

**SUNSET RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 29
525 SUNSET RIDGE RD
NORTHFIELD, IL 60093**

Education Committee Meeting:

**Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - 5:30 p.m. at Sunset Ridge School
(525 Sunset Ridge Road, Northfield, IL. 60093)**



SUNSET RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 29

525 Sunset Ridge Road • Northfield, Illinois • 60093

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Cultivating a learning community that engages the hearts and minds of students, one child at a time

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SUNSET RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 29
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 11, 2021
5:30 p.m.**

The Education Committee meeting will include an opportunity for public comment. Any member of the public that would like to make a public comment, can appear in-person or submit comments via email to D29_board@sunsetridge29.org by 3:55 PM on MAY 11, 2021

Public comments submitted via email will be announced during the public comment portion of the meeting. Please note the duration of public comment is limited and the Board does not respond to public comments.

A live stream feed of the Education Committee meeting can be viewed at https://www.sunsetridge29.org/board_of_education/livestream.

AGENDA

1. ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - 2.1 Minutes from March 9, 2021 Meeting
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
4. REPORTS
 - 4.1 Strategic Plan & Committee Updates
5. NEXT MEETING: TBD
6. ADJOURNMENT:

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
525 SUNSET RIDGE ROAD
NORTHFIELD, ILLINOIS 60093
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 9, 2021
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

ROLL CALL: (6:02) p.m.

Mrs. Peterson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and upon roll call, the following were present:

Present: Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Peterson
Absent: None
Also Present: Ms. Alpert Knight, Mr. Welch, Mr. Subeck,
Mr. Hayes, Mrs. Detlefsen, Mr. Spaan, Mrs. Dunham, Dr.
Sukenik, Mrs. Kiedaisch, Dr. Stange

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

2.1 Education Committee Meeting – December 8, 2020

Mrs. Detlefsen moved to approve the minutes from December 8, 2020 and Mrs. Peterson seconded the motion. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

REPORTS:

4.1 Special Education Curriculum Review

Mrs. Dunham provided a comprehensive review of the student services department including both internal and external analysis of staffing, services, finances, and programming.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Hayes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. and Mrs. Detlefsen seconded the motion. All were in favor.

_____ Chairperson, Education Committee

_____ Secretary, Board of Education

Approved _____, 2021

2020-2021

Strategic Plan & Committee Updates

**Sunset Ridge District 29
Education Committee
May 11, 2021**

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Middlefork ELA Committee

GOAL

Support continued implementation of new reading/writing programs.

[2020-21 Action Plan](#)



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

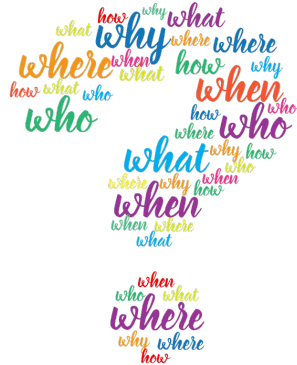
- Conducted a needs assessment for shared areas for growth.
- Developed a digital structure/resources for ELA small group instruction.
- Created a structure for using assessment data to guide our instruction.
- Drafted a vision and mission statement for ELA.

Social Studies Committee

GOAL

Develop a deep understanding of the Inquiry Design Model and apply to social studies units.

2020-21 Action Plan



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Developed an understanding of supporting and compelling questions through work with Dr. Kathy Swan, University of Kentucky professor and author of Inquiry Design Model texts
- Developed/revised Inquiry units in every grade level
- Implemented inquiry lessons and units throughout the year

D29 Connect Leadership Committee

GOAL

Examine current SEL programming, initiatives, and activities through the lens of CASEL resources.

2020-21 Action Plan



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Monthly reports and connections from the following SEL committees: Social Justice, Foundations, Middlefork SEL, Colleague to Colleague, Empathy Ambassadors, SELPAC
- Collaborated in small groups to complete a district-wide SEL analysis using the [CASEL rubric](#).
- Identified SEL areas of growth in preparation for the SEL Curriculum Review Committee.

Foundations Committee

GOAL

To reduce all behavioral and motivational barriers to learning” (*Foundations Module A*, Sprick, Booher, & Rich, 2014)

2020-21 Action Plan



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Completed final “Foundations” trainings
 - Planned for additional ways to reduce learning barriers -- to be implemented in 2021-22 school year.
- Implemented consistent behavioral expectations and language across grades and teachers.
- Created and implemented lunch/recess expectations across grade levels based on CDC/IDPH guidelines.
- Developed and implemented instructional materials, including a demonstration video, for students to learn new expectations.

