



SMALL GROUP WORK ACTIVITY VERBATIM
ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING • COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION #4

Instructions

Each group should select a **recorder** and a **facilitator/spokesperson**. The **recorder** is responsible for writing the information from the discussion on the worksheet printed on color paper. This worksheet will be collected at the conclusion of tonight.

The **facilitator/spokesperson** should facilitate discussions and keep the group focused to complete the work in the allotted time. At the end of the session, the **facilitator/spokesperson** from each table will be asked to share the group's information.

Please make sure the information recorded on the group's work activity reflects the *collective thought/decision or general agreement* of everyone at the table, not just the opinion of one or two individuals.

ACTIVITY

TASK #1: FACILITIES: STRENGTHS • CONCERNS • FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT - STRENGTHS

Discuss with members of your group what you feel are the strengths of High School District 211 facilities. What are you proud of?

TASK #1: STRENGTHS - Discuss with members of your group what you feel are the strengths of High School District 211 facilities. What are you proud of?	
TABLE #	STRENGTHS
#2	1) Well maintained 2) Great updates compared for other schools 3) Technical infrastructure (internet/wireless)
#3	1) Having the 4-mo reserve 2) Safe-good looking, well maintained structures 3) Like the sports stadiums, media center, mascot in windows, sheltered awnings
#4	1) Facilities are well kept 2) Broad spectrum of programs 3) Very little debt
#5	1) Physical improvements 2) Improvements are student centered 3) Good prioritizing
#6	1) Updates-library, pool, ipads, science hallway, football fields, media centers 2) Safe environment for students and staff
#7	1) Palatine HS & Schaumburg HS-welcoming, athletic facilities, custodians welcoming & enjoy job-across district 2) Up keep on painting, drywall, cleaning carpet, etc. 3) In house maintenance/food staff & transportation 4) Improved entrance-preventing parents/anyone from entering building

TASK #1: STRENGTHS - Discuss with members of your group what you feel are the strengths of High School District 211 facilities. What are you proud of?

TABLE #	STRENGTHS
#8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) In house maintenance, food service & transportation 2) New pools 3) New media center
#9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) New pools are wonderful 2) Based on age-facilities are kept up 3) Strong long-range planning to repair end of life repairs
#10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Clean, safe, up-to-date 2) Technology
#11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Updated facilities (media center) 2) Science labs 3) Safety response/custodial staff
#12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Well maintained buildings & grounds, custodial staff exceeds expectations 2) Schools provide source of community support 3) Maintain fleet of bus
#16	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Clean facilities/maintenance 2) Good equipment for athletics 3) Really nice media center
#Ind	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Constantly updating (science hallway, gym, ipads, pool, library) 2) Teachers focus on interaction amongst students (science, business, social studies) 3) Safety (drug dogs, do good job preventing violence)
#Sp 15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The sports facilities 2) The appropriate space provided for all students

(TASK #1: CONTINUED)

TASK #1: FACILITIES: STRENGTHS • CONCERNS • FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT - CONCERNS

TASK #1: CONCERNS - <i>What are the greatest concerns about District 211 facilities expressed by members of your group?</i>	
TABLE #	CONCERNS
#2	1) Planning for future, not just the now (short sided planning) 2) Watching neighborhood trends
#3	1) Limited space for activities/sports after school esp. during certain seasons and weather issues 2) Students having to come back to school at night due to lack of space 3) Parking lot management of drop off patterns
#4	1) Prioritization of capital expenditures (must do vs like to do) 2) Referendum of large projected (k250k/k500k) 3) Transparency of spending (over taxation-w/o tax payer involvement)
#5	1) Perception/lack of understanding of spending 2) Improvements all academic areas
#6	1) Price of school lunches 2) Lack of \$ for future upgrades ex=technology
#7	1) Keep current programs (band, art, etc...) 2) Concerns with student support (sw,psych) loss of these due to funds 3) Building updates/upkeep will fall behind w/lack of funding 4) *Keep services in house
#8	1) Transition time during pool construction (where to practice/compete during renovations) 2) Space for athletics is limited although # of athletic teams has increased 3) Age + infrastructure costs
#9	1) Bathrooms need improvement 2) Locker rooms 3) Carpet & paint 4) Outsourcing of facilities management
#10	1) Fitness facilities lacking 2) No field houses 3) Student drop off and pickup concerns
#11	1) Workout facilities/stadiums 2) Food quality 3) Recycle/sustainable
#12	1) Some areas of building still require update (i.e. vocational rooms) 2) Bathrooms are dated-new facilities 3) Safety-i.e. phones in classroom, keyless entrance
#16	1) Expansion/room addition for arts & applied tech 2) Expansion of parking lots 3) Paper towels/hand dryers

