

**Good Morning and
thanks for being here.**

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- Eden Prairie Classroom and G/T teacher, curriculum director, principal and executive director of Educational Services
- Currently live 1/2 time in Chanhassen and 1/2 time in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico
- Edina Connections
 - Lived in Edina for 10 years
 - Taught at Cahill and Highlands
 - Worked with Edina staff on state programs, 287 programs and WMEP.
 - Mentored by John Etnier and John Devine.

Results of Task Force work

- Develop recommendations for 21st century middle level education (1) providing personalized learning experiences, (2) maximizing available resources and (3) ensuring success and preparation for high school and beyond for all learners-socially, emotionally and academically.

Unacceptable Means to obtain Results

- Unaligned district programs and services
- Increase budget expenses on an ongoing basis
- Recommendations developed without periodic school board updates.

Why study middle level education now?

- Disparities in achievement exists when comparing demographic groups.
- This is a chance for the school district to continue looking at integral parts of the system and new ways to bring new levels of success to all students.
- A chance to celebrate the successes of middle level education in Edina.

Decision Making Process

- A. Shared Reality

- B. Creating Options

- C. Choice Making

- D. Implementation

- E. Refinement (Continuous Improvement)

- The Task Force will develop a shared reality and create options. Those options will be given to the board for final “choice making.” An implementation team will be created once final decisions and timelines have been determined.

6 Phase Planning Process

- Prepare and Plan
- Define the Shared Reality
- Research Choices
- Define the Recommendation and Implementation Plan
- Implement the Plan (Up to 30 months)
- Refine the plan by assessing, reviewing and revising the plan

Shared Reality- What is the current story about student learning at the middle level in Edina Public Schools?

- The task force will review....
 - Student achievement results
 - Input from staff and parents
 - Best Practices including 21st Century Skills, NMSA Recommendations and other research
 - Innovative practices in Minnesota and around the nation

Creating Options: What will the task force consider?

- Based on the current reality of student achievement for Edina Middle Level students, what “differences will make a difference” based on research and best practice.
- This includes but not limited to:
 - Parent participation/communication
 - Organizational/structural designs
 - Instructional and assessment practices
 - Curriculum design, alignment and delivery
- How can we continue to provide personalized learning experiences?

Task Force Members

- 4 middle level school teachers
- 4 parents of middle level students
- 2 Teaching and Learning staff
- 2 Middle school principals
- 1 Elementary school administrator
- 1 High school administrator
- Consultation from Finance, Transportation and Communications Departments.

How the task force will do its work.

- Open communication/transparent process
- Opportunities for input, feedback, insights
- Consider the needs of all stakeholders including students, staff, parents, board and community.
- Collaboration and consensus building
- How can we be successfully connected to the staff at both middle level schools?

Tentative Timeline

- October...Phase 1 (planning and prep)
- October-November...Phase 2 (current reality)
- December-March...Phase 3 (Possibilities)
- March 15-May 15...Phase 4 (Recommendations-Develop and approve)
- June 15, 2010....Phase 5 (Implementation of Recommendations)

Help us with our work...

- On the index card.....
 - What is the one thing you are most proud of when thinking about Valley View Middle School?

Input Question #2

- Results Statement: Develop recommendations for 21st century middle level education (1) providing personalized learning experiences, (2) maximizing available resources and (3) ensuring success and preparation for high school and beyond for all learners- socially, emotionally and academically.
- On the other side of the card....
 - What is one thing the task force should be considering related to the purpose statement?