



WESTBROOK SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

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October 5, 2009

Dear Westbrook School Department Strategic Planning Advisory Committee Member:

As you may be aware, the Westbrook School Committee has authorized a process to develop a strategic plan for the school department. We have contracted with Good Group Decisions of Brunswick to facilitate the process with us. When completed, the plan will provide a renewed vision and a clear direction for the school department that will support us in our future decision making. The planning process will reach out to the entire Westbrook community while focusing on some key stakeholder groups. A neutral, objective planning process will allow for all voices to be heard and consensus to be reached on goals, priorities, and actions. It will create shared understanding of our current situation and lay a foundation for the future. It will inspire new enthusiasm for working together, fortify the commitment to implementation, and lead us to celebrate new accomplishments.

An important part of strategic planning is the establishment of an Advisory Committee that will serve as an advisory group to the process. This committee would support initiatives of the process and provide feedback to data that is collected. Given your involvement in the Westbrook Schools and our greater community, I would like to invite you to be involved in the Steering Committee. While the committee's workload remains to be determined, your greatest role would be that of networking with stakeholders throughout the community, reaching out to as many people as possible for their input.

There are two scheduled meetings of the Advisory Committee: October 14, 2009 from 6:00-9:00pm at which we will plan the details of the strategic planning process; and Monday, January 25, 2010 from 6:00-9:00pm at which we will review data collected from the process. Both meetings will be at the Westbrook High School library.

I hope you will consider being involved in this process. In my experience, strategic planning can rejuvenate an organization and lead it to realize even greater accomplishments. The Westbrook School Department is rich in many gifts, talents, and resources. Let's envision new ways to grow in support of every student in our community.

Please RSVP to Jayne Barnes at the Superintendent's Office to let her know if you would like to be part of this committee and will attend the October meeting. Feel free to contact either myself or Peter Lancia, Congin School principal, for more information about our strategic planning process. I look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

Reza Namin, PhD
Superintendent of Schools