

Meridian School District #505
Strategic Plan Development Committee Meeting Minutes
Meeting held at Irene Reither Elementary School
May 12, 2022

Welcome and Brief Introductions

Abeo School Change was represented by Christine Hoyos and Kevin Shrum.

Abeo representatives gave a refresher on what they had covered at the previous meeting.

Inclusive Opener

Abeo led the group in an inclusive opener that asked, “On a scale of dog, how are you feeling today?” This exercise helped participants reconnect, gauge where they were in coming back into the work and to support each other as necessary.

Community Agreements

Abeo reviewed the components of a future-focused strategic plan.

Data Analysis – Part 2

Superintendent James Everett gave an update on the work the team engaged in to gather more feedback from the community. Director of Public Relations, Lisa Gilchrist, shared an overview of the groups that were identified as missing and how the district gathered feedback from them (see page 2). She shared that over 1,000 pieces of individual feedback were gathered for the committee to review.

Abeo passed out the new feedback and each table reviewed it. Group members at each table read the feedback and wrote down the patterns they recognized. Then table groups collaborated to compile a list of patterns and trends in their data.

Value Statements

After a break, Abeo passed out a summary of all the data the tables had compiled and shared the common values that emerged from the feedback process.

The common values were:

- Learning/support/equitable learning opportunities
- Health and wellness/social emotional learning
- Communication
- Community/support
- Safety
- Inclusion and belonging

The table groups were then tasked with creating two values statements for each of the values.

Feedback

Abeo passed out worksheets asking for feedback on the strategic planning process thus far.

Optimistic Closure

Abeo expressed their gratitude for the questions and feedback.

The meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 1.

Communications Plan to Gather More Feedback

Who are we missing?

- Marginalized groups
- Families with tech barriers
- Families whose home language is not English
- Meridian Middle School students
- 4th and 5th graders (MP3 and IRE)
- Classified staff (bus drivers, food services, custodians, etc.)

How will we communicate with them?

- Letters mailed to all enrolled families at MHS, MMS and MP3 in their home language, with self-addressed and stamped return envelopes.
- Letters sent home in backpack mail to IRE families.
- Phone call to families who speak Spanish to encourage participation.
- Feedback boxes dropped off at each school with feedback sheets translated into five languages.
- Flyers posted and feedback box left at MHS outside of Talent Show.
- Flyers posted at schools with QR code to leave feedback on ThoughtExchange.
- IRE Family Night, Monday, April 25 discussion and feedback gathered.
- Alicia Roberts, family services coordinator, called families experiencing homelessness
- Elvira Rozen, cultural liaison, called families whose home language is Spanish.
- Meridian Middle School used ThoughtExchange.
- MP3 and Irene Reither Elementary used ThoughtExchange in fourth and fifth grade.
- Meetings with classified staff included transportation and custodial/maintenance.
- Food services staff completed ThoughtExchange and had an opportunity to ask questions in-person.
- Opportunity for feedback and strategic plan update in community newsletter which goes to 5,000 homes and businesses within the district. Newsletter will be mailed end of June.