

WASB Consultant Paul Hardt began the meeting at 7 p.m. and gave a brief overview of what would take place during the meeting, noting that the committee is beginning to transition from looking at data to observing key points that they could use to create a strategic plan.

Several district administrators gave an overview of their presentations from the community forum on Sept. 17. District Business Manager Tammy Lenbom gave a brief overview of the district finances. She noted that the district is in sound financial health, but the district will need to prioritize financial decisions in the future when consolidation aid is no longer awarded. Board member Janene Haselhuhn reviewed the accomplishments and trends that the district has seen. High school principal Larry Zeman gave an overview of recent assessment results and how they affect the school and its instruction.

Hardt and the committee discussed the preliminary results from the community survey. Only a handful of surveys had been received prior to the meeting, but the results still gave an indication of where the survey responses were trending. Topics addressed included: student health; student performance and what a community uses to judge district success; and creating well-rounded graduates with core skills and knowledge to be college and career-ready. As a result of the discussion, the committee expressed a desire to ensure the district maintains a high level of student performance, while at the same time offering a wide variety of quality extra-curricular programs.

There was also a lengthy discussion regarding strengthening the school/community relationship. Many expressed the desire to increase community involvement and public awareness of school matters. It was the general consensus of the group that this would be an ongoing topic of discussion.

Committee members also spent time brainstorming a mission and vision statement for the school district, keeping in mind what the district's goals, core values, and unique attributes.

The next committee meeting was set for Monday, Nov. 12, 2012, in the high school/middle school instructional media center.

Respectfully Submitted, Rachel Westberg