Middlefork SEL Committee

GOAL

Continue to strengthen and document SEL instruction, practices, and initiatives at Middlefork School, with a focus on SEL in a hybrid and/or full remote learning environment

2020-21 Action Plan



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Documented SEL instruction and practices for the hybrid learning model.
- Completed SEL needs assessment with classroom teachers.
- Completed CASEL's SEL-based student assessment (Panorama).
- Began reviewing and utilizing CASEL Guide to Schoolwide SEL; focusing on Self-Awareness and Self-Management.
- Provided tools and resources to teachers to assist with SEL direct instruction.
- Implemented “Pod Pals” and other schoolwide SEL initiatives (Gratitude Flipgrids, Spirit Weeks, etc.).

Social Justice Committee

GOAL

Creating, supporting and providing feedback regarding purposeful, meaningful, and effective PD that is teacher-centered and grounded in social justice education goals.

2020-21 Action Plan



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

Short Term (Fall 2020):

- Facilitated active participation in Justice Leagues

Medium Term (Spring 2021):

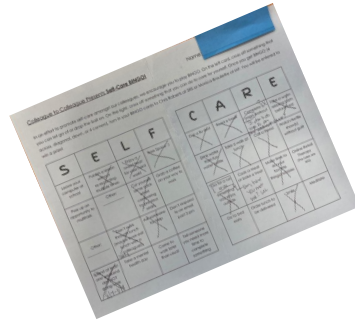
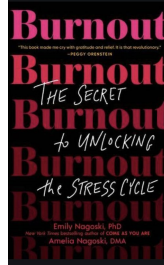
- Applied Justice League concepts to the classroom to create responsive classroom environments and have critical conversations
- Applied [IDJA](#) standards to the classroom
- Conducted surveys to assess attitudes

Colleague to Colleague Committee

GOAL

Develop a professional community that fosters respect, hard-work, and fun built on a foundation of trust and communication.

2020-21 Action Plan



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Engaged in staff book discussion group regarding preventing “educator burnout” through self-care.
- Applied concepts of self-care through informal gatherings, work with outside therapists, and community building activities.

Special Education Committee

GOAL

Develop a strong foundation in knowledge, attitudes, skills, and behaviors to meaningfully include all students in the least restrictive environment.

2020-21 Action Plan

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Developed an understanding of meaningful inclusion and its importance for students.
- Developed an understanding of best practices, process, and thinking frameworks related to UDL, differentiation, & inclusion.
- Applied UDL, differentiation, & inclusion strategies to facilitate meaningful inclusive opportunities for students.
- Utilized an intentional process for designing, implementing and evaluating instruction for all students
- Identified individualized learning targets based on standards
- Participated in reflection of current practices to align with best practices for inclusive education.

Strategic Plan Goals - Return to School Plan

GOAL

Design, implement, and revise the District 29 Return to School Plan.

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Developed [Return to School Plan](#) to open schools on August 25, 2021.
- Solicited stakeholder feedback and facilitated ongoing communication:
 - [4 Parent/Staff Surveys and 2 Student Surveys](#)
 - [50+ District Communications.](#)
- Revised and amended plans to meet the changing topography of the pandemic, stakeholder input, and evolving guidance.
- Facilitated [Club Dolphin](#) plan with Northfield Park District to provide afternoon supervision and support during the pandemic.
- Managed multiple quarantine situations.



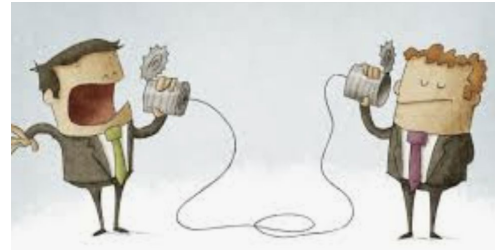
Strategic Plan Goals - Communication

GOAL

Explore new opportunities through social media to connect with Stakeholders..

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Posted [Parent Guide](#) on D29 website to answer common questions and facilitate communication.
- Implemented Parent Square system to improve efficiency and effectiveness of communication with stakeholders:
 - Provides a single unified system for all communications,
 - Allows “consumer” to select what communications they want,
 - Archives all communications for future access.
- Implemented [District 29 Strategic Data Dashboard](#) on website highlighting various aspects of District functioning.



Strategic Plan Goals - Student Services

GOAL

Monitor and assess the effectiveness of the continuum of support services provided to diverse learners at both ends of the learning continuum, and make recommendations for improvement and enhancement.



SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES



- Provided parent education and solicited feedback regarding Advanced Learning Program through Parent Connections Committee and follow-up survey.
- Completed a [Comprehensive Assessment & Report](#) regarding the continuum of support services.
- Expanded [mental health services](#) for all students in the wake of the pandemic.
- Solidified plan to increase mental health services for 2021-2022 school year.

Strategic Plan Goals - Technology

GOAL

Complete External Technology Audit and review recommendations.

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Continued work on self-assessment of “Best Practices” via NIST Registry
- Adopted new and revised Board policies related to data security
 - [Student Records](#)
 - [Student and Family Privacy](#)
 - [Personal Technology Use](#)
- Increased [staff training](#) regarding technology security.
- Employed new “Data Security Manager”
- Purchased and implement new digital security platforms (e.g., Sophos)
- Managed all district devices
- Evaluated data storage (keep vs destroy)



Strategic Plan Goals - Professional Development



GOALS

Continue the commitment to differentiation as essential to meeting the needs of all learners, one child at a time, through professional development and ongoing assessment of instructional effectiveness.

Facilitate professional development opportunities that support the 2018-2021 strategic plan goals, including mechanisms to scaffold the implementation of new initiatives



Strategic Plan Goals - Professional Development

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- **District-Wide Professional Development Activities:**

- COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies
- Tools & Techniques For Remote Learning
- Digital Security Awareness
- Student's Academic and Mental Health Needs
- English Language Learners
- Gender Identity and Transgender Students
- Social Justice and Equity

- **External Consultants:**

- Social Justice
- ELA Literacy
- Social Studies

- **PGS Activities (92):**

- Early Literacy
- Reading Comprehension
- Language Arts/Writing
- Mathematics
- OnLine Instruction
- Mental Health
- Executive Functioning
- Music Education
- Digital Citizenship

Strategic Plan Goals - Human Resources

GOAL

Recruit, select, develop, and retain only the most effective, professional, and committed personnel, including:

- a) Exploring more opportunities for advertising open positions,
- b) Continuing implementation of the District Mentoring program,
- c) Conducting staff evaluations as prescribed by the PERA-JOINT Committee and,
- d) Encouraging innovation at all levels.

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Expanded District advertising of available positions through Indeed.com and regional universities.
- Conducted HR “Audit” and established ongoing support system through NSSD.
- Implemented new [on/off-boarding protocol](#).
- Continued implementation of [District Mentoring Program](#).
- Facilitated completion of staff evaluations per the PERA/Joint Committee and SB7 guidelines.
- Encouraged innovative practices during the pandemic to maximize student engagement and address needs.
 - Distance Learning Playbook
 - Virtual Participation During Quarantine
 - Extracurricular Activities & Supports

Strategic Plan Goals - Finances

GOAL

Remain fiscally responsible by monitoring state finances and fiscal policy, and taking appropriate steps to counteract possible negative effects, including:

- a) Monitor changes in state/federal policy and make recommendation to the Board to respond as appropriate,
- b) Maintain approved budget and report financial status on a quarterly basis to the Board and,
- c) Managing District resources to secure financial strength, maintain reserves, and provide transparency.

SPRING 2021 REPORT ON OUTCOMES

- Monitored changes in state funding and policy and regularly updated the Board of emerging issues.
- Managed District financial resources to address emerging needs in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Provided regular [quarterly financial status reports](#) to the Finance Committee.
- Implemented [monthly financial reporting mechanism](#) for the Board and community.
- Integrated financial data into [District Strategic Dashboard](#) on website.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021-2022

- **Strategic Planning**
 - Engaged facilitator
 - Gather stakeholder input
 - Prioritize Goals and Objectives
- **Curriculum & Instruction**
 - Implement summer “Bridge” program
 - Implement return to full-time instruction
 - Institute new [Curriculum Review Cycle](#)
 - Mathematics
 - Social-Emotional Learning
 - Examine assessments that drive curriculum & instruction
 - Strengthen communication regarding “sensitive” instructional topics
 - Debrief Full-Day Kindergarten program
- **Technology**
 - Complete Data & Security Audit w/NIST Registry
- **Student Services**
 - Implement “SLE program” at Middlefork School
 - Refine and Define MTSS services and processes
 - Examine staffing levels
- **Finance**
 - Allocate CARES/ESSER Funds
 - Implement capital improvement plan
 - Operate a balanced budget
 - Provide financial transparency
- **Facilities**
 - [Long-range facilities plan](#)