

## Lisle CUSD 202 MISSION STATEMENT

To promote excellence in the Lisle Community Unit School District 202 schools by providing a challenging, comprehensive, and viable educational program for all students, that will lead to the attainment of knowledge, competencies and skills, which, upon completion, will enable our students to be college and career ready, successful life-long learners, and productive members of society.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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# Vision 202

Listening • Learning • Leading

To Our Lisle District 202 Community Members,

On behalf of the Lisle Community Unit District (CUSD) 202 Board of Education, it is my pleasure to present the **Vision 202** Report to the Community. Included in the report are the Statements of Recommendation created from the participants' feedback during the Community Engagement sessions this past year.



We are pleased to share that the first phase of **Vision 202** was a tremendous success due to the dedication of the co-chairs, facilitating team, our superintendent and administration, and perhaps most importantly, the thoughtful discussion of the nearly 240 stakeholders that participated in one or more of the five Community Engagement sessions. The **Vision 202** format was the first of its kind in our District, and will serve as a collaborative model for sharing information and receiving input on specific issues in the future.

The Board of Education greatly appreciates the effort and time from everyone who participated in this project and will be acting on the recommendations, setting goals, and developing strategies needed to fulfill the community's vision for District 202.

We encourage you to review the **Vision 202** report, and look forward to inviting you to more conversations in the future.

Thank you again for your ongoing interest and support of Lisle CUSD 202.

Respectfully yours,

*Pam Ahlmann*

Pam Ahlmann  
Board President

## Why Vision 202?

The Lisle CUSD 202 Board of Education believes that the District mission requires a comprehensive plan for continually improving the overall performance of the school district. The Board further believes that the successful development and implementation of a long-range plan requires **extensive community input, involvement and participation**.

In order to accomplish this goal, Lisle CUSD 202 launched an exciting new **Community Engagement initiative - Vision 202** - during the Spring of 2015. **Vision 202** is an ongoing, collaborative conversation between the community and the school district focusing on the achievements, needs, and other key issues involved in maintaining a successful educational experience for students.

Feedback received from each of the four strategic topic sessions was used to identify community priorities and **guide the planning for the future of Lisle CUSD 202**.



# What is Vision 202?

## **Vision 202** FACILITATING TEAM

### CO-CHAIRS

**BILL BUCHELT**  
**SUSAN STEARS**

### COMMUNITY MEMBERS

**STEVE BAUER**  
**TERRY BRENNAN**  
**KITTY MURPHY**  
**STEVE PAWLOWICZ**  
**MEG SIMA**  
**MONICA WAGONER**

### DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES

**EMMETT BRONSON**  
*Staff & CEAL President*

**PAT KERBACK**  
*Educator & LEA President*

**KEITH FILIPIAK**  
*Superintendent*

**LINDA KOTALIK**  
*Director of Personnel, Staff  
Development & Technology*

**PAM AHLMANN**  
*President of the  
Board of Education*

**AMY NAROT**  
*Vice President of the  
Board of Education*

In order to create a collaborative forum, five Community Engagement Sessions, or workshops, were held during which all District residents were invited to participate including parents, non-parents, future parents, business owners, intergovernmental representatives, employees, Lisle CUSD 202 representatives, and other community members. Participants worked in small groups to **share ideas, discuss topics and provide input** to the Board of Education for future planning.

The **Vision 202** Community Engagement process was facilitated by a team of citizens, District 202 staff, and administration. Co-chaired by community members Susan Stears and Bill Buchelt, the team assisted in preparing the presentations, designing the small group work activities, as well as hosting and presenting at each of the five community engagement sessions.

Each **Vision 202** session began with a brief presentation that provided key information about challenges and opportunities in the District regarding strategic topic areas. Participants then collaborated in small groups to consider relevant questions on the session topic, followed by each small group sharing their conclusions with the whole group. Information gathered from the workshops served as the basis for the **development of a community-wide collaborative vision**, the Statements of Recommendation, which were presented to the Board of Education on June 15, 2015.

