



District 2009-10 Focused Goals Discussion

Palo Alto Unified School District

Our Mission is to enable all students to:

- Strive for academic excellence;
- Acquire the knowledge and skills that support learning;
- Value creativity and life-long learning;
- Demonstrate respect for self and others; and
- Participate meaningfully in our democratic society and interdependent global community.

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Strategic Plan Areas

- Academic Excellence and Learning
- Staff Recruitment and Development
- Budget Trends and Infrastructure
- Governance and Communication

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Academic Excellences and Learning

Seek ways to improve our collective social-emotional support for students

- Community conversations
- Review and discussion around consistency for the Living Skills Class
- Additional training for counselors and other student support personnel
- *Raise level of discussion around importance of sleep in determining physical/social/emotional health*

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Academic Excellence and Learning

Improve math instruction and support implementation of new math materials (K-12)

- Review of reporting math progress to elementary students' parents
- Intensive professional development for elementary school teachers and administrators and their integration into math program
- Summer planning time for secondary math teachers around new materials and their integration into math program
- Implementation of *Everyday Math* calendar reviewed by Board on April 28, 2009

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Academic Excellence and Learning

Continue discussions and efforts around college readiness, graduation requirements, and maintaining excellence at secondary schools

- Review of student success in college through surveys
- Examination of graduation requirements versus college admissions requirements as well as student a-g completion rates

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Staff Recruitment and Development

Enhance culture and build structures around improved staff development for all employees

- Continued conversations with teachers and other staff regarding training and development needs
- Setting budget priority around professional development
- Examination of best practices in professional development, particularly at the secondary level

August 25, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Budget Trends and Infrastructure

Act as careful stewards of district fiscal resources (operating funds, Strong Schools Bond funds, and parent donations)

- Solve structural deficit issues
- Address explosive growth in health benefit costs
 - *Health benefit costs up 139% over 7 years*
- Continue to move building program forward

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Budget Trends and Infrastructure

Renew Parcel Tax that ensures a steady source of local funding

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Governance and Communication

Complete review and revamping of the district's Board Policies

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Timeline for Strategic Plan

- *October 2009 – Board review of Strategic Plan Academic Goals Progress*
 - *95% of all students in grades 3-8 will be on grade level as measured by the CSTs in ELA and Math by the end of 2012*
 - *85% of all students in grades 3-8 will show one year's progress or more as measured by the CSTs in ELA and Math by the end of 2012*
 - *The percentage of students in grades 4-9 not-yet-proficient on the CSTs in ELA and Math will be reduced by 50% by the end of 2012*

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Timeline for Strategic Plan (continued)

- *October 2009 – Board review of Strategic Plan Academic Goals Progress*
 - *The percentage of graduates meeting the UC/CSU a-g course requirements will be 85% or better by the end of 2012*
 - *The percentage of under-represented minority student graduates meeting the UC/SCU a-g course requirements will increase by 50% or more by the end of 2012*

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Timeline for Strategic Plan (continued)

- *Before November 1 – McKinsey review and progress report with report to Board*
 - *This includes outlining work done or input metrics and areas needed for questioning in Strategic Plan survey*
- *Spring 2010 – Survey of community regarding progress on Strategic Plan elements*

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District

Timeline for Decision on Focused Goals

- ✓ Introduce at June 23, 2009, Board meeting
- ✓ Discussion during Board August 3-4 Retreat
- ✓ Discussions with school leaders August 5-24
- ✓ August 25 Board discussion of Focused Goals
- September 8 Board approval of 2009-10 Focused Goals

September 8, 2009

Palo Alto Unified School District