

Communications and Community Engagement Plan

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Overview

What is Educational Public Relations?

Highlights from 2015/2016

Communication Survey Results

Summary of Plans for 2016/2017





What is Educational Public Relations?

The National School Public Relations Association professional definition is:

"Educational public relations is a planned and systematic management function to help improve the programs and services of an educational organization. It relies on a <u>comprehensive two-way communications process</u> involving both <u>internal and external</u> <u>publics</u>, with a goal of stimulating a better understanding of the role, objectives, accomplishments and needs of the organization. <u>Educational public relations programs</u> <u>assist in interpreting public attitudes, identify and help shape policies and procedures in</u> <u>the public interest, and carry on involvement and information activities which earn</u> <u>public understanding and support</u>."

Summary of 2015/2016

Goal

Deepen trust with community members and leaders who reside within the District 41 boundaries through comprehensive communications and meaningful connections.

Strategy

Create a blend of new digital and print communications and enhance opportunities for community engagement in the community.

- Enhance both digital and print communication opportunities
- Focus community engagement out in the community more personal connections
- Celebrate points of pride and accomplishments by sharing stories about the District 41 community

Enhanced Digital and Print Communications

- Created a new website for the district and all of the schools
- Launched biannual Connect 41 sent to all households in district boundaries
- Launched new facilities calendar system
- Redesigned the Handbook
- Added text messaging





www.d41.org





schools and one junior high.

after

We serve parts of Carol Stream, Glendale Heights, Glen Ellyn, Lombard, and

D41 Supply Lists

6

Increased Community Engagement Opportunities

- Formed Community Facilities Task Force (August 2015 April 2016)
- Superintendent engagement included being Student for a Day in all schools,

Donuts with Dr. Gordon, Supt. and Sandwiches, and open office hours

- School Perceptions parent and staff survey
- New parent programming Parent Camp
- Coffee and Conversation with the Board of Education
- Internet safety programming for parents/students





Celebrated Points of Pride

- Extensive media coverage featuring people and programs
- Relationships built with new local reporters
- Invited students and staff to Board of Education meetings to celebrate

accomplishments across the district

• Engage and partner with community organizations



Telling Our Story

Chicago Bears honor Glen Ellyn teache. Lincoln Blementary School a [Pittsburgh] Steeler/ eacher Brian Pindar knows the difference a teacher can make in a child's life. you to help you unearn a skill, you get

Schweikhofer was of ring the Bears' 1. Pindar, who teach s fifth grade, was surprised dar for th See TEACHER, page 10



W ERIC SCHELKOP the Abri See TEA, page 4

See more online

Abraham Lincoln 5th-graders host seniors' tea

eacher presents clinic on ukulele 🚆

ing a tea May 6 at the Glen

Students Celebrated at a Board Meeting

ALA

How are we doing?

School Perceptions Data (Jan/Feb 2016):

Communication

Longitudinal Analysis

Question	2015/16	2014	Difference
I have a good understanding of the long-range plan and goals of the District.	3.55	3.62	-0.07
There is good communication between the District administrators and staff.	3.5	3.5	0.00
I am kept informed about matters important to my work.	3.79	3.78	0.01
There is good communication between the building administrators and staff.	3.75	3.66	0.09
I know what is expected of me at work.	4.24	4.13	0.11
I receive feedback that helps me improve my performance.	3.74	3.63	0.11
School/department information is communicated effectively to me.	3.82	3.71	0.11
I feel comfortable sharing my ideas and opinions.	3.85	3.72	0.13
I receive credit and recognition when I do a good job.	3.55	3.4	0.15

Communication

Longitudinal Analysis

2013/10	2014	Difference
3.07	3.03	0.04
3.10	3.00	0.10
2.75	2.62	0.13
	3.10	3.07 3.03 3.10 3.00

Long-Range Plan - Strategic Priority 6

Community Engagement and Communication: We will deepen trust with the community members who live in the over 10,000 households within the District 41 boundaries through comprehensive and transparent communications. We will seek input from all District 41 stakeholders.

- 1. The community is informed about District 41 practices, decisions and operations.
- 2. Enhance the District's understanding on the various community perspectives on school district topics.
- 3. Improve stakeholder and community pride in District 41.

Summary of Plan for 2016/2017

Goal - Reach more stakeholders with information and stories by communicating earlier and more often through a variety of mediums (Repeat the messages!)

Strategy/Action Steps - Continue enhancing opportunities to make connections with stakeholders both internally and externally.

- Enhance content to engage audiences through the use of more video
- Form a "Citizens Advisory Committee" for the district
- Enhance staff communications through a bi-weekly newsletter created for staff by staff
- Community specific survey to all 10,000 households in our boundaries
- Regular Board communication to community

Survey Timeline (Proposed)

2016/2017

- 5Essentials Parents and Staff (Fall)
- HUMANeX Staff Satisfaction Survey (Fall)
- School Perceptions Community Satisfaction Survey (Winter)
- Dual Language Parent Survey (Spring)
- Special Education Needs Assessment (Spring)

2017/2018

- School Perceptions Parents and Staff Satisfaction Survey (Fall)
- HUMANeX Staff Satisfaction Survey (Fall)
- Dual Language Parent Survey (Spring)
- Special Education Needs Assessment (Spring)

2018/2019

- 5Essentials Parents and Staff (Fall)
- HUMANeX Staff Satisfaction Survey (Fall)
- School Perceptions Community Satisfaction Survey (Winter)
- Dual Language Parent Survey (Spring)
- Special Education Needs Assessment (Spring)

Thank You