

The Strategic Planning Process continues!

As some of you may recall, last Spring we began the process of developing a new Strategic Plan for the school. The last 5-year Strategic Plan was done in 2010 ([Strategic Plan 2010](#)) and we have achieved, or made progress towards achieving, all of the goals laid out at that time. (See the [results](#) here.)

It is time to think again about the "strategic" goals for Hilltop Montessori School. We employed [Greg Hessel](#) (LE and MS parent) to help facilitate this process. Last Spring, we initiated the process with a public meeting and conducted surveys of current parents, parents who left, board members, staff, and community stakeholders. With this input, Greg will lead the board and staff through a process of analyzing the strengths and weaknesses/vulnerabilities of the school. We will then identify and prioritize some key issues around which to focus the strategic plan. Some initial topics and questions include: increasing diversity (economic and other), use of technology, addressing foreign language, development of a facilities master plan, considering program expansion, and pursuing Montessori accreditation.

The board and key staff members will be meeting all day this Saturday to discuss these topics further. We will then be holding a staff meeting on November 2nd In-Service Day (Reminder - no school on Monday-November 2nd!) to further explore the key considerations that emerge. Then all of this discussion and consideration will result in a document laying out the agreed upon Strategic Goals, timeline, milestones, and players responsible.

This is a rewarding time to be involved in this school. The obvious components of beautiful facilities, exemplary staff, and solid programs from Toddler through Middle School are in place. We now have choices to make about where we put our efforts! If you have any comments or questions about the past or present strategic planning process, please let me know - find me at pick-up/drop-off or [email me](#).

October 16, 2015