

MT. BLUE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

CHESTERVILLE – FARMINGTON – INDUSTRY – NEW SHARON – NEW VINEYARD – STARKS – TEMPLE – VIENNA – WELD – WILTON
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“Public Schools not only serve the public, they make the public.”

TO: RSU 9 Parents and Community Members

FROM: Christian M. Elkington, Superintendent

RE: RSU 9 Strategic Planning FYI!

DATE: 11-8-2021

Almost two years ago, RSU 9 was ready to begin a strategic planning process. Activities were planned to involve the public in helping create a new mission, vision and long-term plan, but then COVID hit. This Fall we refocused on restarting the process to develop our strategic plan. The RSU 9 School Board wants, as a first and incredibly important step in the process, the Strategic Planning Team to gather community input about their hopes, desires and concerns for our schools. In order to do that, over the next six weeks, we will be asking for community members to complete a [survey](#) and to also participate in various in-person and Zoom sessions throughout our communities. The in-person and ZOOM sessions will allow people who do not want to complete the on-line survey to answer several of the same questions while having a dialogue and discussion with Strategic Planning Team facilitators. A final schedule of these meetings will be shared this week.

The purpose of gathering your feedback is to build a strategic plan that will be used to chart the future course of our schools together, as a community. We will:

- Develop a mission, vision and guiding principles for the future of our schools which represents what we want for our students in the years to come.
- Create strategic plan action steps which will define how our schools will achieve our vision.
- Create a strategic plan which clearly states how RSU 9 will hold itself accountable for following through on meeting those action steps.

Our timeline is as follows:

- September 2021-June 2022: The planning team will organize process, survey, meetings, analyze data, and oversee the development of our plan.
- November 2021-December 2021: Stakeholder engagement including surveys, informational sessions, and focus groups will take place. Almost forty (40) differing groups are being contacted to collect their input, thoughts and ideas. These groups include but are not limited to parents, students, staff, retirees, elected officials, business owners, church groups and service organizations within RSU 9.
- January 2022 Comprehensive RSU 9 Vision Discussions with stakeholders will follow-up the first collection of data in support of the creation of our new mission, vision and guiding principles.
- February/March 2022 a second survey and/or round of focus groups will help add suggested specifics and details.
- March 2022-June 2022: Strategic Plan writing will occur to include goals, action steps, planning, and a timeline. Input sessions will be planned and scheduled to allow for public feedback as this work is drafted.

Please Note: We are committed to an open and inclusive process in developing the RSU 9 Strategic Plan. You can find all our notes, resources, and meeting dates on our website at www.mtbluersd.org

We cannot do this without you. Your experiences as a parent, student, caregiver, staff member, or community member is crucial as we develop our future RSU 9 Strategic Plan. Please help us, the Mt. Blue Regional School District, by engaging in this process with us for our community and students! Thank you!