

Identifying the Challenges facing your District.

Recognizing that our board's highest priority is to improve student achievement, what are 3 major challenges currently facing our district?

- * 1. Get past the challenges of last year, address any negative impacts on student performance and health, and incorporate positive changes forced by the pandemic into our ongoing programs.
- 2. Conduct a comprehensive assessment of our district, understand opportunities to enhance district programs, and develop a multi-year strategic plan to achieve our goals.
- 3. Develop an experienced, and cohesive Board with a strong and positive relationship amongst the members and the Superintendent.

* COVID Pandemic
quality of teaching
quality of curriculum
adequate financial support

* -Finance: Township not "growing" enough to keep up w yearly increasing budget
-Conflicting culture of uninvolved vs overly-involved parents
I dont have three

* 1-The impact of Covid-19. Academics is not our only priority. Our goal is to prioritize each child/s needs and do what is best for them. We need to create a nurturing learning environment and recognize the challenges each child may be facing. We need to ensure each child is ready to learn and attend. Continue to be proactive and develop mindfulness strategies and address mental health.

2-Children need to feel safe and accepted at school. A child's religion, culture, and race should be celebrated. Diversity and inclusion continues to be an area of focus and priority.

3-Curriculum changes and development. Parents want to be involved and notified of changes. Parents want to feel as though they have a voice and it matters. It is important we educate our parents and help them understand our decisions.

- * 1. Return to school safely
- 2. Addressing the needs of the special education community
- 3. Ensuring that students "in the middle" receive the proper support

* 1. The pandemic year has caused an interruption in the learning and daily routine of our students. We need to make sure that this school year ALL students are able to reintegrate safely, be proactive and creative in how we can meet the needs of our students. A one size fits all approach does not work.

2. With our incoming Director for Equity, Data and accountability, we have an opportunity to really look and dig deep at the academic data across the board and see where we have inequities in learning and how we can ensure that those students that are falling behind or are stuck in the middle can move forward with the rest of the student body.

3. The pandemic year has also shown the gaps in education particularly for our special education students (whether they have IEPs or 504 plans). We need to review our approach, how we communicate, use technology, whether our staff is well equipped - both professional development and resources - in teaching our students.

* Learning loss/Respectful Mental Health awareness of both students and staff
Return to in-person learning, including mask wearing protocol, in a manner that is satisfactory for a majority of staff, students, and parents
Academic achievement of those students that are categorized as ELL, SPED, economically disadvantaged

In maintaining our appropriate role as a policy making body through effective oversight, what specific areas of board governance require additional focus and training?

* Policy editing/making protocols
Labor Management Collaboration Initiative

* Understanding finance/ budget - for all board members not just OFF members.

* 1. Financial governance and how finances impact the district

* Communication, information gathering, technology, and educating our community and emphasizing our role.

We can always improve as long as we can recognize there is always room for growth. I would like to see better tools for communication, gather documents and utilize technology. We should continue to provide opportunities to speak with the community and allow time for questions to be answered.

* N/A

* more time together as a board
the ability to question everything
understanding of the workings of the district
understanding of the abilities and responsibilities of a board member
more access to district information

* Focus on the big picture and not get bogged down in unnecessary details that the Superintendent, Administration, and Staff can handle.

Put past challenges behind us, determine what we want the Board and district to look like a year from now, and work towards that end.