

Strategic Planning Advisory Committee to the Milton School Committee
By Ada Rosmarin, School Committee Member

The Strategic Planning Advisory Committee to the Milton School Committee has been working, for the past year and a half, to create a strategic roadmap, process and a set of actionable strategic initiatives. Key stakeholders have been involved and will continue to be involved as the process moves forward.

Beginning in the summer of 2016, the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee identified three key agenda items:

- School system description/Data initiatives
- Core beliefs and goals
- Environment and technology

Teams were convened and met regularly through December 2016 to address key questions related to each of the three agenda items. Each team produced a “final” report.

In the summer of 2017, the committee re-convened, reviewed the work done so far, and agreed to identify key strategic initiatives and to draft an updated MPS Vision Statement.

Key strategic initiatives identified and moving forward are:

- Technology
- Social Emotional Learning
- Cultural Competence
- Curriculum and Instruction
- Data Dashboard

Teams of district staff and some external advisors have been convened to develop goals and to implement plans for these initiatives for the coming school year. These initiatives are aligned with the 2017-18 School Committee goals. It is our intention that the outcomes of these initiatives will inform next year’s School Committee goal setting.

A new Vision Statement was drafted by the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee and was approved by the School Committee at its November 9, 2017 meeting. The Vision Statement development began with findings of the 2016 Core Beliefs and Goals task force, and then identified key elements to be included in the statement. After a first draft of a statement was developed, it was circulated through the School Committee and all MPS Staff for feedback. Once those comments were reviewed and incorporated into the draft statement, it was brought to the School Committee for approval. We now proudly share the updated Milton Public Schools Vision Statement:

We, the Milton Public Schools, envision a district with excellent instruction in every classroom, where learning experiences are aligned with students’ individual strengths and needs, and where attention to academic and social emotional growth are balanced so that every child achieves at high levels and develops a strong sense of self. We see a district of intellectual discourse and professional learning at all levels- students, faculty, and administration- in which there are structures and

processes for continual reflection, innovation, and data driven decision-making. We know that such a district is achievable if: we facilitate instruction that instills a passion for learning, curiosity, and critical thinking skills; we are committed to cultural competency; we foster a positive approach to the behavioral health of children; and we build strong partnerships with families and the community.

Approved by Milton School Committee 11/9/17

The current members of the Strategic Planning Advisory Committee are:

- Ada Rosmarin, School Committee Member, Strategic Planning Co-chair
- Steve Paxhia, Parent, Strategic Planning Co-chair
- Kevin Donahue, School Committee Chair
- Margaret Eberhardt, School Committee Member
- Spencer Blasdale, Parent
- Dr. Elaine McNeil-Girmai, Tucker Principal
- Dr. Karen Spaulding, Pierce Principal
- James Jette, MHS Principal
- A.J. Melanson, Technology Director
- Mary Gormley, Superintendent
- Janet Sheehan, Assistant Superintendent
- Glenn Pavlicek, Assistant Superintendent

The Strategic Planning Advisory Committee is grateful for the contributions of the many people who previously served on this subcommittee and its task forces, and who enabled us to arrive at this stage of our process.