TASK #1: CONCERNS - *What are the greatest concerns about District 211 facilities expressed by members of your group?*

TABLE #	CONCERNS
#Ind	1) School lunches (expensive, not too tasty) 2) ipads although beneficial with getting info to students become distraction
#Sp 15	1) How is the cost for maintenance handled? 2) Upgrade the libraries

TASK #1: FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES - *What does your group think might be future opportunities for facility improvements in District 211?*

TABLE #	FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES
#2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Field house on additional 211 land, for all schools→ can be rented out/graduation 2) Blackbox theatre/versatile room space
#3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Street access during peak use could be better (flashing yellow) 2) Better field house for classes during school 3) Bigger auditorium for band, shows presentations
#4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Must prep for future careers (ex. MFG jobs) 2) Outsource transportation (D54 has no problem)
#5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Continue to expand to all academic areas 2) Continue to add more green energy improvement savings 3) Additional large community spaces multi-use
#6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Get input from faculty on new facilities and upgrades-a view from the people that will use it
#7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Remodeling of locker rooms/bathrooms-individual shower/changing areas. Air conditioning in locker rooms 2) Improve learning environment-more adaptable-change desk weight, tables instead of desks-movement toward team work 3) No schools have outdoor facilities-field house-other facilities could be updated-music/auditoriums sound systems
#8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Locker rooms/bathrooms 2) Field house→students have practice during early morning & late night due to scheduling spaces 3) Replacing roof
#9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Bathrooms & locker rooms 2) Auditoriums
#10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Building field houses 2) More adaptive classrooms *renovation 3) "Secure" outdoor sitting area/off campus
#11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Facility improvements-workout/stadium 2) Climate control/solar panels 3) Technology updates/ipad lease 4) LED bulbs
#12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Opportunities of space to meet needs of extra curricular activities i.e. field house 2) Increased student parking-safe 3) Update & improve locker rooms
#16	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Music & applied tech 2) Parking 3) Football scoreboard
#Ind	Left Blank
#Sp 15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Once a year when the incomes are distributed 2) How much does each semester cost per student? 3) How will the money be distributed throughout each school?

TASK #2: WHAT FINANCIAL INFORMATION, IF ANY, WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE FROM DISTRICT 211?

TASK #2: WHAT FINANCIAL INFORMATION? *Discuss with your group what financial information, if any, you would like to receive from District 211?*

