



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Manasquan Public School District

Mission Statement

The Manasquan School District, empowers all students by providing a safe, healthy, and inclusive environment where continual growth, perseverance, and rigorous academic standards are balanced with extensive extra-curricular opportunities and rich tradition through partnership with the community.

Session 2

Developing a vision for the Manasquan Public School District

On March 25, 2025, Manasquan Public School District administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, students, and community members, thirty-nine (39) in all, came together to continue the strategic planning process. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by Robert Goodall, Superintendent. Dr. Timothy Teehan from New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) was introduced and explained the strategic planning process.

We reviewed the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. The topic for the evening focused on creating a shared vision for the Manasquan Public School District. Participants were asked to picture themselves, having been away from the district for 5 years, returning to Manasquan and sending district areas and seeing their school district on the cover of a US Education News publication. The article is about Schools that Succeed. In addition to the current programs already in place in the Manasquan Public School District, what programs/services/curriculum/student outcomes/best practices/facilities would you expect to see in your schools that are succeeding? Participants were encouraged to think “big picture.”

Participants gathered in randomly assigned groups, eleven (11) groups, to develop a shared vision and initiatives. The small groups reviewed the outcomes from Meeting #1, strengths and challenges, and then began brainstorming their vision for the district. After group discussion, each group identified their consensus points and presented those to the full group of meeting participants. Each group reported their outcomes to the larger group to review all small group consensus points.

Group Consensus: Vision & Initiatives

Group 1:

Title of Article: “Dedicated Staff, Engaged Students and First-Rate Facilities Propel Manasquan to the TOP”

Initiatives:

- Manasquan has improved teaching and learning by using A.I. efficiently and with integrity
- Manasquan High School students feel prepared to embrace the high school experience because the transition program from middle school (sending districts included) empowers students to succeed academically and socially
- Teachers continue to provide top notch instruction highlighted by personalized professional development opportunities
- Middle school and high school students and parents are a part of the development of curricular offerings
- District facilities allow for continuous growth where students can learn by using real-world applications

Group 2:

Title of Article: “Big Blue Shines Brighter”

Initiatives:

- Comprehensive (K-12) implementation of personal & instructional technology
- Collaboration with sending district students, parents, staff
 - Tech
 - Academic
 - Social
 - Start prior to 8th grade
- Continuous growth – emphasis to improve test performance overall & sub groups (B.R.)

Group 3:

Title of Article: “A Model for the Nation: How Manasquan is Redefining PreK-12 Excellence in Education”

Initiatives:

- Establish a culture for continuous growth and learning for staff and students
- Increased articulation to help the 8th/9th grade transition from all ES & MHS
- Establish clear communication about the academic and career pathways available to students
- Fostering effective ways of implementing AI & tech tools in education (focus on clear goals & ethical considerations)
- Expand our preparation for students for life after MHS as they embark on their professional careers whether it be college or trade

Group 4:

Title of Article: “What’s the Scoop?”

Initiatives:

- Communication: Better student outcome because parents involved
 - Between school & parents
 - Between school & community
 - Calendar of events available
 - Elementary schools & high schools
 - Grade book – timely manner
- Attendance/tardiness (both to class & school)
 - Set expectations
 - Consistency
 - Updates
 - Use bags in HS to prevent tardiness
- AI – Proper use for staff & students – followed by contract
- Academies – still serving original purpose, more info to parents & elementary schools
 - Dual enrollment opportunities
 - Make more time for students’ mental health – study hall
- Cross articulation – Elementary school to high schools
 - Utilize same platforms in whole district
 - MES kids take class to use platform already used – could be study hall

Group 5:

Title of Article: “Manasquan is a Masterclass”

Initiatives:

- Culture for continuous self-directed professional learning (ex: differentiated/project-based PD)
- Celebrating diversity and differences to recognize varying strengths to build connections (ex: class meetings, “families”)
- Well-managed student screentime with a purposeful approach (ex: ongoing research & training)
- Shared community commitment to attendance and on-time arrival (ex: clear communication and action plans)
- Shared vision/expectations expressed across academies and co-curriculars (ex: coaches focused on sportsmanship)

