



## Creating a Strategic Plan for the North Wildwood School District

### Mission Statement

In a society that is dependent on information and knowledge, equitable and universal access to technology is essential to the learning process. With the guidance of skilled educators and community members, all students will have the opportunity to become actively engaged in the learning process as they think, create, inquire, solve problems and communicate in collaborative and interdisciplinary environments. Students will emerge as lifelong learners, productive members of the workforce and citizens that can contribute to society.

### Our District Beliefs

- The school of tomorrow will not be bound by walls or limited to a standard school day.
- The community of tomorrow will be one of continuous learning.
- Information and communication are essential tools for the process of improving our curriculum.
- Using technology ethically and appropriately, students can support their own learning by communicating with professionals and students from around the world.
- With increasing global information, students must be able to scrutinize for information validity.
- Suggested applications to incorporate effective technology use should be modeled by teachers in the classroom.
- Effective student assessment is an integral part of strong teaching methods.
- In collaboration with the other school districts of Cape May County, we are committed to maintaining the high standard of technology-infused curricula that has been established through the years of partnership, cooperation, and implementation of a shared educational vision.

### Session 3

### Developing Strategic Planning Goals for the North Wildwood School District

On March 6, 2024, North Wildwood School District administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, and community members, a total of sixteen (16), came together for the third and final strategic planning meeting. The topic for the third meeting focused on developing a broad goal statement and supporting objectives for each of the three goal areas identified at the second meeting.

Participants self-selected their small group goal area:

- Holistic Student Approach
- Community
- Mental Health and Wellness

The meeting began with welcoming remarks from Superintendent Mr. Philip Schaffer and an introduction of Facilitator Michelle Kennedy from the New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA), who provided an overview of the strategic planning process and the focus of the evening's activity.

The small groups reviewed the outcomes from meeting 1, strengths & challenges, and meeting 2, vision and initiatives. They began writing a broad goal statement and developing accompanying objectives that reflected their respective goal area's strengths, challenges, and visions.

**Small Group Work** - The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups.

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Holistic Student Approach</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	North Wildwood School District will develop and elaborate the student health and wellness while improving life skills for the student's holistic approach that promotes lifelong learning.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provision of a wellness center to include nutrition, mental health, and medications.</li> <li>2. Improvement of after school clubs, enrichment programs, and expansion of extracurricular activities.</li> <li>3. Educational field trips to promote strong connections with natural local resources.</li> <li>4. Create life skill partnerships with the community for job placement and career experience choices.</li> </ol>

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Community</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	To increase involvement with the community to inspire students to become responsible citizens.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create productive citizens through school-wide community service projects.</li> <li>2. Expanded interaction between the island schools.</li> <li>3. To support local businesses and community organizations.</li> <li>4. Inspire community outreach by connecting local businesses/jobs with job seekers.</li> </ol>

<b>Goal Area</b>	<b>Mental Health and Wellness</b>
<b>Goal Statement</b>	To facilitate a safe and secure learning environment by providing supports to accommodate mental health and wellness issues of students and staff.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upgrade facilities to provide a physical “help” center within the building and establish staff to maintain it.</li> <li>2. Establish an infrastructure for students, families, and staff to report issues in need of help (similar to a 911 type of reporting system), mental health first responders.</li> <li>3. Assemblies/programs that would address physical and mental health issues in an interactive or fun way.</li> <li>4. Monthly after school meetings (club) that are interactive and educational that would address any wellness needs (hygiene, healthy foods, physical fitness, mental health, digital responsibility).</li> </ol>

**Next Steps**

The administration will create action plans that will identify the specific tasks needed to accomplish the goals/objectives, who is responsible, the resources required, the timeline over five years, and the indicators of success.

A final report summarizing the work and input from the three strategic planning meetings and the action plans will be generated by New Jersey School Boards and presented at an upcoming Board of Education meeting for consideration by the Board. We invite all participants and interested stakeholders to attend.

**Thank you**

Thank you to everyone who participated in the strategic planning process. The input of every participating member has shaped the outcome of the plan. The district now has a five-year roadmap that reflects the aspirations of the various stakeholders for North Wildwood School District students.