TABLE #	WHAT FINANCIAL INFORMATION?
#2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Budget stats 2) Federal/state budget income to 211 the 6% from state, etc.
#3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The presentation of revenue vs expenditures per student cost, on each school website, in lay man's terms and in graphs/charts easy to interpret
#4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Budget summary (with key funds) and projects <5 to 10 pages
#5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Resources received by D211 year over year 2) Operating cost per pupil compared to other districts 3) Legislation affecting school districts
#6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Major upcoming projects 2) Whenever anything occurs that impacts funding 3) Let community know when taxes might increase in the future
#7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) More communication from Dist. to community about why they need renovations i.e. safety, upkeep,, laws, improvements for student use 2) Non-parent community members not receiving info. Information is not specific enough-too general-is often misunderstood 3) Better public relations-ore new in Daily Herald, make positive outlook
#8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Capital projects/expenditures/budgets 2) Simple breakdown revenue vs expenditures 3) Budget categories
#9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Updates on any issues that would affect funding 2) Note: D211 finances are online & accessible 3) Link to budget information
#10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) State funding changes 2) Overall costs per student-comparative
#11	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Transparency of levies of business and residential 2) Lobby for additional funding/legislative bills 3) Plan to fill in deficit for future spending
#12	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Legislative information for state of current affairs along w/contact info. to stack holders 2) Educate taxpayers on how funds are distributed to schools-explanation of tax bill and multiplier
#16	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Information to students & families about free/reduced lunch 2) Knowing information about how taxes are being applied-why are taxes up when rated are capped
#Ind	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Left Blank
#Sp 15	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Once a year when the incomes are distributed 2) How much does each semester cost per student? 3) How will the money be distributed throughout each school?

TASK #2: WHAT FINANCIAL INFORMATION - HOW OFTEN WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION?

TASK #2: HOW OFTEN - <i>How often would you like to receive information about District 211 finances</i>	
TABLE #	HOW OFTEN?
#2	1) With continuing Ed Bulletin 2) Monthly neighborhood bulletin 3) Timeliness with tax bill (or quarterly)
#3	1) At least 2x's a year, maybe 4x's 2) Before and at end of school year
#4	1) Semi-annual
#5	1) Quarterly 2) Tax bill season
#6	1) Whenever there is a new/large project 2) Twice a year-beginning and end
#7	1) Daily Herald-online/paper form-twice a year 2) Mailings regarding financial/district information 3) Insert in Daily Herald explaining school funding
#8	1) Once a year, unless major incident occurs 2) Updated quarterly online 3) Updated as often as real estate taxes collected
#9	1) When major decision is made send to parents 2) When budget is/presented/passed/to allow for community input 3) Provide information before meetings to allow community to review
#10	1) Annual
#11	1) Pending Legislative issues 2) 1-2x per year unless immediate concern
#12	1) Beginning of Fiscal year 2) When tax bills are sent, email explanations
#16	1) Annual statement about financial applications
#Ind	1) Whenever a new project begins/is being planned
# Sp 15	1) Each year during registration 2) On the web page

TASK #2: WHAT FINANCIAL INFORMATION - HOW OR WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE IT?

TASK #2: HOW OR WHERE - *How or where would your group like to receive financial information from District 211?*

TABLE #	HOW OR WHERE?
#2	1) School Websites-easily accessible
#3	1) Emails w/descriptive subject lines 2) Piggyback reports on mailed newsletters from district 3) Slideshow on website homepage
#4	1) Direct email 2) Easy hotlink off main page 3) Easy to read-lay person
#5	1) Superintendent's newsletter include charts snapshot of info 2) Partner with feeder district, townships, etc. to reach all community members
#6	1) On the website make people aware of where to find it
#7	1) Non-district parents have little communication-school community meeting areas-library, retirement community; park dist. buildings 2) Something sent out with tax bill (timing wise) 3) Daily Herald! Get more correct knowledge out to all public 4) *Need better public relations-214 does same as us & 211 gets no/or negative publicity & they get positive
#8	1) Snapshot version in mailer with website for more information online (simple color charts)
#9	1) Email 2) Facebook/Twitter 3) Board briefs
#10	1) Email notification 2) Website posting
#11	1) Website 2) e-mail alert
#12	1) Links on websites-district-school 2) Email blast during tax time 3) *Overall financial information is readily available transparent
#16	1) District news letter 2) Emails
#Ind	1) Update website, emails not necessary
#Sp 15	1) On the web page 2) Informational workshops 3) Flyers during registration

TASK #3: WHAT WOULD YOU IDENTIFY AS THE TOP FINANCIAL PRIORITIES FOR DISTRICT 211?

