

SOUTHERN BERKSHIRE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Kerry Burke, Curriculum & Professional Development Coordinator

Executive Summary for Middle School Task Force

Meeting # 1

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

On Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 3:15 PM, we held the first meeting of the SBRSD Middle School Task Force (MSTF) in MERS Library with 24 people present. In addition to convening this group with its multiple perspectives with a positive tone and a collaborative setting for the work ahead, our objectives were to answer these three guiding questions:

- Why reconfigure our middle school now to include grade 6?
- What is our Common Ground for this work?
- Where Do We Go from Here?

Ms. Regulbuto addressed why we are looking at the middle level at this time. Ms. Burke shared the definition of a task force and reviewed the history and components of the middle school model. Mr. Devoti outlined the current middle school experiences at Mount Everett for the group.

The members then watched on You Tube “*Did You Know that in 2028?*” and individually listed up to ten skills middle school students would need to attain now to be prepared for their futures in the light of the information presented in this video.

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpEFjWbXog0>

Finally, the group reviewed the meeting time, confirming that 3:15 PM in MERS Library would be convenient for all moving forward. We changed the Wednesday, March 7 Task Force meeting to Thursday, March 1, to accommodate members involved in the three-day, middle school field trip to Washington, D.C. In preparation for this next meeting, these skills will be compiled to share at the table as a starting point for our next session of brainstorming and planning. This included scheduling parent/guardian forums for input and feedback.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Superintendent Regulbuto reminded the group that its task is to guide the creation of an environment with resources to support the needs and aspirations of developing adolescents at the middle level in grades 6-7-8. While we all hope this reconfiguration would be possible for the start of school in the fall 2018, her priority was ensuring that we have the best possible plan to accommodate the needs of middle level students before making any moves. She reminded everyone that there is no plan in place and that we must assess this work carefully to determine when we are best prepared to transition grade 6 from Undermountain Elementary to Mount Everett.

For meeting dates and MSTF materials/handouts from February 13 meeting, visit the SBRSD website at www.sbrsd.org. Go to the District Tab, and select the Middle School Task Force option on the dropdown. Alternatively, use this link: <http://www.sbrsd.org/middle-school-task-force.html>.

The next MSTF meeting Thursday, March 1, 2018 3:15 PM in the MERS Library is open to participants as well as anyone interested in hearing the discussion. Minutes and materials will be posed for all MSTF meeting minutes at this location through June 2018.