Nearly **240 stakeholders** attended at least one **Vision 202** session. Of those that attended at least one session:

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- 48%** - parents of current students
- 30%** - staff members
- 27%** - community members
- 17%** - parents of former students
- 5%** - Alumni of Lisle CUSD 202
- 2%** - local business owners

*\*Some respondents selected more than one category*

# What Did We Learn?

**Vision 202** participants were asked to identify items they believe are sources of pride for Lisle CUSD 202 as well as challenges to be addressed. Participants shared a high level of overall satisfaction with the District in key areas including academics, curriculum, finances, teacher and District support, and extracurricular activities.

## Areas of Celebration

**Vision 202** participants noted the following as key areas of celebration regarding our School District's performance.

- **Quality program offerings** support high student performance levels. There are also high levels of differentiated instruction provided to students by Lisle teachers and staff.
- The School District offers a **significant number of student programs** (curricular, co-curricular, clubs and sports) and activities relative to its small size.
- Students who attend Lisle CUSD 202 schools from **Kindergarten through 12th Grade** demonstrate **higher academic performance** as opposed to students who enroll in the District schools later in their educational career.
- The parents, District staff, and the Board of Education **work collaboratively** to make good decisions for all students.
- The School District currently has a **very strong financial position**.



## Challenges to be Addressed

**Vision 202** participants agreed that the following are key challenges or hurdles to address to improve the overall performance of Lisle CUSD 202.

- All **curriculum and instruction** (most notably math) **should be evaluated** relative to the new more rigorous Illinois Learning Standards based on student performance on standardized tests
- Participants recognized the need to **continue developing support systems** to address changing demographics, cultural differences, increasing mobility rates, low-income families, and the increased amount of different languages spoken in the School District.
- Participants shared **concerns about the current grade-level configuration** of Tate Woods and Schiesher Elementary Schools.
- Many of the school **facilities require significant capital improvements** such as roofs, parking lots, infrastructure, safety, and security in the near future.
- Participants identified **other areas that impact student achievement** including staff development/training, full-day kindergarten, technology integration, and expanded curricular opportunities.

The following Statements of Recommendation express the general agreement of **Vision 202** participants regarding the priorities they believe should be considered in the long-range planning for Lisle CUSD 202. The recommendations below are not listed in priority order.

**Student academic achievement** is the first among the District's four overarching goals and was listed as the most important of all the topics for **Vision 202** participants. The Board of Education should ensure that the tools/resources are in place to meet the needs of every student, every day.

- 1.1 **Professional Development** - Provide continued professional development opportunities for teachers in the areas of differentiation, hands-on learning experiences, **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM)** curriculum, and cross-subject learning to prepare students for college and career.
- 1.2 **Curriculum Alignment** - Evaluate curriculum and instruction for alignment with the new more rigorous Illinois Learning Standards which includes the Common Core State Standards.
- 1.3 **Curricular Options** - Provide increased choices for Advanced Placement (AP) classes, vocational experiences, and coursework geared toward cultural differences and needs.
- 1.4 **Assessment Practices** - Explore current assessment practices: frequency, alignment to academic goals, and correlation to student growth.
- 1.5 **Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum** - Conduct a thorough study of the curriculum and instructional practices, especially in the area of mathematics, to identify areas of improvement and progress resulting in improved outcomes for all students on state assessments, and college & career readiness benchmarks.
- 1.6 **Social-Emotional Learning** - Continue to implement and expand social-emotional learning into the curriculum at all grade levels.
- 1.7 **Learning Environments** - Examine learning environments to ensure they are conducive to student needs both academically and social-emotionally.



**Vision 202** participants recognize that the School District provides numerous curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities for its students. During the community engagement small group discussions, participants communicated a need to re-examine **programs and services** in order to maintain a high level of academic expectations and student performance.