TASK #3: TOP FINANCIAL PRIORITIES?

Given the current state of District 211 financial standing and pending economic and legislative uncertainties, discuss with your group and list what you think the top financial priorities should be for District 211

TABLE #	TOP FINANCIAL PRIORITIES?
#2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Maintain world class academic programming 2) Maintain a balanced budget 3) Use district resources efficiently 4) Plan for the financial/economic shifts
#3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Keeping our tax money in the district!! 2) Low or moderate, well explained tax increase targeted for education 3) Outreach to businesses for greater support or sponsors of new structures 4) Remaining dept-free 5) Lobbying state legislature to solve budget and move on to education goal
#4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Collaborate unions w/legislators to find common solution to pension issue 2) Salary escalation stop re-financing salary bumps 3) Maintain current services 4) Reduce administration staff 5) Do more with less
#5	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Retention maintaining high quality staff 2) Additional resources for student use 3) Maintain balanced budget 4) Maintain & continue to support electives & activities for students 5) Maintain adequate financial reserves
#6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Making sure the money that the district receives is being used in the most effective ways 2) Keeping programs that contribute to the 5 key components of student readiness 3) Balance of programs for students not going to college
#7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Continue to keep levy's low & stay debt free 2) SB-stop changing of the funding formula 3) Funding for after school & co-curricular (art, band) & clubs
#8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Review how often the contracts put out for bid are negotiated 2) Maintain the reserve 3) Stabilizing property taxes & finding other sources of revenue 4) Maintaining quality of education for students even with restructuring of SB231 5) Stay within the budget/minimizing levy
#9	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pay off your debt 2) Continue to look for ways to drive efficiencies to control/reduce costs 3) Continue to advocate with state to maintain funding 4) Continue to maintain healthy reserves 5) Continue to educate community on why reserves are at levels they are at

TASK #3: TOP FINANCIAL PRIORITIES?

Given the current state of District 211 financial standing and pending economic and legislative uncertainties, discuss with your group and list what you think the top financial priorities should be for District 211

TABLE #	TOP FINANCIAL PRIORITIES?
#10	1) Continue with strong reserves 2) Continue extracurricular support 3) Continue keeping costs in line while improving facilities 4) Continue technology funding
#11	1) Energy savings 2) Lobby additional funding 3) Quality staff & stability 4) Balance budget 5) Plan for future budget constraints
#12	1) Maintain a balanced budget & sufficient savings 2) Remain debt free as possible 3) Spend for 21st century facilities 4) Fund student activities w/out the pressure of student driven fundraising 5) Maintain practices that ensure hiring quality and retaining human resources
#16	1) Surviving state budget crisis 2) Strategic budget program for extracurricular & avoid cutting programs
#Ind	Left Blank
#Sp 15	1) Academics 2) Upgrade of facilities 3) Food service 4) Communication systems to stakeholders in the community (immigrants)

OTHER SUGGESTIONS

What other suggestions would your group like to provide to the Facilitating Team as we move forward with this community engagement program? Please list your suggestions in the space provided.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS	
TABLE #	SUGGESTIONS
#2	Blackbox Theatre→versatile for a lot of programs Centralized meeting→North vs South unity
#3	*Continuing w/current technology, like ipad lease *Develop summer programs for study with local entrepreneurs *Funding of onsite tours of companies, manufactures *Access to printers, 3D printers, internet and tools, etc., other tech that individuals can't afford *Replace turf on Schaumburg HS stadium!
#4	Left Blank
#5	Continue to provide academic opportunities for students to explore career options To continue to provide funding to allow students to become well-rounded productive members of society
#6	Left Blank
#7	Left Blank
#8	What is the plan for the vacant D211 property on Summit?
#9	IMPROVE D211 WEBSITE-MORE USER FRIENDLY
#10	Keep up the good work!
#11	Quality staff
#12	Left Blank
#16	Bathrooms
#Ind	Left Blank
#Sp 15	Left Blank