



- C. Family TIES/Community-Building Events
1. Kick-off for student success
  2. Parent Information Fair
  3. Multicultural Celebration

Arty Dorman, Program Manager, Family & Community Involvement Office, shared information on the Network of Partnership Schools that includes all Saint Paul Schools, and the Volunteer Coordinators Network. (Copies of these reports were previously distributed to Committee members in their weekly update packets.)

Mr. St. Sauver remarked that fliers were also included in the weekly packets advertising upcoming events such as the NEAT General Assembly, Latino and Hmong community events, and the Multicultural celebration.

Mr. St. Sauver and Ms. Wilcox-Harris, Associate Director, newly created Office of Leadership Development, used a Power Point presentation to discuss Essential Efforts 5A and 5B, Enhance Leadership Development/Define and Promote Professional Standards. He talked about the commitment made last August to develop:

- a 360 degree feedback – professional development opportunity
- core curriculum
- coaching on leadership competencies
- round-table discussions, and;
- partnering with the Project for Academic Excellence

He talked about Trust in Schools, a book by Bryk and Schneider that is the driving force behind the work that has been done. It is one of the first research studies that compare parent and community involvement in terms of a trust level being developed whether it's in a school or district-wide, showing there is a direct correlation between students learning.

Mr. St. Sauver discussed the number of hours the district has invested in leadership, mentorship, core curriculum, 360 degree feedback, coaching, senior staff retreat, site-council training and support, youth leadership initiative, state-wide leadership conference, and Project for Academic Excellence, and how they were measured.

The next steps to improve on these areas through the Leadership Development office include:

- Development of a white paper and a pending article that will describe the work of the Leadership Institute, to be included in some national publications to get the word out
- Next fall the leadership development staff will work on developing a new set of principal standards where the Area Superintendents and Superintendent will do the evaluation of principals
- Annual fall conference
- A team of principals will attend a week-long seminar at Fordham University to the National Principals Leadership Institute in July.
- Ms. Wilcox-Harris has been invited to present at the Memphis conference – Association of Leadership Educators to talk about the Leadership Institute and the leaders at every level and initiative.

Discussion followed by committee members. Administrative staff responded to comments, questions and requests made by Committee members that include:

- An overall summary on the type of volunteer participation in the schools, how many volunteers, what they are doing, where they are involved, and if there is

anything that comes back from volunteers assessing the kind of experience they had in the schools and how effective the district is in involving volunteers

- An update on minority parent involvement on site-councils
- Developing partnerships to encourage financial support to the district and Board involvement
- Professional development and assessment program update

## **2. Action Plan Strategy #7 (Diversity)**

Mr. St. Sauver provided information on Essential Effort 7-A to recruit and retain talented, dedicated and well-prepared educators whose personal and professional backgrounds will help our schools and programs meet the needs of Saint Paul's changing student body. He highlighted five of the eleven points discussed. (Copies of the document were handed out to committee members.)

1. Increase the percentage of educators of color in the Saint Paul Public Schools from the 2001-02 baseline of 14.32% of all licensed teaching staff
2. Improve selection tools to reduce cultural bias and focus on most critical competencies/skills needed in the position.
3. Improve marketing of all Saint Paul Public Schools as a great place to learn and work for all people.
4. Meet directly with targeted colleges and universities to create or improve partnerships that will lead to better prepared teachers to meet the needs of students in Saint Paul.
5. Survey a broad cross section of applicants and use this data to address any needs and improve our recruitment process at the district and site levels.

Yusef Mgeni, Director of Educational Equity, presented a report from the Office of Educational Equity in response to Action Plan Strategy #7 – Embrace Diversity as One of our Greatest Strengths. His office is involved in activities inside the district and East Metro Integration District (EMID). It is comprised of the 5-District Integration Partnership; American Indian Education Program, Federal Magnet Grant Program, Inter-District Classroom Partnership Coach/Facilitator, Multicultural Resource Center, and Out of Equity Program. Mr. Mgeni talked about the recently developed W.O.W. Initiative that is a pilot project in 3 Saint Paul High Schools (Arlington, Harding and Humboldt). W.O.W stands for working outreach for weighted class opportunities and is intended to increase the participation of under-represented students in advance classes.

Discussion followed. Ms. Street-Stewart requested administration provide a status report on the Planetarium and resources available to continue the educational opportunities available through the Planetarium to date. Dr. Harvey stated administration is following up on several leads that could result in keeping the Planetarium open. Ms. Carter inquired about an update on the Arts for All – Arts 25 program. Mr. Oertwig expressed an interest in scheduling hearing from youth organizations within the district.

## **3. Real Estate**

Patrick Quinn, Executive Director of School Services, presented various real estate matters and recommendations for Committee discussion and consideration.

The properties are:

- Parkway Elementary School – sale of lots for housing adjacent to Parkway Elementary School
- Johnson Senior High School – sale of a small piece of land adjacent to Johnson Senior High School
- John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School – sale of lots for housing adjacent to John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School

- 1210 University Avenue – seasonal rental of land at 1210 University for the Farmers’ Market

Discussion followed and Committee members agreed on the following action.

**RE: Parkway Elementary School** – Committee members requested further information that Mr. Quinn will provide in a timely manner.

The following motions were made:

**RE: Johnson Senior High School**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Ms. Carter that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education direct Administration to secure an appraisal of the property at the southwest corner of the southwest parking lot at Johnson Senior High School and that the Administration market the property through the Office of School Services

**Motion Passed**

**RE: John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Ms. Carter that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education direct Administration to secure an appraisal of the property west of the west parking lot at John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School and that the Administration market the property through the Office of School Services.

**Motion Passed.**

**RE: 1210 University Avenue**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Ms. Carter and seconded by Mr. Oertwig that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education direct Administration to negotiate a one-season (2004) Use Agreement with the Farmers’ Market or its agent.

**Motion Passed.**

**III. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 p.m. by Ms. Street-Stewart, Committee Chair.

Respectfully submitted by  
Diana J. Sanders  
Recorder  
Saint Paul Board of Education