
DEFINING A VISION AND
LONGTERM ROAD MAP
FOR
MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT

A Strategic Planning Tool

***Robert L. Chakar, Jr.,
Superintendent***

August 2015
August 11,2010
Updated October 19,2011
Updated November 16, 2011
Updated July 17 and August 20, 2012
Updated August 7, 2013
Updated October 9, 2013
Updated September 9, 2014
Updated August 2015
Updated March 20, 2019

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FOR
MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
(A Strategic Planning Tool)

Overview and History

The Margaretville Central Board of Education participated in two workshops on July 13 and 14, 2010. Workshop #1 focused on the Role and Responsibilities of the Board of Education as presented by Ed Sarzynski, Esq. of the law firm Hogan, Sarzynski, Lynch, Surowka and DeWind, LLP.

Workshop #2 was facilitated by Anthony Albanese, Superintendent. BOE members attending were President Randy Moore, Vice President Robbie Martin, Barb Funck, Joe Moskowitz, Agnes Laub, and Principal Linda Taylor. This workshop included discussions pertaining to a shared vision, direction and outcome data necessary to acknowledge decision making strategies. The Board of Education has identified seven goals as the cornerstone of direction for MCS (Attachment A). While relevant and pertinent to meet the needs of the school district a more defined and targeted/strategic approach has been requested by the BOE membership of the Superintendent. The following information is provided to reach this challenge and create a positive plan to further the opportunities to the students of MCS, present and future.

Update as of October 2011

The Margaretville Central Board of Education continued the process of updating this road map on July 13, 26, August 22 and October 5th. Several topics were discussed during the workshops including, district goals, accelerated learning, online courses and co-teaching. Each area of discussion will be referred to a particular Forum.

Update as of November 16, 2011

The Margaretville Central Board of Education held a workshop on November 16, 2011 for the purpose of aligning this document with the District goals.

Update as of July 17 and August 20, 2012

The Margaretville Central Board of Education continued the process of updating this road map on July 16 and August 20th. The BOE reviewed all goals and objectives written for the 2011-2012 school year. In addition, the BOE decided to review all goals and made adjustments. The report can be found in Addendum B.

Update as of August 7, 2013

The Margaretville Central Board of Education conducted a workshop on this date to update the road map. Included in this workshop were: Lee Austin, President; Kurt Holcherr, Vice President; Dr. Agnes Laub; Kate VanBenschoten; Terry Johnson; Linda Taylor, Principal; Tony Albanese, Superintendent.

Update as of August 4, 2014

The Margaretville Central Board of Education conducted a workshop on this date to update the road map. Included in this workshop were: Terry Johnson, President; Kate VanBenschoten, Vice-President; Lee Austin; Dr. Agnes Laub; Doris Warner; Linda Taylor, Principal; Tony Albanese, Superintendent.

Update as of August 2015

The Margaretville Central Board of Education conducted a workshop on this date to update the road map. Included in this workshop were: Terry Johnson, President; Kate VanBenschoten, Vice-President; Lee Austin; Dr. Agnes Laub; Doris Warner; Colin Clark, Principal; Robert Chakar, Superintendent

Update as of March 2019

The Margaretville Central Board of Education conducted a workshop on this date to update the road map and establish new goals. Included in this workshop were: Doris Warner, President; Terry Johnson, Vice-President; Mike Boice, Kurt Holcherr and Marc Osterweil; Robert Chakar, Superintendent.

Purpose of the Road Map

Education as we know it in New York State is shifting rapidly. New York State's current fiscal challenges are well documented along with the impact on state aid and consistent funding for school districts. The NYS Testing program is continually being revised and assessments are being revamped thus raising the bar to more accurately reflect skills needed to succeed in higher education.

The Common Core State Standards are now in progress, as are the APPR Teacher and Principal evaluation system. The reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 2004 mandated education for all students in the least restrictive environment with age appropriate peers. The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal law created a host of mandated targeted benchmarks defining annual yearly progress with the caveat of a School Report Card indicating success or areas needing improvement.

Along with NYS and Federal guidelines, current local economic and demographic changes also impact the direction of school systems. At MCS, addressing a declining enrollment and aligning a rigorous and relevant curriculum to meet the demands of the 21st Century while educating fill students within the context of a flexible instructional model is critical. With these factors and realities in place, the Margaretville Central School District Board of Education set out to:

1. Review and discuss goal achievement based on the 2014-15 school year.
2. Prioritize and define Committee goals for the 2015-16 school year.
3. Use data and various forms of information to review the gaps and progress of student achievement linked to curriculum changes and new initiatives.
4. Establish a community and district wide communication systems to discuss and further detail the 2015-16 goals and direction of MCS.

Proposed Implementation in Support of the Purpose

The Margaretville Central Board of Education is very interested and attuned to the "ends" or results of decisions made within our school district. The Administration is responsible for the "means" to create opportunities to meet the "ends" as defined by a Board of Education. The partnership and unique communication system created between the BOE, Administration, Faculty, Parents, Students and Community is critical in meeting the ever changing needs of the student body while providing the direction, tools and resources necessary for a healthy, vibrant and cutting edge school community of

learners.

It is further recommended that time must be provided to conduct multiple forums of discussion pertaining to the goals established as a priority by the BOE. The following committees are recommended as a first step in defining a vision and long term road map for Margaretville Central School District.

