

## **Great Schools for ALL**

### **Summary of Nov. 10 Break-out Session Ideas**

This is the information recorded during the break-out sessions (1, 2, 3) on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.

**The number next to each item is its ranking. The second number is the number of dots it received.**

1. (56) Develop high quality summer learning opportunities for all students (county wide). Provide financial assistance when necessary. This could include camps. Suburban districts and colleges could host these programs.
2. (50) Work toward a voluntary regional school: 50% city students, 50% suburban students, less than 40% poverty level.
3. (46) Expand the Urban-Suburban Program.
4. (33) Concentrate the conversation by creating a metropolitan planning process (cross sector, cross district).
5. (31) Establish new magnets to attract suburban students: bilingual, Pre-K, World of Inquiry, School of the Arts, Children's School.
6. (30) Include more diversity in the GS4A group. Be persistent, follow through – no matter what.
7. (25) Expand "Community Schools"- schools with wrap around services: Nurse –Family Partnership, home visitations- to empower parents to advocate for their children. School #17 could be used as an example of this type of program.
8. (24) Develop practical strategies to support families living in poverty. Examine how and why poverty is concentrated in Rochester. Support the " Living Wage" effort. Address housing segregation. Promote job creation in high poverty areas.
9. (21) Launch a public information campaign to make residents of the region aware of the importance of the survival of the city schools. Create priorities related to the value of quality city schools.
10. (21) Simplify school choice options in RCSD. Change current "Managed Choice" policies.
11. (20) Invest in Early Childhood education.
12. (19) Investigate legal issues related to equity in education. Petition for regional schools. Liberalize school residency laws. Change district lines. Assure that the funding formula is equitable. Pressure elected officials to invest in this process.

13. (16) Work toward government, business and higher education collaborations to develop a social infrastructure to support schools (also include PTA, School Boards- countywide).
14. (16) Support RCSD initiatives: attendance, behavior, course completion, credit accumulation.
15. (14) Be culturally responsive when programs are created.
16. (12) Develop a strategy for transformational change.
17. (11) Recognize the fear that suburbanites have related to cross district programming (economic fear). Build relationships between city and suburbs. Develop a "Speakers Bureau".
18. (10) Consider neighborhood schools.
19. (10) Develop a mechanism for urban and suburban students to work together: semester exchange program, theatre arts, music...
20. (10) Introduce "Transcendental meditation" to help students focus.
21. (8) Consolidate governmental entities.
22. (8) Study and expand charter schools with successful achievement records. Adjust the charter law to achieve progress toward integration.
23. (6) Examine institutional racism. Provide professional development related to cultural literacy and racism.

**The following suggestions received less than 6 dots:**

- Support "Career Pathways" approach for non- college bound students.
- Launch a county wide "Everybody Reads" project- around the issues of poverty.
- Explore ways to use the media in a positive manner.

