

Educational Agenda: **Vision, Beliefs, Mission & Goals Focus Group**

Participants:

Dee Henderson	Board Member
Chris Crippen	Elem. Teacher
Esther Thompson	Sec. Teacher
Dallan Olson	Special Ed. Teacher
Rachel Parker	Elem. Intern
Erin Steiner	Elem. Teacher
Kristie Biesenbach	Elem. Teacher

Meeting Dates:

February 10, 2012
February 17, 2012
February 24, 2012
March 2, 2012
March 23, 2012

Process:

Collaboration meetings took place regularly in order to determine our school's current mission, beliefs and vision and how they align with the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE) educational agenda rubric. Data from the Liberty Academy 2011-2012 online surveys was used to support conclusions.

Rubric Item	Liberty Academy's Status	Areas of Potential Growth
Facilitates a collaborative process to build a shared vision.	<u>Score: 2</u> We have established a collaborative process with teachers and administrators, meeting each week to train and discuss our progress in building a shared vision.	1. We need more input from other stakeholders, especially parents and students. 2. We need to establish study teams to examine our school's profile data and identify how the latest educational research and future trends may apply.
Data Used During the accreditation process we have had 1 board member participate in meetings. We have had 1 parent involved during our Friday accreditation process, and we have not yet had students participate. 94.8% of parents agreed that "Parent Volunteers are vital to the school community", suggesting that the parents are willing to volunteer, and perhaps we merely need to make a more direct request.		
Develops and effectively communicates a shared vision, beliefs, and mission that define a compelling purpose and direction for the school.	<u>Score: 3</u> Our mission statement has purpose and direction for the school. It serves as a call to action to all stakeholders. Our belief statements clearly define the core values of our school.	1. We need to encourage all stakeholders to be actively involved in the application of the mission.

Data Used

At the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year, only 13.4% of teachers surveyed felt “The vision of this school is clear”. In the same survey, only 26.7% of teachers felt “The vision of this school is shared”. However, over the past year, considerable time and energy has been dedicated to reviewing and clarifying the vision, therefore next year should show significant improvement in these statistics.

71.7% of parents surveyed felt that “The mission and vision of this school is clear”.

This supports the fact that we need to continue to pursue the task of clarifying the mission and vision, and deliberately share this with stakeholders..

Defines measurable goals
focused on student learning

Score: 3

Our goals are based on our school’s priorities for improving student learning. Our goals are sufficiently challenging, measurable and attainable.

1. We need performance indicators for each goal.
2. We need to create goals that are significantly challenging, requiring students to stretch to achieve them.

Data Used

Our focus has clearly been on student learning, and is reflected in CRT scores; Liberty students were within 4% of the State average for Language Arts, within 6% in math, and 8% above average in Science. There is room for improvement in clarifying our goals, indicated by the fact that 21% of parents don’t feel “The school meets the academic needs of the students”. If we can clearly define specific goals and indicators to our stakeholders, we should be able to show whether we are meeting these goals and academic needs. 71% of secondary students expressed that their “teachers set high standards for achievement”, which reveals that the students perceive that the school does have standards and goals, but clarification would probably increase this statistic.