2018-2019 Committees

FACILITIES/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
Chair: Mike Boice, BOE Member
Terry Johnson, BOE Member (alt)
Robert Chakar, Superintendent
Jeremey Marks, Bldg/Grounds/Transp
Ad Hoc as needed

Purpose: This Committee will discuss, review and account for the building and grounds and transportation plan. It will also make recommendations for building projects, upkeep of the grounds and cleanliness of the facility. It will provide budget recommendations to the Superintendent and BOE. Goals include establishing a Building Project.

POLICY COMMITTEE
Chair: Doris Warner, BOE President
Kurt Holcherr, BOE Member (alt)
Robert Chakar, Superintendent
Ad Hoc as needed

Purpose: This Committee will discuss, review and update school district policy. This Committee supports all Goals.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Chair: Marc Osterweil, BOE Member
Mike Boice, BOE Member (alt)
Robert Chakar, Superintendent
Teresa Goodchild, Treasurer
Ad Hoc as needed

Purpose: This Committee will provide fiscal oversight.

Structure and Information Sharing

The Board of Education agenda will provide time for each Committee to report out monthly. This structure will provide information between Board of Education members and the public in an effort to create a continuous stream of transparent communication.



MARGARETVILLE CENTRAL SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

2018-2019

Margaretville Central School Mission Statement:

Margaretville Central School will develop capable individuals and critical thinkers, instilled with positive self-esteem, creativity, and a life-long desire for learning. To assure our school's atmosphere for growth and achievement, we will foster a challenging educational environment supported by a dedicated staff and the cooperation of family, peers, and community.

GOAL 1: ACADEMIC GOAL

Objective: Margaretville's instructional program will become the standard for academic excellence for Pre-Kindergarten – 12th grade education. We will coordinate the curricula of the District's academic programs across the grades and disciplines to improve instruction throughout the District and challenge and encourage our students to act, think, write and speak creatively and critically so that each student is fully prepared to excel academically, emotionally, socially and physically both in school and in the world.

Academic Goal 1: Measurable goal: Increase student performance in high school science as evidenced by their performance on the New York State Regents exams. It is expected that 80% of students enrolled in Regents-level science courses will score a passing grade on the Regents exam.

Academic Goal 2: The superintendent, in consultation with the board, will develop reporting strategies and formats that ensure the board is fully informed of both student achievement and deficiencies. The board of education is interested in reviewing data that is relevant to current student performance; many reports, such as the school report card, is more reflective of past performance. The superintendent will present options to the board before the September 2019 board meeting. Based on feedback from the board, presentation of new reports and data will be in place by, or before, February of 2020.

GOAL 2: FINANCIAL GOAL

To manage, streamline, and improve the financial processes of the District and to (a) meet the needs of students, staff, parents, and the community; (b) communicate the fiscal position of the District in a simple and concise manner, facilitating open and transparent discussions regarding the District's goals and needs; and (c) ensure the continued maintenance and modernization of the District's facilities.

Financial Goal 1: The administration will work with the board to create a comprehensive review of the state of the facility and use that to develop a long-range maintenance and improvement plan to include those areas to be addressed within 2, 5 and 10 years. Preparation for the plan will include a comprehensive review by qualified architects and, where possible, information relevant to cost and time constraints necessary to maximize cost effectiveness. A draft of the needs assessment will be presented to the board at or before the September 2019 meeting. The 2, 5, and 10-year plan will be available for board review at or before the March 2020 board meeting.

GOAL 3: COMMUNICATION GOAL

To use 21st century communication tools to communicate with all constituencies to be as transparent as possible about the business of the District, so that each group will be fully informed and encouraged to help meet the District's goals and needs.

Communication Goal 1: The district has worked to improve communication within the school community. We now need to extend that communication to the greater Margaretville Central School community so that they may be aware, invested and committed to our institution. The effort to increase community engagement will include:

- Three newsletters to the community in addition to the current budget newsletter. The new communication will, pending approval of the cost, be distributed to all box holders/mailling addresses in the district. The new communication with the community will be sent by March of 2020.
- Four new opportunities for community outreach will be undertaken by January of 2020. These may include student involvement with community organizations, school representation at local meetings or any other deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Efforts will be made to install an electronic sign to facilitate dissemination of information to both the school community and the greater Margaretville Central School community. By June of 2019, information will be gathered to evaluate the feasibility of the installation of the sign including, but not limited to, cost, possible vendors, types of signs and any issues with the local municipality. Once the information has been obtained and the sign is approved, a timeline for purchase and installation will be established.

GOAL 4: ORGANIZATIONAL GOAL

To improve and streamline all the District's organizational systems and structures to ensure the efficient and effective operation of the District in meeting the District's goals and the needs of the students, staff, parents and the community.

Organizational Goal 1: The district is currently undertaking the task of streamlining the policy manual. This process will create a more efficient and simplified way for all stakeholders to meet the expectations of the district. This process will be completed within the following timeline:

- Review of part one of the manual will be complete and referred to the board by April 17, 2019
- Board will vote on acceptance of part one of the manual by June 19, 2019.
- Review of part two of the manual will be complete and referred to the board by October 16, 2019
- Board will vote on acceptance of part two of the manual by January 15, 2020

Organizational Goal 2: Our goal is to provide safe, effective and efficient transportation to and from school for eligible students. To better meet this goal, the district will undertake a comprehensive review of all transportation procedures, bus routes and transportation guidelines. The administration will provide a transportation review plan to the board at or before the June 2019 board meeting. It is the expectation of the board that, if possible, the bus route review will be completed prior to the start of the school year in September of 2019. The complete transportation review will be completed, and updated transportation guidelines and procedures presented to the board, on or before January of 2020.