

Strategic Plan Network Team Meeting Summary Updates

As a way to keep interested stakeholders informed of the ongoing work to revise the Montgomery County Public School strategic plan, a summary of each of the Strategic Planning Network Team work sessions will be created and available in a variety of venues.

Strategic Planning Network Team Work Session # 1 February 7, 2013

The first Strategic Planning Network Team work session began with Dr. Joshua P. Starr, superintendent of schools, presenting his vision for the updated strategic plan. Dr. Starr talked about the need to equip our students with the competencies they will need to thrive in their future—Academic Excellence, Creative Problem Solving, and Social and Emotional Learning. He stressed the *democratization of information* through technology and how essential problem solving and social/emotional learning are to 21st century learners and workers. Dr. Kimberly A. Statham, deputy superintendent of teaching, learning, and programs, reviewed the Board of Education’s draft core values: Learning, Relationships, Respect, Excellence, and Equity, and laid out the desired components of the strategic plan—student outcomes, adult actions, and community role—across the three competencies. The benefits of using a volunteer network of passionate, committed, parents, community members, and employees was articulated, and the value of hearing the network team’s ideas up front was stressed. The Network Team viewed a video, *The Deep Dive, One Company’s Secret Weapon for Innovation*. An influential product development firm’s innovation processes were captured as a common shopping cart was redesigned. The video can be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M66ZU2PClCM>

The Network Team divided into groups according to the three competencies—Academic Excellence, Creative Problem Solving, and Social and Emotional Learning—and brainstormed their *First Thoughts* on the respective competency. Participants received a notebook with research and other information for the three competencies. To build common knowledge, participants were asked to review the materials in all three sections, prior to the next meeting.