

# Strategic Plan Information and Advocacy Report



TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mrs. Sarah Straka, Director of Instruction  
Dr. Steve Salerno, Superintendent

DATE: May 18, 2020

RE: Information and Advocacy Report - Learning and Growth

## OVERVIEW

Board Goal IV: Community Engagement - We will partner with our community.

Objective A: Honor existing and create new relationships within our community.

- Indicator 3: Explore joint ventures for adult learning in our schools.

## Indicator 3: Explore Joint Ventures for Adult Learning in Our Schools

During the Summer of 2019, Sarah Straka and Dr. Steve Salerno met with Madison College Dean of Workforce Development Schauna Rassmussen and Mary Grundahl to discuss avenues to strengthen and leverage workforce partnerships and support for students entering the workforce. Additionally, the team began to brainstorm next steps for adult learning. A follow-up meeting was established for Madison College representatives to tour the new high school learning spaces. In September 2019, Early College Partnership Manager Jeremy Walden visited with Sarah Straka to view the new spaces. At the meeting it was determined that several spaces could be used by adult learning instructors. No further steps were taken at that time.

The Mount Horeb Area Economic Development Corporation (MHAEDC), in collaboration with the Mount Horeb Chamber of Commerce, have been working with Paul Jadin, Madison Region Economic Development President, for the purpose of advancing our community on a pathway for even greater prosperity. Wisely, they understand how our schools play an important role in reaching this vision. Dr. Salerno has attended each of three evening planning sessions with the intent of showcasing how our schools can be a resource in the training and development of adult learners. This culminated in two planning meetings that took place at the remodeled high school. Craig Kettelson, MadREP Economic Development Coordinator, was especially pleased with these visits, and indicated he would be sharing his learning with college administrators.

Our District's partnership with MHAEDC and the Chamber remains as strong as ever. Dr. Salerno has worked, specifically with the MHAEDC, to develop the following preliminary vision:

1. Computer related course offerings such as Beginner and Intermediate Excel, Basic Web Design, Basic Office Suite, Social Media Web
2. Offering morning and evening weekday classes at the High School in addition to weekend offerings. This could be held in the new Professional Development Room, which would allow for

remote access to Madison College teachers/course. Upon speaking with High School Staff, several expressed interest in teaching, if the opportunity arises (and many now meet the requisite to do so under the new dual enrollment credentialing law).

3. The Student Council is excited to offer childcare where needed.

Before COVID-19 placed a pause on our efforts, the following division of duties were established:

- ❖ The MHAEDC and the District will work with Madison College to determine what a partnership could look like and gather a list of potential classes/costs, etc. This would permit for the Chamber partners to narrow down the possible offerings.
- ❖ The Chamber will determine what professional development is most needed in our community and create a schedule of classes. details that would go along with those offerings (child care, scholarships, continuing ed credit, etc. if applicable)
- ❖ The Chamber indicated they would be more than happy to take the lead on the communication of the message once the details are worked out. This could include sending out emails, social media marketing, taking reservations, handling funds with Madison College, and maintaining a class list.

We believe our schools are the lifeblood of any thriving community. The Board of Education's willingness to permit District leaders to utilize our facilities in a way that encourages community members growth means a great deal. We remain hopeful about the prospect of bringing this vision to fruition.