Saint Paul Public Schools

COB Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 4:30 PM
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625

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SPPS VISION STATEMENT

Imagine every student
Inspired, challenged, and cared for by exceptional educators
Imagine your family
Welcomed, respected, and valued by exceptional schools
Imagine our community
United, strengthened, and prepared for an exceptional future
Saint Paul Public Schools: Where imagination meets destination

MISSION of the Saint Paul Public Schools – PREMIER EDUCATION FOR ALL

Long-Range Goals Adopted by the Board:

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT
Learners will meet the highest district and state standards through a learning journey that is academically rich and rigorous.

MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS
Learners will understand the relationship between their lives and the lives of others, and the relevance of their educational experiences to their roles in society.

RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT
The learning environment will be safe, nurturing and equitable for our diverse learners.
I. CALL TO ORDER
   A. Introductions

II. AGENDA
   A. Superintendent’s Update
   B. SEAB Presentation - Expanded Student Voice
      1. Introduction
      2. Presentation
      3. Discussion
   C. 2017 Audit Report
      1. Introduction
      2. Presentation
      3. Discussion

III. ADJOURNMENT
A District-Wide Structure for Authentic Student Voice

St. Paul Public Schools
Student Engagement and Advancement Board
Propose an expanded model of authentic student voice for St. Paul Public Schools. To ensure the concerns of students are heard by creating a new structure of student engagement.
Project Research Methods

• Building survey to all SPPS principals
  • 22/54 building leaders responded
• 7 Expert Interviews
• 11 Focus groups 200 with students
  (elementary thru secondary)
SEAB Values

- Inclusivity
- Authenticity
- Collaboration
- Shared Power
- Consistent Structure
THE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT REVOLUTION
SEAB’s Impacts to Date

• Discourse
• Practice
• Policy
Intended Impact of an Expanded Structure

In focus groups, students predicted that the impacts of authentic student partnership in all schools would include:

- More leadership opportunities
- Stronger sense of community
- More role models
- Safer, more welcoming environment
“Students will voice their concerns and then others would piggyback from their methods and soon we’ll have a snowball effect of improved school environment”
## Required Components of Student Voice

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Student Focus Groups</th>
<th>Expert Interviews</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inclusive</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shared Power</td>
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<td>Safe Space</td>
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<td>Authentic</td>
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Inclusive

• Amplify all voices
• All are invited
• Free of judgement
• Diversity

“A space where everyone is welcome and all voices are heard helps to better accommodate students and their needs.”
Shared Power

• Student’s know their truth
• Everyone’s expertise is at the table
• Everyone is a powerful problem solver

“The ones who are in the problem know the problem and have struggled through it. So let those people be heard and make a change.”
Engaging

• Everyone is a leader, and mentor of one another
• Work is fun and meaningful

“Make school a better place where more student voices are heard, not just from the talkative people, so that students can make a difference.”
Safe Space

• A space to speak your truth
• Multiple truths are seen and valued
• Respect towards one another

“We can feel wanted, and...we can speak up and have a right for everything.”
Authentic

• Consistent
• There is follow through on the part of staff
• Everyone is a leader
• Good communication

“Authenticity means working collectively and ACTUALLY creating change”
Building leaders said they need:
• Staff
• Time
• Resources (training, support)
• A flexible model that allows schools to do what works for them
• Consistency over time
“There are no mass answers; there are masses of answers. Different buildings need to find ways for increasing student voice and engagement in ways that work for them.”

-Principal, Michael Thompson
SPPS Student Voice Structure Today

- District Admin
- (Secondary) School Admins
- Student Run Groups
- Student Gov
- Other Existing Programs
- SEAB
- BOE
- D2BR
- GSAs
- District Programs Admin
Proposed Structure of Student Voice

School level Student Voice

SEAB

School level Student Voice

District Admin

BOE

School level Student Voice

GSAs

School level Student Voice

Student Run Groups

D2BR

School Admin

Other Existing Programs

Student Gov

Student Gov
Structural Goals & Resources Needed

- Increase Student Voice (Consistency)
  - Shared values, staff time, training supports & funding to support student voice in buildings
  - Mechanism for students meeting during school

- Increase District-Wide Connectedness
  - Dedicated staff time
  - District-wide “Summer Summit”

- Increase Communication
  - Dedicated staff time
  - Website
Ideas on Embedding Student Voice

● Student Voice is a component of the strategic plan
● Student Voice and Student Partnership are seen as a key aspect of SPPS’s equity work.
● Student Voice is included in School Improvement Plans
● Looking forward to your ideas
“Youth of all ages deserve to have their voice heard, everyone has unique experiences and when they come together it can create great things”
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PLACE HOLDER

2017 AUDIT REPORT