to the COVID-19 situation. The committee took some time to discuss ideas and responsibilities of how this committee will function going forward. It is the role of this group to work on big ideas or goals but not to do the detailed work. As the group did some brainstorming a few initial topics were discussed. Expanding access to Arts throughout k-12, looking at the districts homework philosophy/policy and options for advanced learning k-12. These will be ongoing discussions.

### **The American Rescue Plan Act and CARES money**

**Discussions:** The district is required to submit a plan for how we will use the federal monies. There are many stipulations on how this money can be spent and getting community input is one of them. The American rescue plan also splits the funds into four years with at least 12 ½% of the funds required to be used each of those years. We would like to get the most value we can out of these one-time funds. Examples of some of the Items we discussed were external diagnostic tools to help evaluate student needs, A K-5 literacy coach, summer programs to be used as a readiness ramp up, expanding afterschool hours with transportation, HEPA filters to increase air filtration in close quarter areas and additional resources to for mental health.

Next Meeting June 10th

Respectfully submitted by Diane Lyons

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**MINUTES OF THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE  
RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION  
HELD ON MAY 12, 2021**

A meeting of the Governance Committee (the “Committee,” the members of which are referred to as “Committee Members”) of the Rhinebeck Central School District Board of Education (the “Board”) was held on May 12, 2021 (the “Meeting”) at the District Office.

Present at the Meeting were Albert Cousins, Steve Jenkins, Diane Lyons and Matthew Van Wormer, constituting all of the Committee Members.

Mr. Cousins greeted all in attendance and called the Meeting to order at approximately 5:00 p.m.

***A. Committee Discussions***

1. The Committee Members discussed the possibility of transitioning to the use of BoardDocs, an electronic board materials management system. The Committee Members noted the potential benefits of transitioning away from paper copies of the Board materials, including the ability to search prior meeting materials for particular items or discussions. The Committee discussed potentially having a representative from BoardDocs attend a future Committee meeting to give a presentation on the functionality of BoardDocs.
2. The Committee Members then discussed the format of the Board meeting agendas. The Committee Members discussed which agenda items can be included on the Consent Agenda, and which agenda items require a separate vote. The Committee Members reviewed the applicable Board policy regarding the Consent Agenda, and noted that the Consent Agenda is intended to include routine approval items. The Committee

Members then discussed categorizing the agenda by subject matter, including separate categories for personnel approvals and finance-related approvals.

3. The Committee Members then discussed the logistics around the Board retreat planned for the summer.
4. The Committee Members then discussed the possibility of adopting protocols around Board Operations, and reviewed a sample policy from another district.
5. The Committee Members then discussed the process for periodically reviewing District Policies.

***B. Committee Decisions***

1. The Committee Members agreed to recommend that the format of the Board agenda be reviewed in order to categorize certain recurring types of action items.
2. The Committee Members agreed to recommend that the Policy Committee be reformed and that this new Committee be responsible for reviewing different sections of the District Policies on a regular basis in order to help ensure that current Policies reflect actual practices and to determine whether current Policies need to be amended or eliminated, if no longer applicable.

There being no further business, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

Matthew J. Van Wormer  
Acting Secretary