



Community Forum

February 10, 2021

Topic 1: Safe Routes To School

Topic 2: Strategic Planning - A Closer Look

Topic 3: Calamity Days - A Look Behind The Curtain

Safe Routes to School (SRTS)

The ultimate goal of Safe Routes to School is to increase the number of kids that are walking/bicycling to school safely.



Mission statement: In conjunction with parents, students, school administrators, Reading safety/service officials, and Hamilton County Public Health WeTHRIVE! initiative, our SRTS team will work to ensure all students have an equal opportunity to travel to and from school in the safest manner possible, regardless of the neighborhood in which they live and whether they walk, bike, or travel by car. We will achieve this by working to overcome the logistical challenges of walking and biking to school that are a result of the unique topography of our community.



Data Collection

To better understand the current walking/biking to school practices in Reading addition to any potential feedback or concerns for students were walking/biking to school, the team completed:

- Arrival & Dismissal Audit
- Community Walking Audit
- 3 consecutive days of tallies with K-8 Staff (>900 surveys, 49 classrooms)
- 101 Parent Surveys

Top 5 Issues

1. Sidewalk Infrastructure (No sidewalks or sidewalks in poor condition).
2. Lack of safe crossing features (crosswalk/lighting/signage) for students walking and biking to school.
3. Concerns of safety due to the amount of traffic and the speed of the traffic along walking and biking routes to school.
4. Important infrastructure lacking at the School Site needed to promote safe traffic and pedestrian flow during the arrival and dismissal process.
5. Minimal education, support or enthusiasm exists to catalyze interest in walking or biking to school.



Non-Infrastructure Strategies



- **Strategy 1:**

- Partner with the Reading Police Department to discuss safety and incorporate safety activities into Wellness Specials increase students' knowledge of proper crosswalk, walking and biking to school behaviors.

- **Strategy 2:**

- Develop Community PSA (utilize youth and share on social media) to increase pedestrian safety education within the community and proper behaviors when approaching a student walking or bicycling to school.

- **Strategy 3:**

- Develop and disseminate SRTS marketing Campaign & promotional materials to encourage more students to walk and bike to school. (Blue Devil focused, yard sign)

- **Strategy 4:**

- Conduct Railroad safety trainings to encourage student's living in the "valley" to safety walk or bike to school. Currently, the railroad crossings at Columbia Ave and Benson St make it potentially dangerous for these students to walk.

- **Strategy 5:**

- Conduct a crossing Guard Training to promote safe traffic and pedestrian flow during the arrival and dismissal process.



Any Feedback or Questions?

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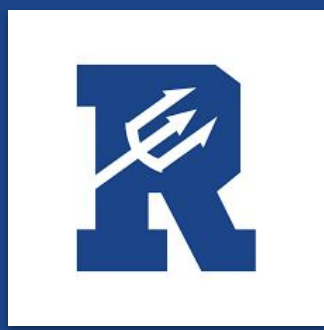


Reading Community City Schools

Strategic Plan

2021

Mission Statement



Inspiring the leaders of tomorrow with engaging opportunities today - *The Blue Devil Way*

Vision Areas



1. Student Learning
2. Culture
3. Communication
4. Fiscal Responsibility

Vision Statement - Student Learning



Student Learning: Providing all students with engaging & innovative curriculum to excel as future members of our global society.

- Develop a district Curriculum Improvement Committee to collaboratively analyze, evaluate and make recommendations for district programming, assessment, and professional development needs to support student learning.
- Assess and continuously improve upon academic, social, and emotional supports for the whole child that provide the opportunity for success while at RCCSD and beyond.
- Implement a comprehensive College and Career readiness pathway to support students in preparation for life beyond RCCSD.

Vision Statement - Culture



Culture: Building a caring, diverse and inclusive community where every member feels safe, valued, and supported.

- Establish a Culture and Climate Committee focusing on needs assessment and defining the key elements of ***The Blue Devil Way***.
- Analyze effectiveness and continue development of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), with additional focus on building culturally sensitive and inclusive practices throughout the district.
- Engage and collaborate with the City of Reading, businesses, local organizations, and alumni to further develop school/community partnerships.

