

Education Town Meeting-Session 3

C: Broadening the Definition of Success

General Notes:

- Success in and for students-culture ideas are:
 - Good grades
 - Off to college
 - Makes good money
- Successful students are
 - Happy
 - Well-balanced
 - Life is innovative
 - Entrepreneur
 - Transferable
- Students need to be connected to school
 - Caring
 - Competent
 - Confident
 - Character
 - Commitment to learning
- Students
 - Follow students-
 - Portfolio of Me
 - Go through school-developing a strong, diverse knowledge of self and a flexible plan that inherently grows:
 - Caring
 - Confidence
 - Character
 - Commitment to learning
 - Excitement for life
 - Communication with others
- Ready by 21, ready for college/work

Action Plan:

- Portfolio of Me
- Look at other kids ready by 21
- Staff Development

D: Early Childhood Education

○ **General Notes:**

- FAEYC Outreach Ideas: School District presentations, advertising, offer food, publicize meeting dates
- City Mayor- "Talk Tuesdays"= use to publicize/organize
- School District set up specific early childhood in-service (local programs involved)
- "Imagination Library" start program in Fairbanks" State of AK?

○ **Action Plan:**

- Neighbor-based connection needs to be strengthened
- Reduce stigma of special classes for young kids (parent's perception)
- Lisa Casey is developing workshops for family, childhood workers, and teachers
- School District needs to work on education parents regarding programs available-daycare providers
- Lobby legislatures to support HB360 or 306
- Use school setting to promote preschooler/parents outreach family night
- Get lobbyist specifically for Early Childhood Education in AK
- Support/become involved in local advocacy programs for Early Childhood Ed (FAEYC)
- Mobilize parents to impact change (clear, specific message is important)
- Develop a "link" from early ed. Programs to elem. School
- School District and FAEYC collaboration/partnership
- Gather information from parents: are they satisfied with their current childcare?
- FMH offers support at childbirth, but follow up support is needed because parents are overwhelmed
- Need for more childcare in Fairbanks, especially for infants
- Currently, discussion at state level to support funding for preschool programs
- Invite parents, community programs to school district trainings
- Strengthen communication with community
- Blend the developmental continuum not 0-5 but 0-adult
- Set up meetings with PreK-K teachers and local childcare groups
- Gap between childcare assistance and cost of running a daycare needs to be narrowed/eliminated
- "Quality care rating"-already in progress
- Childcare programs are being eliminated because parents can afford them (the domino effect)

F: Matching Instruction to Students

- Finds ways to groups students according to:
 - What they're ready to learn
 - How they learn best
- Develop clear measurement criteria to support the above
- Use computers as interactive adjunct to teachers and to measure achievement
- Proposal: An in depth study of standards as benchmarks

G: Teacher Learning

General Notes:

- Teacher Mentoring
- Training Ts in collaboration models/structures
- Embedded/ongoing
- Time- early outs/late starts, different calendar

- Integration of academic areas-team model
- Pre service (5th year, 1st year T support)
- Bringing in/welcoming/supporting new Ts
- Brain research
- Learning styles
- Interventions
- Collaboration (focused of 5 learning)
- Opportunities for Ts to share new learning and implement
- Share “home grown” knowledge
- Admin. Modeling of collaboration

Action Plan:

- Mentoring/collaboration
- Time/training for collaboration
- Pilot school
- Communication

H: Learning Styles for All Students

Action Plan:

- Every student takes a learning styles inventory periodically through K-12
- Teachers understand and address learning styles throughout the curriculum K-16
- Professional development for all teachers in learning styles
- Teacher preparations at university level
- Each student takes for his/her learning style and is able to adapt in the classroom

K Jr and Sr High School Structures with High Success Rates

- Exit exam signaled end-came too early
- Separate college bound from tech bound
- Break stigmatirim between college vs. tech
- Ensure kids connect school with their future career choices
- Connect kids with their education
- #80/90 kids to 1 teacher
- stop rotating schedule
- Longer teaching blocks
- Fewer classes longer times
- Smaller schools (school with in a school)
- K-18 structure=removing diplomas along the way
- Year round school schedule
- Build structure to support
- Good instruction
 - Teacher collaborative
 - Attract top teachers
 - Change staffing
- Schools without walls
- 400-600 schools
- 7-16 models as a choice
- Early College models
- Success
 - Higher graduation rates each student is know

- Lower discipline
- Ability to plan ahead and problem solve
- Better prepared for employment or college ready
- Integrating college into the clarifying structure
- Defining costs
- Integrate working parts
- Continue this group “Structure and Transitions”
 - Bill
 - Torie Fook
 - Sandy
 - Amy Golloway
 - Leslie H.
 - Steve Lyon
 - Community at large
 - More students
 - Sean Olnostead
 - Eric Ballam (email: arcticnerd@hotmail.com, cell:978-3759)
 - Bob Sawyer (email: Vincent@gci.net cell: 378-6835)
 - Annallarie Swoffer (email: aswoffer@northstar.12.ak.us)
 - Teresa Lyons (email: sntal@alaska.edu)
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L: Keeping Student and Parent Involvement

- Joint parent/student academic projects
- Parents
- Better education for parents on how to communicate with their children to prevent downward spiral of at risk behavior
- Better articulation between elementary and middle school for parents/students
- Expectations for school involvement continues beyond elementary
- Parents need to know they are needed in middle school and high school
- Make opportunities available outside normal school hours
- Student comment: lack of parent involvement in after school activities/tutoring, parents as mentors
- Communication between parents and schools
- Parents must be allowed to be involved in the school
- Each teacher implements a parent component designed into their classroom program
- Need for true parent liaison t bridge gap between parents and district
- Administration at all levels need to truly support parent involvement and listen to students
- Stronger support for at risk students/families
- Bridge gap between parents and school district

M: Increasingly enlightened respectful discourse in an age of technology

- Want to make sure students are able to listen, discuss, problem solve with others
- Kids are watching how adults act and solve problems
- Creating kids that aren't involved in community and political process
- In regular discourse- we need to have a discussion about what is appropriate discourse/acting out when mad
- Complexity of life has heightened the frustration in individuals
- Check curriculum for when/where/how to bring up issues and expectations
- Need blended approach- interpersonal interaction and enhance technology
- Clear articulation of what is respectful discourse
- Tice in technology- What's appropriate in email (Written, oral, radio)
- How do you incorporate into education/curriculum
- Part of it may be discouraging anonymity
- Need to keep in mind mobile devices and well as computers expand discussion in curriculum and policy
- Need to work with youth/peer group in setting standard for community discourse
- How do we expand beyond the school?
- Need appropriate channels in government and businesses for people to reveal concerns- people need to know channels and help create an appropriate channel
- Community compact on civil discourse, central beliefs in a solving issue
- Counselors should be able to do counseling
- Very excited about discussions that can be opened up
- Anonymity can be a problem
- Need to address on line etiquette- Internet safety
- Interested in promoting civil discussion, concern of lack of civility
- Definition of technology is so broad, concerned about how casual it has become
- Distraction or learning tool
- Adults may not be aware, kids way ahead of adults
- Civility of discourse- Internet can accelerate
- Brain development had changed, exposure to technology
- Put technology in its place as a tool
- Balancing 1st amendment concerning civil discourse

Action Plan:

- Curriculum Development
- Parent and Community Education about standards
- Begin community discussion about respectful discourse
- Raising the expectations