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Strategic Goal #1: Student Achievement – Performance Measures

FAST (Formative Assessment System for Teachers)
MAP/NWEA (Measures of Academic Progress)
Iowa Assessments/Smarter Balanced Assessments
ACT (American College Test)
NGSS (Next Generation Science Standards)

Graduation rates
Retention rates
Summer School Success & Attendance
Iowa School Report Card

Next Steps/Strategy – Teaching & Learning/Curriculum

1. Ensure implementation of Iowa Core is done with fidelity at all grade levels/buildings
2. Prepare for anticipated 2016-17 implementation of Smarter Balanced Assessment
3. Pilot summer school program will be held June 2016
4. Prepare for anticipated 2016-17 implementation of Next Generation Science Standards
5. Prepare for anticipated implementation of Iowa School Report Card

UPDATES AS OF 2-8-2016:

This came from the White House and was passed along by ISTE (International Society for Technology in Education): “In his Weekly Address, the President announced his plan to give all students across the country the chance to learn computer science (CS) in school. By some estimates, just one quarter of all the K-12 schools in the United States offer CS with programming and coding, and only 28 states allow CS courses to count towards high-school graduation. The President’s **Computer Science for All Initiative** builds on these efforts by providing \$4 billion in funding for states and \$100 million directly for districts in his upcoming budget; investing more than \$135 million beginning this year by the National Science Foundation and the Corporation for National and Community Service to support and train CS teachers; and calling on even more Governors, Mayors, education leaders, CEOs, philanthropists, creative media and technology professionals, and others to get involved in the efforts.” We feel our Administration Report is a good place to connect national news with local efforts and are happy to show how some of our High School course offerings meet this need:

1. **Computer Science and Software Engineering (CSE):** Grade Level: 9-12

Considerations: This is a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) course; PLTW courses tend to be hands-on, project based, challenging courses. Students should be interested in learning new computer skills, but prior programming experience is NOT required. This course prepares students for the AP Computer Science Principles test.
Course Description: This course aims to develop computational thinking, generate excitement about career paths that utilize computing, and introduce professional tools that foster creativity and collaboration. CSE helps students develop programming expertise and explore the workings of the Internet. Projects and problems include Python programming, app development, visualization of data, cybersecurity, and simulation.
2. **Computer Science Application (CSA):** Grade Level: 10-12

Considerations: Students with no prior programming experience should consider taking CSE (Computer Science and Software Engineering) before taking CSA. Academically motivated students can take CSA without previously taking CSE. This course prepares students for the AP Computer Science A exam.
Course Description: CSA focuses on integrating technologies across multiple platforms and networks, including the Internet. Students collaborate to produce programs that integrate mobile devices and leverage those devices for distributed collection and data processing. Students analyze, adapt, and improve each other’s

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programs while working primarily in Java and other industry-standard tools. This course prepares students for the AP Computer A course.

3. **Independent Study TAG 3:** Grade Level: 10-12

Considerations: This course is for students identified by established District guidelines.

Course Description: This course is designed for students interested in learning computer programming in the Java language. Instruction will be provided before school once each week.

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Strategic Goal #2: Learning Environments – Performance Measures

Student well-being data points (Gallup)
Safety/security evaluation
Architect evaluation tool

Facilities Plan (1-3 years)
Facilities Plan (10 year)
Technology evaluation/planning

Next Steps/Strategy – Facilities Planning & Preventative Maintenance

1. Short-Term: Early Childhood/Preschool, Four Oaks/ATLAS, and use of current space and continued growth
2. Facilities Plan (1-3 years): establish a plan and form a boundary committee for current/future growth
3. Facilities Plan (10 years): establish a committee/funding structure for identified projects

UPDATES AS OF 2-8-2016:

Short-Term:

1. **Childcare Proposal Review:** During the work session the various proposals received were discussed as well as the recommendation that will be presented to the Board at the regular meeting on February 22nd.
Refer to pages 9-10 for additional information on the Childcare Proposal.
2. **Early Childhood/Preschool Update:** Various preschool scenarios for the 2016-17 school year have been explored due to space challenges in the elementary schools. To alleviate space issues at Echo Hill, both the Little Lions Preschool Program and the Early Childhood Blended Program (ECBP) will be moved to different buildings. Little Lions Preschool will be housed at Novak Elementary and the ECBP classroom will be relocated to Bowman Woods Elementary. Building locations for our preschool programs for 2016-17 will be:
 - a. Bowman Woods - 1 ECBP classroom
 - b. Linn Grove - 1 ECBP classroom and 2 Little Lions classrooms
 - c. Novak - 2 ECBP classrooms and 4 Little Lions classrooms

Next Steps/Strategy – Technology Planning

1. Short-Term: Evaluate learning management system and security systems
2. Planning (1-3 years): Office 2016 rollout and extend fiber/high speed connection to remaining facilities

UPDATES AS OF 2-8-2016:

No updates to report at this time!

