



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Bradley Beach School District

Mission Statement

The mission of the Bradley Beach Elementary School is to provide a supportive learning environment to a diverse student community, where student success is defined through the demonstration of academic, emotional, and social growth. Our students will develop critical thinking skills to become valued members in today's society, while mastering the skills necessary to pursue future educational achievement.

Session 1

What are the Strengths, Achievements and Challenges of the Bradley Beach School District?

On November 29, 2022, Bradley Beach School District administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, and community members, twenty-nine (29) in all, came together to initiate strategic planning. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Board President, Ms. Elizabeth Franks. Mr. Michael Heidelberg, Superintendent, presented the current "State of the School" report. Mary Ann Friedman from New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) was introduced and explained the strategic planning process.

We reviewed the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. The topic for the evening focused on identifying district strengths and challenges. Participants gathered in randomly assigned groups, six groups in total, and engaged in brainstorming the districts strengths and challenges. After group discussion, each group identified their consensus points, "Top 10" strengths and challenges. Each group reported their outcomes to the larger group. The large group then identified "Common Themes" that had occurred throughout the small group outcomes.

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all consensus points are recorded and posted on the district website to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

Small Group Consensus: Strengths, Achievements & Challenges

Light Blue Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Class size	Low enrollment
Teachers want to work here!	Need more hands to fill the rolls
Blank slate for Pacing Guides	Math program (maintain to maturity)
Partnership with local organizations	Need for Pacing Guides
Music program	Parent involvement
Business office	Achievement data
Tools of the Mind (PreK)	More opportunity for SEL
Inclusion	100++ year old building
Robust athletics	Financial restrictions
Inclusive student population	ESL (English as a Second Language)

Fuchsia Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Staff to student ratio	Enrollment
Strong relationships between staff and students	Code of Conduct with steps for follow through
Opportunities for extra-curricular activities	Physical spaces
Technology (1:1), level of student knowledge	Lack of Media Center and exposure to new technologies
Recent security improvements	Supplemental resources for teachers
Strong community partners/involvement	Food quality – poor, poor facilities for serving / preparing food
Reading intervention program	Improving standardized test scores
Math Academy	Security improvements
Special Ed inclusion	Disconnect between technology use and parents understanding technology
School Events	Accommodating needs of the parents
Leadership!	

Red Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Center of the community	Too small peer groups
Small classes	Technology / Library
Spanish-speaking population	Career readiness
Sustainable Jersey	Environmental facilities
SEL programs	Playground / Soccer Field / Grass
Inclusivity	Drama / Arts
W.I.N. “What I Need”	Student Achievement
David (BA) and Mr. Heidelberg (Superintendent)	World Language – Curriculum revision
Communication	Space reconfiguration

2022 Bradley Beach School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Combining of classes for special projects	Lunch choices
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Dark Green Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Students happiness and desire to learn	Change ESL (English as a Second Language) program
Our teachers' proficiency	Pacing-mapping – scope and sequence
Positive role models for coaches	Preparing for secondary opportunities
Student opportunities – sports and clubs	Consistent schedule
Being a neighborhood school	Enrollment
Inclusion of all students	State scores
Bi-lingual communication	Playgrounds
Mutual respect & concern with staff & students	Community offer ongoing clinics for 3 sports we play
Love and community	Parent involvement
	Media Center / Makers Space

Dark Blue Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Location – close to town library; potential of parish	Lack of media Center / STEM lab / Makerspace (STEM – Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)
Student to teacher ratio	Lack of career and college readiness skills
School culture (small school feel)	Physical space / configuration to allow for space for “extra” programs / stuff
Staff / Teachers	Bridge between grade levels (expectations, policies, curriculum mapping, college – career skills)
School & community collaboration / relationship (police, PTA, businesses)	Lack of Math Interventionist
Ease of communication between school & parents	Limitations due to small class sizes
Reading Interventionist	
Dual language opportunity	
1:1 technology that also provides our students with tech at home	

Black Dot Team:

Strengths	Challenges
Positive culture	Declining enrollment
Students want to come to school	Language barriers
Sustainable	Port of Entry
Teacher – student connection	Low test scores
Small class sizes	Is our curriculum aligned with our population & standards
Arts	No school library
Club offerings	No technology program

2022 Bradley Beach School District Strategic Planning Meeting #1 Outcomes

Upper / lower grade interaction	College & Career readiness
Professional staff	Lack of study skills program
Small community	Aesthetics – school exterior, cafeteria
Positive community relations	Lack of support in choosing a high school

Following each group reporting out on their consensus points, the large group identified the following **common themes**:

Common Theme Strengths	Common Theme Challenges
Positive culture	Test scores
Small class sizes	Declining enrollment
Entire Staff	Physical space
Beach location	High School preparation
Club offerings	School Library – lack of
SEL (Social-Emotional Learning)	Playground upgrade needed
Strong community relationships	Math program and Pacing Guides
Bilingual	ESL (English as a Second Language)
Inclusion	Lack of parental involvement
Kids want to come to school	Increase SEL (Social-Emotional Learning)
	Aging building
	State aid
	Study and life skills
	Challenge of being an Elementary & Middle School
	Standards based report cards
	Aligning policies
	Lack of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's)

The second strategic planning session is scheduled for:

**Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 6:00 pm,
Bradley Beach Elementary School, Cafeteria/All-Purpose Room
Sign-in begins at 5:45 pm.**

Meetings #2 and #3 are scheduled for 1.5 hours. Meetings start and end promptly.

During the January 10th meeting we will create a shared vision together for the future of the Bradley Beach School District . . . we will talk about our aspirations and expectations for our students and school district.

Please join us. Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome! We look forward to seeing you!

Translators will be available.

Please RSVP by calling *the Superintendent's Office* or using the RSVP form on the district's website. Thank you!