STERLING HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

501 S. WARWICK ROAD, SOMERDALE, NEW JERSEY 08083-2175

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Matthew Sheehan  
Superintendent



Magnolia (Greg, Karen)

Stratford / Hi-Nella (Renee, Debbie)

Somerdale (Rob, Bill)

Sterling (Matt, Jim)

Laurel Springs (Ryan)

Rowan (Mark Magyar, Scott Oswald)

SO

* What are desired options for districts? (i.e. - Do Nothing --> FULL K-12)
  + Any options discussed?
  + Stratford - not complete Regionalization, alignment of curriculum and resources and shared services
  + Magnolia - shared services, tech and curriculum alignment, house district services
  + Laurel Springs - BOE's have not changed positions, loves opportunity to find shared services to help financially. SpEd
  + Sterling - we are Regional, different experiences. Shared Services are beneficial, difficult to share people, open to learn. 2008-2009 last time conducted.
  + Somerdale - BOE not interested in full regionalization. Appreciates the uniqueness and culture as K-8. Prepare students for next phase. SpEd intriguing, OOD needs, Transportation Needs.

* Regionalization Conference at Rowan
  + Shared Service positions = frequent turnover
  + Shared Service positions
    - Ability to change start times? Must be considered for Shared Service
      * Later start times are intriguing
      * Stratford has 8-8:30a start time contractually
      * Bussing issue

* Mission/Vision must be included in all reports
* 3 Questions of Each
  + Community Norms (Points of Pride?)
    - Tree Lighting, Unique Identity, Sports, Activities
    - Inclusion
    - Personalization (staff, students, community know each other)
    - Small Class Sizes
    - Graduation (SHS)
    - 30+ Events encompassing sending districts (SHS)
    - Clubs/Activities (SHS), including MS Sports
  + Greatest Needs/Pain Points
    - Handling Student Trauma (Increased Transient Population)
    - Multi-Lingual and SpEd Needs
    - Social Media Impacts
    - Zillow Ranking (9th Grade Test, ours for 6 weeks)

* Hiring Challenges
  + World Language, SpEd, Math, MC Specialist
  + Smaller pool, budgetary restrictions

* Transition Programs (i.e. Highest Grade to next)
  + Kindergarten Orientation
  + "Moving Up Day" 5th to 6th Grade
  + 9th Grade Orientation
  + Parent FAQ Sessions

* Community Involvement
  + Wishes more people would come out
  + Community out for fun events
  + "Less involvement" at BOE Meetings

* Pre-School
  + Magnolia - Year 1, 2 classrooms full day, 90 "universe"
  + Stratford - 1/2 day pre-school, not applied for Pre-School Expansion, 160 "universe"
  + Somerdale - 1/2 day, not applied for Pre-School Expansion, doesn't know "universe"

JM - Side Notes

* MS - excellent
* IMPORTANT to Hear from ALL
  + Opposition eye opening
  + Appeared to be lack of vision
* Physical Space
  + SpEd (Elementary/Middle)
* Curriculum
  + Interdistrict currently, could be maintained on PD Days?
  + Somerdale hiring FT Curriculum
    - Added or Reallocated?

Special Education:

Gathered information from all districts- programs offered at each level, staff, OOD, "wish list"

All districts have a supervisor/ director- Laurel Springs and Magnolia have those people doing double duty

All districts have some type of part time positions for CST members and related services (contracting out from local agencies and the Commission)

Some districts are using ESS for aides and RBTs from agencies ($$$$)

Some districts do not offer programs (BD, MD) because there aren't enough kids in-district to justify a program (could we bring OOD kids back to district if there was a program)

All districts using different platforms for SIS and IEP management- difficulty during transition to HS

Case managers are spread thin-Idea of a regional "testing team" to free up case managers for school responsibilities

After the meeting all supervisors huddled and verbally supported the idea of regionalization- it is a better use of our resources, better continuity for all students

Idea to have 1 District Director- 1 Supervisor of PK-5 Special Education , 1 Supervisor of Secondary Special Education