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Strategic Goal #3: Staff Development – Performance Measures

Workers Compensation claim history
Teacher Leadership
Current/future professional development

Teacher Quality course offerings/participation
Affirmative Action Plan
Technology Survey (BrightBytes)

Next Steps/Strategy – Staff Development

1. Create a 3-5 year professional development plan
2. Workforce strategies

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Strategic Goal #4: Community Engagement – Performance Measures

Volunteer data	School Board visits
Communication survey data	Parent Universities
Dine Around sessions	Strategic Planning
Coffee Conversations	Website Development
Lunchtime Learning sessions	Participation in community coalitions
PTO visits	

Next Steps/Strategy – Community Engagement

1. Create a strategic plan
2. Enhance two-way communication with internal and external stakeholders
3. Updated website with emphasis on communication

UPDATES AS OF 2-8-2016:

Strategic Plan:

1. A Board strategic planning retreat has been set for February 15th at 5:00 PM. The purpose of the planning retreat is to help set direction for the full, community engagement portion of the strategic planning process.
2. A technical kick-off team has been assembled and will meet after the Board strategic planning session in order to coordinate the messaging and technology aspects of the first community engagement phase.
3. The first community engagement phase will last for approximately 10 days. We have not identified dates for this to occur. The dates will be set during the technical kick-off meeting.

Enhance two-way communication/Preschool Tuition:

1. At the Coffee Conversation hosted by the Board at Echo Hill Elementary on January 23rd, a question was asked about preschool tuition fees. The question was raised as to how our preschool tuition fees compare to others in the area. We wanted to make sure to respond to the question and make the information publicly available.
[Refer to chart on page 6.](#)

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Preschool	Days / Week	Hours / Week	Hours / Month	Monthly Tuition	Tuition / Hour
Linn-Mar (Current)	4	10.5	42	\$130	\$3.10
Wee Wisdom	3	6.75	28	\$115	\$4.26
College	4	12	48	\$250	\$5.21
Hand in Hand	2	6	24	\$150	\$6.25
Rockwell	4	12	48	\$240	\$5.00
Cedar Rapids	4	12	48	\$250	\$5.21
Linn-Mar (Proposed)	4	10.5	42	\$200	\$4.76

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Strategic Goal #5: Resources – Performance Measures

Prepare/operate General Fund that maintains 7% solvency ratio and unspent balance ratio

Prepare annual General Fund budget that includes a contingency reserve of 0.2% of budgeted expenditures

Develop a funding model and allocation of resources that supports strategic priorities

Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

Monthly financial reporting package

Next Steps/Strategy – Resources

1. Internal cost control (investments)
2. Plan for the future (resource investment)
3. Build deeper community partnerships

UPDATES AS OF 2-8-2016:

1. **At-Risk/Dropout Prevention:** The At-Risk/Dropout Prevention Application, typically due in December, was not due this year until February. The later date was due to a new application that was not ready until the end of January. In addition to the timeline change, two other important changes included:
 - a. Addition of summer reading program to our application: This addition is in response to State-mandated summer programming for students in third grade who are not meeting reading expectations.
 - b. Maximize the application: In the past we have not maximized the total amount of the application. This year we will request the full amount for the application with the rationale of fully capturing our categorical funding in order to free up burden on the general fund.
For additional information refer to Exhibits 302.1 and 901.1 included in the 2-8-16 Board packet.
2. **Certified Budget:** The Department of Management has released the FY2017 budget files and held a webinar on February 5th to update school districts of any changes from the previous year. Note that the main purpose of the District’s certified budget is to establish a maximum tax rate and an estimate of the budget year expenditures (with contingencies built-in). Linn-Mar’s certified budget is due April 15th. The actual spending plan of the District will culminate in the development of a line-item budget, which occurs after the majority of staffing, programming, and operational decisions are made for the coming year.

