Watertown City School District Study Question:
Are there options that might provide effective ways or patterns to organize how the PreK-12 Program is implemented/delivered over the next three years?

“OUR CHILDREN, OUR FUTURE” COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2020
DISTRICT CONFERENCE ROOM
H.T. WILEY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
6:00 TO 8:30 PM

Agenda

“Custom tools and research to aid a school district in defining a vision and decision options for serving students in the future.”
October 21, 2019

Dear Watertown City School District Community Member:

The Watertown City School District will be working on a comprehensive planning process over the next 12 to 18 months. We are calling this process Our Children, Our Future. To help with the planning, we are forming a Community Advisory Group.

The structure of the advisory group should be a reflection of the entire Watertown City School District community. In our community, we have parents, retirees, business members, clergy, political leaders, employees, students, ‘empty-nesters,’ and more. Our hope is to have representation from each of these groups for our advisory team. There will be no current Board members or District central administrators serving on this committee. All members of the committee must be residents of the Watertown City School District. The advisory group will assist an outside consultant, Dr. Paul Seversky of SES Study Team, as a steering committee. While meeting on a regular basis, the committee will offer and discuss perspectives, insights, and ask clarifying questions about baseline district data to answer the study question. Dr. Seversky has helped over 25 school districts answer the study question being asked by Watertown:

Are there options that might provide effective ways or patterns to organize how the PK-12 program is implemented or delivered?

The role of the consultant is to “hold up a mirror” to data about the school district, organize the data without bias, and to identify (as guided by the data) possible options, opportunities, and challenges of various scenarios to implement/deliver the Watertown City School District program in the future. The role is accomplished with transparency of the data, without any bias toward particular possible options, and without advocacy of which options, if any, should be implemented.

The study prepared by the consultant, with the help of the advisory group, will include a set of options for review and discussion by the Board of Education. Decisions regarding facilities and District organization are the responsibility of the Board of Education. Providing a series of realistic options to the community and the Board will help the Board make an informed, data-driven decision about the future of the Watertown City School District.

We invite you to consider applying to join the Community Advisory Group to help the school district in its long-range planning. The meetings will be five to eight in number and will take place mostly on weekday evenings.

Please click on this link to apply for the Community Advisory Group: https://forms.gle/AkC9KyWmLcPSuosF9
If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 315-785-3705 or plabarr@watertowncsd.org

Sincerely,

Patricia B. LaBarr
Superintendent of Schools

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**JANUARY 22, 2020 AGENDA**

*(Please put cell phones on vibrate. If family or work needs your attention, please feel free to step into the adjacent hallway. Your volunteer time is appreciated--family and work responsibilities must come first.)*

A. **Welcome and Thank You!**
   Beth Linderman, President of the Board of Education
   Patricia LaBarr, Superintendent

B. **Who is here today?**
   - Please turn to someone in your work group that you may not have met before or may not know very well.
   - Please ask three questions of each other and write down the answers:
     - What part of the school district do you live?
     - What community constituency do you represent?
     - Why did you want to be a part of the Watertown City School District Community Advisory Committee?
   - We will take a few moments for each person to introduce the person ‘interviewed’ to the Advisory Committee.

C. **Planning for the Future, a workshop**

The Watertown City School District is diligently engaged in its ongoing short term and long term planning regarding the future vision of the instructional program Pre-K through grade 12.

As a next step of its comprehensive planning process, the Board is engaging the professional ‘guest outsider’ services of the SES Study Team, LLC. The SES Study Team in an unbiased, non-advocacy manner will ‘hold up a mirror’ to varied types of school district data. The Study Team is responsible to prepare three studies: an **Enrollment Projection/Demographic Study**, a **Pupil Capacity Study**, and a **Program Implementation Study** of possible options for consideration by the School District and its community. The Community Advisory Committee serves as a ‘steering committee’ resource as the studies are developed by SES.

The mission is to identify **possible ‘doable’ options** the Board and district may want to implement or adapt to deliver the program envisioned by the district with quality, and as cost-effectively as possible with the school building assets.

The Board of Education and Administration have no pre-conceived options or conclusions about the findings of the **Program Implementation Study**.

From meeting-to-meeting and from time-to-time, Administration members and/or Board of Education members may stop by to say ‘hello’ and to listen to the work of the Advisory Committee. They are not appointed working members of the Advisory Committee and do not take part in the work/discussion/analysis of the Advisory Committee.

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PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION STUDY QUESTION:

ARE THERE OPTIONS THAT MIGHT PROVIDE EFFECTIVE WAYS OR PATTERNS TO ORGANIZE HOW THE PreK-12 PROGRAM IS IMPLEMENTED/DELIVERED OVER THE NEXT THREE YEARS?

Advisory Committee Workshop Task:

Answer: What are the key questions/data that our school community needs to answer/discuss about how best to organize and deliver the grades pre-kindergarten through grade twelve program over the next three years?

Outcomes: 1. A rank-ordered tool that the district can use to focus their continued discussions, analysis, and actions.
2. A blueprint for the study and for other district leadership analysis and research.

D. Scope, Sequence of the Study and Roles of Key Participants

E. Meeting Two of the Community Advisory Committee—Monday, FEBRUARY 10 (6:00-8:30 )

Topic: What is the Program Vision of the Watertown City School District? What might be some school building assets or characteristics that can help bring about/support the Program Vision?

What are insights and perspectives about how might the Program Vision of the School District influence the delivery of instruction options regarding pedagogy/teaching techniques and the use of school buildings in the future?

Please leave your nametag for use at our next meeting. Thanks.

Please use this special email address for the Committee Members if you wish to contact me to ask a question or to provide insights. Thank you.

WatertownCityplanning@SES-studyteam.org

Thank you for your time, help, and support of the Watertown City School District and the pupils it serves.

Please drive home safely.

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