Group 6:

Title of Article: “Learning Life: Failure Helps You Grow”

Initiatives:

- More structure and stricter boundaries
 - Hold kids accountable, enforcing rules, more monitoring
 - “We want to have the kind, respectful kids”
- Life Skills
 - Money management
 - Handwriting
 - Everyday tasks
 - Organization
 - Time management
- Increase physical activity levels
 - Increased recess time (separate from lunch)
 - Improve middle school gym with engaging activities
- Divide cliques with purpose (activities, team building)
- Less technology, more hands-on, blocking websites
- Beautification and on-premises activities
 - Lights on field
 - Cleanliness, appearance of buildings
- Increase teacher involvement
 - Humanize and improved bonding

Group 7:

Title of Article: “Navigating the Future: Manasquan at Its Best”

Initiatives:

- Facilities
 - Create a safe arrival/dismissal flow of traffic
- “Freshman Seminar”
 - Frontload tools & programs used
 - SCOIR (teach how to use from day 1)
 - Improve social dynamics
 - Freshman success
- Increase enrollment
 - PR for Academies and increase opportunities
- Parent “Professional Development”
 - Possibly high school students can “teach”, which gives them experience/service hours
- SEL/mental health

Group 8:

Title of Article: “Manasquan: Education for the Future”

Initiatives:

- Tailored professional development to support student learning
- Embracing technology (Microsoft, Google Classroom, Remind, Canvas, AI) and its appropriate use
 - Unified tech platforms among sending districts
- More opportunities for social engagements to bring together student body promoting a stronger climate and culture among sending districts
- Streamline implementation of the curriculum across levels
- Increased consistent support for students and staff during the college prep and post high school plans process

Group 9:

Title of Article: “Growth in Our District”

Initiatives:

- Boosting enrollment (MES & MHS)
- Test outcomes in math and science
- Less AI and more in-person learning
- Interactive lessons
- Even more cross collaboration
- Athletic facilities
- 8th-9th grade transition

Group 10:

Title of Article: “Growing Future Learners”

Initiatives:

- Student involvement and building community
- Integrate AI effectively
- Teacher growth to promote student engagement
- Achieving a healthy balance for students

Group 11:

Title of Article: “Keeping Warriors Home! Fostering Warrior Pride from an EARLY AGE!”

Initiatives:

- Expanding parking/alleviating traffic in the morning
- Student learning leaders (TA-like program)
- Life skill/life lesson oriented class
- Cutting edge technology
- Social interaction between middle schools earlier (preventing exclusion of smaller districts)

Following the sharing of small group vision and initiatives, the large group identified the following common themes:

- AI – Proper usage
- Transitioning from 8th grade to 9th – Parents and students and frontloading technology
- Integration of sending district students before 8th grade
- Culture for continuous growth
- Home and school partnership
- Professional development
- Student mental health
- Life skills/applied learning
- Retention of all students into Manasquan schools
- More inclusive participation/collaboration between student groups
- Hands-on learning
- Teacher professional development allows teachers to actively engage students in the learning setting
- Transportation flow, safety, and arrival
- Test scores/accountability for grades earned
- Organization/time management
- Facilities
- Increase public relations - Academies

Following each group reporting out the common themes, the larger group identified the following emerging goal areas:

1. School Culture & Climate
2. Student Growth & Success
3. Technology
4. Facilities & Finance
5. Community Connections

The third strategic planning session is scheduled for:

Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Sign-in begins at 5:45 pm.

High School Media Center

Meeting #3 is scheduled for 1.5 hours. Meetings start and end promptly.

During the April 10th meeting, participants will review the outcomes from meetings 1 and 2 and develop broad goal statements, objectives, and strategies for the goal areas identified above. These strategic planning goals will guide the board and district over the next 3 – 5 years.

Please join us. Bring a friend! Everyone is welcome! We look forward to seeing you!

Please RSVP on the district website.