Vision Statement - Communication



Communication: Providing effective and transparent communication within all aspects of our Blue Devil community.

- Establish a district communication focus group to address, implement, and assess the effectiveness of district communication tools and strategies.
- Develop a comprehensive district communication plan that will streamline the tools and methods in which the district and buildings will provide information to families and the community.
- Incorporate strategies to inform and educate all members of the Blue Devil community on the key aspects of district education, operations, and fiscal management.

Vision Statement - Fiscal Responsibility



Fiscal Responsibility: Ensuring transparent and responsible use of district resources to provide the highest quality education for our students.

- Develop and maintain a strategy for responsibly managing district operations (technology, maintenance, etc.) and provide semi-annual reports of operational partnerships.
- Systematically evaluate all aspects of the budgeting process semi-annually to ensure accountability, transparency, sustainability, and responsible stewardship of district resources.
- Implement financial strategies to maintain an ending cash balance of no less than 3 months of operating expense obligations.

Strategic Plan - Next Steps



- Board action item on February 17th
- District Administrative Team begin prioritizing action steps
- Determine impacts within each vision area/action plans that can be implemented for 2021-2022
- Develop short and long-term goals for implementation of each action plan
- Prepare the “District Scorecard” to plan and track progress
- Schedule quarterly Board updates and communication



Calamity Days: A Look Behind The Curtain

The planning, conditions, and circumstances for determining whether the district will close, shift to remote, delay, or remain open during inclement weather



Pay Attention to the Hype

- Media outlets provide advance notice of potential weather events
- Begin monitoring updates and forecasts 24-48 hours in advance
- Key Considerations
 - Temperature outlook
 - Precipitation type
 - Timing
 - Projected accumulation (snow) or any ice conditions



Coordination of Efforts: 12-24 Hours Out

- Omnia360 Site Lead - snow removal and site preparation
 - Timing
 - Communication of parking lot/walkway status update (4:30-5:00 am)
- Communication Planning - review and confirm checklist
 - Pre-set template/messaging for quick posting
- Local School District Collaboration
 - Establish network of superintendent contacts

Communication Template/Plan

- Administrative Team
 - Status update/staff notification
- Omnia360
 - Snow removal/site status
- Mount Notre Dame
 - Auxiliary lot/proximity
- District Network/Superintendents
 - Conditions across the county/region
- Springmeyer
 - Local media outlets
- School messenger
 - Voice message and email
- Social Media
 - Facebook/Twitter
- Website
- AESOP
 - Sub cancellation



Morning Event - It Starts Early



- 3:00-4:00
 - Alarm
 - Weather status/future forecast/media reports
- 4:00-5:00
 - Drive district roads
 - Reading Rd.
 - Columbia Ave.
 - Hunt Rd.
 - Ronald Reagan Highway
 - Side Streets
 - Site update with Omnia360
 - Assess site preparedness/ability to complete site readiness by 6:30
 - Collaboration with local superintendents
- 5:00
 - Decision made - calamity day (or shift to remote after 3 are used), delay, normal school day
 - Initiate communication plan
 - ***Notification to families and staff by 5:30***
- Later in the day - athletics and activities determined

Unique Circumstances

- Large Snow Event - Day/Evening Before
- Predicted Snow Event - Arrival/Daytime Event
- Severe Weather
 - Tornado
 - Severe Thunderstorms
- Power Outage
- Student/Staff Emergency or Accident
- District Safety Threat
- Medical Emergency - COVID-19, Flu, Staff Illness, etc

**Crisis and calamity planning facilitated by HCESC; scenario tabletop exercises to review and plan for event management

**Communication checklist adapted and implemented as soon as possible



Review the Event

- Review and Analyze Event and Outcome
 - Decision
 - Communication
 - Site Preparation
 - Others as appropriate per event
- Modify and Adjust Checklist
- Feedback
 - Administrative Team
 - Providers
 - Community
- Implement Changes Based On Lessons Learned





Questions and Discussion