- 2.1 **Full Day Kindergarten** - Determine the cost and infrastructure necessary to implement full day Kindergarten.
- 2.2 **School Schedule** - Examine the length of school day and year at all grade levels to support student progress.
- 2.3 **Parent Education** - Expand parent education workshop opportunities, such as English Language Learner (ELL) classes for parents.
- 2.4 **Program Opportunities** - Implement additional co-curricular and extra-curricular academic opportunities such as STEAM based programs and vocational programs both during and after school.
- 2.5 **Community Connections** - Establish additional community partnerships to support student populations. For example: potential mentoring programs, community donation drives, and area speakers from cultural and sporting fields.
- 2.6 **Student Support Programs** - Identify and implement programs to support student needs such as breakfast programs, homework clubs, mentoring programs, after-school tutoring, and summer school programs at all grade levels.
- 2.7 **Technology** - Evaluate current infrastructure and consider expanding student access to 1:1 technology.
- 2.8 **Expanded Learning Platforms** - Explore ways to enhance student access to curriculum through online learning opportunities.

*"This is a very exciting time in the history of our school district because these conversations with the community, teachers, and staff will impact not only our current students, but will be instrumental in planning for students for generations to come."*

*-Superintendent Keith Filipiak*

When **Vision 202** participants were asked to reflect on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges of **Lisle CUSD 202's financial outlook**, there was a general agreement that the School District's financial health is strong. Some concerns expressed were: future shifts in state funding, facilities, as well as expansion of staff and student programs.

- 3.1 **Future Planning** - Plan for future District facility needs to accommodate instruction, programs, and services and ensure that financial planning for all facility needs is a priority.
- 3.2 **Debt Reduction Options** - Examine the possibility of paying off debt early.
- 3.3 **Professional Development Costs** - Explore opportunities to provide professional development for both staff and administration in order to continue learning current best practices for curriculum delivery.
- 3.4 **Staff Recruitment/Retention** - Determine effective strategies for recruiting and retaining high quality teachers and expanding student programs while staying fiscally responsible.
- 3.5 **Technology** - Evaluate the technology infrastructure in order to improve access for students and teachers in the classroom.
- 3.6 **Risk of Legal Mandates and Changes in State Revenue** - Prepare for the impact of changes in legislative requirements and potential funding loss from the State of Illinois.



*"I was very impressed with the presentation of information, targeted workshop conversations and activities, and share-out opportunities that provided a platform for all to share ideas for District 202."*

*-Vision 202 Participant*

**Vision 202** participants consistently commented on various aspects of the **facilities** that they felt needed to be addressed. There is a general agreement that the physical structure and grade-level configuration of the elementary facilities need to be specifically evaluated.



- 4.1 **Facilities Master Plan** - Assess the needs of all District buildings and grounds for current and projected instructional programs and services during the Facilities Master Plan process.
- 4.2 **Safety, Security, and Accessibility** - Examine the current safety, security, and accessibility measures that are necessary at each school building.
- 4.3 **Full Day Kindergarten** - Determine the space needed and explore options to support a full day Kindergarten program.
- 4.4 **Building Grade Configurations** - Examine if the current grade locations should be re-configured in the current spaces (such as a primary and intermediate elementary grade centers) or if a new Pre-K-5 space would be most effective for student learning and logistical transitions.
- 4.5 **Space Utilization** - Review the current interior space appropriation at each building and determine if the environment is being effectively utilized for student instruction, programs, and services.
- 4.6 **Future Facilities Research** - Analyze the long term educational and economic value of renovating, re-purposing, and/or building a new school for grades Pre-K through 5.

## What's Next?

Dear Lisle Community,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the Lisle Community, for your ideas and support during the **Vision 202** process. In the months ahead we will utilize the recommendations developed from your input to create a Strategic Plan that will guide the future of our learning community. We continue to be committed to regular communication about our future plans to implement many of the recommendations contained in this report.

Regards,

Handwritten signature of Dr. Keith Filipiak

Dr. Keith Filipiak



# Report to the Community From the Board of Education

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# Vision 202

Lisle Community Unit School District 202



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Stay connected  
with us!

 Lisle Vision 202  
Lisle CUSD 202

 @Vision\_202

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