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Achievements and Honors:

Congratulations to the Linn-Mar Varsity POMs for placing 5th in Jazz and 6th in POM at the National competition held in Florida the last weekend of January.



Jazz



POM

Congratulations to the following students for their College Letter of Intent Signings:

- Jenna Ajram – Chicago State University – Soccer
- Daniel Gorsich – Benedictine College - Football
- Claire Larson – University of Missouri-Kansas City – Soccer
- Jack Ramsey – Drake University – Soccer
- Jake Sevcik – St. Ambrose University – Golf
- Max Thrune – Kirkwood College – Golf
- Jordan Webb – Marquette University – Soccer
- Ryan Wyant – Kirkwood College - Baseball

The official signing ceremony will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd in the High School Media Center at 3:45 pm.

Congratulations to the following people are being inducted into the Linn-Mar Athletic Hall of Fame.

- Patricia Martinson-Earley – Golf, Basketball, and Softball
- Rick Coles – Football, Basketball, and Track
- Denise McCormick-Stapley - Poms
- Pete King – Booster Club President
- Molly Edwards Hoover – Swimming
- Michael Brandt – Sophomore Girls Coach
- Hannah Borschel-Schmidt – Softball, Track, SODA, Nat’l Honor Society, Wrestling Manager
- Zach Bohannon - Basketball
- Jaime Printy-Brandt - Basketball

The ceremony will be held between the LM Boys Sophomore and Varsity Basketball home games on 2/13/16.

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February 1, 2016

To: Dr. Shepherd and Linn-Mar Board of Education

From: Angie Morrison, Business Manager

RE: Childcare Proposals

Background: Requests for proposals for Childcare Providers at Indian Creek, Bowman Woods and Westfield were sent out on December 1, 2015 and were due back January 8, 2016. Four proposals were received. These proposals were reviewed and independently scored by JT Anderson, Leisa Breitfelder and myself. We used an objective rubric for scoring that was shared in the RFP. Proposals were also shared with the Building Principals and SAMS involved for their feedback and input.

Recommendation: Hand in Hand was the unanimous first choice of all reviewers by a fairly large margin. I am recommending that we meet with Hand in Hand to ensure they can adequately serve and staff these three buildings and if so, enter into a contract with them for rental of our facilities.

Rationale: Some of the highlights of their proposal include a Reading Rainbow curriculum which encourages reading and provides incentives to students that participate. They also had strong security procedures and staff training programs as well as high staff expectations in regards to interacting with the kids. Their monthly cost was the lowest and they offer a sibling discount and flexibility for parents. When compared to the other proposals, they had great references, are well established, communicate with parents on expectations and offer a wide variety of organized activities for the students. We have been partnering with Hand in Hand for preschool the last few years and have a good working relationship with them.

Refer to chart on Page 10

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Childcare Proposal Comparison

		<u>Hand in Hand</u>	<u>Waypoint</u>	<u>Kids Inc</u>	<u>Creative Kids</u>
Background (20%)	Years in business	2001	1980's	1998	2015
	Reference letters	very good, included principal	good	good	good, included school admin
	Experience	early childhood-1995	serves some CR and College		director of Kids Inc for many yrs
Programming (10%)	Curriculum	Reading Rainbow	40 Developmental Assets	none listed	none listed
	Activities	organized or free play	organized or free play	organized or free play	organized or free play
	Other	homework form from parents			
Staffing Model and Training (20%)	Required	exceed DHS	meet DHS	meet DHS	meet DHS
	Additional training	orientation at hire	orientation at hire		would like to work w/schools
	Expectations	no phone use, interact w/kids			
Rates (20%)	Monthly	\$230/mo	\$87/wk	\$250/mo	\$235/mo
	Discounts	yes- siblings 5-10%		\$475 for 2	
	Inservice	\$15/\$25 for drop in	included	\$15/no drop in	\$20/drop in available
	Early outs	\$10	included	included	included
Security and Emergency procedures (20%)	Drills	monthly	monthly	do head counts	work with schools
	Security measures	sign out/photo id/staff shirts			
Registration Procedures	Process	current first, home bldg only	\$50 fee	current first/\$20 fee	current first/\$15 fee