

SECONDARY SCHOOL REVIEW COMMITTEE

Minutes and Notes of the Secondary School Review Committee Meeting held on Tuesday, January 6, 2009.

The meeting of the SSRC began at 4:00 pm

Members Present:

Stacey Gross	Marcia Schenker	Jen Mitchell
Lynda Carroll	Laurie Heiss Grealy	Nancy Kail
Linda Woods	Peter Newman	Judy Nedell
Paige Davis	Jenny Byxbee	Ralph Mayo
Jennifer Voccola	Jason Foster	Erica Purnell
Alison Allerton	Julie Faryniarz	Fran Kompar
Jennifer Dayton	Brenda Friedler	Caryn Furst
Nancy Weissler	David Walko	Susan Ellis
Laura Erickson	Martha Zornow	Kim Eves
Kathy Coon	Denice Crettol	Chris Winters
Carol Walsh	Chris York	Betty Sternberg

January 6, 2009 SSRC Meeting:

I. Chris Winters provided us with an update of **where we are and where we are going** - in summary: we have drafted a Vision of the GPS graduate; we are currently shopping the Vision around to various stakeholder groups for feedback to inform our gap analysis; and in February we will begin our gap analysis, which will culminate in a prioritized list of recommendations to the Board of Ed. for change/exploration in order to meet the Vision. It will then be the work of the District to address those recommendations.

II. Kim Eves introduced the work of **Creating a Definition of the 21st Century World** - the world that we are preparing our students for. It is the 'justification' for our new Vision, or as one committee member described it: 'the introductory paragraph to our Vision of a GPS graduate.' The document that was presented provided various collected perspectives that review trends, anticipated "struggles" or "dilemmas" that the world will/may face in the 21st Century. These are meant to be food for thought. What patterns or consistencies do you see here that could translate into an "introductory paragraph" for our work?

III. Fran Kompar provided an **overview and demonstration of the SSRC Wiki**, encouraging committee members to use it as a way of discussing our work in between meetings. There are at least two assignments that require using the wiki for feedback. There is a tutorial on the wiki site for those that need to reference it. The Wiki address is: www.ssrc.greenwich.wikispaces.net or go to the SSRC web page at www.greenwichschools.org/ssrc and the link to the wiki is at the top of the page.

IV. Chris Winters introduced our next project - **Vision Descriptors** - we had planned to accomplish this assignment in the meeting, however, due to the pending ice storm and attendance, we cut the meeting short and will conduct the work 'virtually.' - The next stage of the Vision process is to develop a 1-2 line descriptor for each of the Vision bullets. The objective is to provide a clear picture of what is meant by the Vision.

V. **Communications** - While this was not on the agenda, it was a clear theme discussed at the meeting.

An update:

We are asking various stakeholder groups for feedback on the draft Vision and for their input on what programs/services/curriculum/practices we currently employ that support achieving the Vision and that should be maintained/enhanced; that should be considered for addition/change in order to ensure achieving the Vision; and/or that mitigate against achieving the Vision and should be eliminated.

The feedback mechanisms are as follows:

SSRC Web Page: The address is www.greenwichschools.org/ssrc, there is also a link to this page from the Home Page of the District Site. Each of the schools may want to consider adding a link to this page on their own sites. A 'Zarca' survey based on the SSRC Questionnaire is being set up now and should be posted/available by the end of the week.

SSRC Wiki Pages: The expectation is that the members of the SSRC will use this Wiki site to conduct discussions on the work of the committee. The Public may also post comments. Address is: www.ssrc.greenwich.wikispaces.net

Discussion Forums: Forums have been or will be set up for various and multiple stakeholder groups to provide them with an opportunity to discuss the Guiding Questions outlined above and on the SSRC Questionnaire.

Board of Education Meeting Public Hearings: Next one is January 22, 2009 at North Mianus School, 7:00pm.

The Feedback from these sources will provide the SSRC with insight from the community for our work on the gap analysis.

*****The next meeting of the Secondary School Review Committee will be on February 24, 2009 in the Eastern Middle School Cafeteria, 51 Hendrie Drive, Riverside. The meeting will begin at 4:00pm**