

## Waupaca School Board Self-Evaluation: BOARD GOALS

March 31, 2008

### *Policy: Ends – District Vision/Mission*

*The mission of the Waupaca School District is to assist individuals in reaching their potential by providing cost-effective education that prepares students to be lifelong learners and contributing members of society.*

1. Increase Board face-to-face contact with schools to provide Board members with insights into the ethos of the District and the impact of Board decisions and policies, to provide an opportunity for staff and students to shine, to provide an opportunity for low-key, positive interactions with staff and students.
  - a. Develop a schedule of Board member visits to schools, beginning with the 2008-2009 school year. At the staff Welcome Breakfast, make an announcement that Board members will be making regular monthly visits to the schools throughout the year.
  - b. Include brief reports of insights/observations from school visits as part of Board Reports agenda item in monthly Board meetings.
  - c. Hold several Board meetings at schools, incorporating student presentation into meeting.
  - d. Other suggestions: volunteer to chaperone prom, post-prom.
2. Continue presentations and discussions with teachers and staff about substantive Board governance/policy issues (as was done with development and introduction of Ends policies) in order to strengthen District-wide understanding of and focus on shared goals. Possibly scheduled during school staff meetings. A form of linkage meeting.
3. Engage students in discussions about Ends policies. Hold meetings with student leaders, e.g., student councils, student members of school improvement teams, National Honor Society. High school, middle school, elementary. A form of linkage meeting.
4. Continue to hold linkage meetings.
  - a. Structure meetings to allow time to:
    - i. Listen to meeting participants' responses to questions posed by Board.
    - ii. Briefly present synopsis of each small group's findings to large group.
    - iii. Provide an opportunity for District to respond to questions, concerns, misinformation.
  - b. Waupaca County Department of Human Services – to discuss shared interests, as well as concerns and constraints.
  - c. Student councils
  - d. Other suggestions: District staff, coaches, graduates, Fox Valley Technical College, the Foundry

5. Continue providing orientation and assistance to new Board members. Recognizing that hands-on participation in Board meetings is a necessary component of Board orientation (general consensus: it takes a year or so to learn the ropes), Board members have found the initial orientation provided very valuable.

Recommendations:

- a. Provide a Glossary of Education Terminology [WASB] to new Board members.
- b. School finance is a particularly foreign issue to most incoming Board members, so continuation of all that is done to provide orientation to new and old is appreciated.
- c. New Board members find the orientation valuable.