



## **Creating a Strategic Plan for the Edgewater Public Schools**

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#### **Mission Statement**

The Edgewater School District, a culturally rich community, fosters academic achievement, social-emotional growth, and intellectual curiosity, preparing our students for lifelong learning and future success.

#### **Session #3 of 3**

#### **Developing a Broad Goal Statement and Supporting Objectives for Each Goal Area**

On March 27, 2019 Edgewater Public Schools administration, staff, parents, board members and community members came together to continue the strategic planning process. The third and final meeting's topic focused on developing a broad goal statement and 4-5 supporting objectives for each of the four goal areas identified at the conclusion of the March 19, 2019 meeting. These goals will represent a shared vision for the Edgewater Public Schools over the next five years.

Matt Lee and Kathleen Helewa from the New Jersey School Boards Association facilitated the strategic planning process. The group was provided with an overview of the March 5 and March 19 meetings and then the goal writing process was introduced that included definitions, the connection to the work from the first two meetings, and the components of a goal statement. Participants were able to self-select a goal area of interest to them – Student Achievement; Health & Wellness; Community Engagement; Facilities & Technology; and Culture & Climate. Each goal area group was tasked with writing a broad goal statement and developing around four to five accompanying objectives that reflected the strengths, challenges, and visions relative to their goal area as determined in Meetings 1 and 2. At the outset of the night, it was decided to condense two goal area groups to create a broader category of Health, Wellness, Culture & Climate.

**Edgewater Public Schools Strategic Planning Meeting #3 Outcomes**

**Group Work**

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all consensus points are recorded and posted on the district’s website to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Student Achievement</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	To graduate exceptional learners that achieve to their fullest potential academically and socially, in a fast-changing world.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Achieve national recognition as a highly-ranked school district.</li> <li>2. To provide rigorous, yet flexible learning environment to accommodate diverse needs.</li> <li>3. Offer opportunities to foster depth and excellence in non-academic areas arts, drama, sports, etc.</li> <li>4. Support and value teachers.</li> <li>5. To promote critical thinking and development of 21st century leadership skills.</li> </ol>

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Community Engagement</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	To strengthen the Edgewater-Leonia partnership by involving all stakeholders: students, staff, parents, and residents to create and foster a seamless community.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To create a program to welcome/introduce new families.</li> <li>2. To provide speaker programs such as: helping children with homework, mindfulness, how to parent a tween/teen in 2019.</li> <li>3. To increase joint educational activities such as: sports, arts, mentorship, fun family events, science fair, debate team, etc.</li> <li>4. To create a communication plan to guide parents to a central site of inbound and outbound information.</li> </ol>

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Health, Wellness, Culture &amp; Climate</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	To foster an inclusive and collaborative community that promotes a positive, safe, healthy environment.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Embed an awareness and appreciation for the rich diversity of our school community.</li> <li>2. Select or develop a current social-emotional learning curriculum.</li> <li>3. Increase opportunities for staff collaboration between two buildings.</li> <li>4. Increase opportunities for parents to be involved in authentic ways in the school.</li> <li>5. Increase opportunities for collaborative learning through meaningful and relevant experiences.</li> </ol>

**Edgewater Public Schools Strategic Planning Meeting #3 Outcomes**

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Facilities &amp; Technology</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	Develop and maintain eco-friendly facilities to accommodate growth and technology and to provide a safe and secure learning environment so that we are equipped to deliver 21st century programs in a 21st century environment.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Build state-of-the-art buildings and grounds that support all Learners and are sustainable for population growth.</li><li>2. Include state-of-the-art technology that is flexible, sustainable and progressive.</li><li>3. Include design for makerspace and computer/science/robotics programs.</li><li>4. Make safety a top priority.</li><li>5. Plan for public safety, parking, and recreation.</li></ol>

**Next Steps**

A final report summarizing the work and input from the three strategic planning meetings will be generated by New Jersey School Boards and presented at the **July 11, 2019** Edgewater Board of Education meeting.

The administration is tasked with writing action plans for the objectives developed under each goal statement, that will identify the specific tasks needed to accomplish the objective, who is responsible, the resources needed, the timeline over a 5-year time span, and the indicators of success. These action plans will be shared on the district website.

**Thank You**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the strategic planning process. The outcome of the plan has been shaped by the input of every participating member. You have provided the district with a 5-year roadmap that reflects the aspirations of the various stakeholders for your students.