

Attendees:

Dr. Connie Hathorn, Youngstown City Schools Superintendent
Jim Tressel, YSU President
Judge Robert Douglas, Retired
Dr. Laura Meeks, Eastern Gateway Community College President
Tom Humphries, YW Regional Chamber President
Jan Strasfeld, Youngstown Foundation President
Nick Santucci, YW Regional Chamber
Buddy Harris, Department of Education Senior Policy Analyst
Jimmy Sheppard, Department of Education Chief of Staff
Sean O'Brien, Ohio House of Representatives State Representative
Mearl Madrid, Governor's Office, Director of Constituent Services
Pete LuPiba, Department of Education Public Affairs Officer
Kevin Duff, Department of Education Senior Policy Analyst
Dr. Richard Ross, Department of Education Superintendent

Items Discussed:

1. Mr. Humphries thanks everyone for adjusting their schedules to attend this afternoon's meeting.
 - a. Requests that everyone be introduced around the table.
2. Dr. Ross begins the conversation by reminding everyone that confidentiality amongst the cabinet is essential until the plan begins to take place.
 - a. Dr. Ross stresses the fact that another generation of failing students coming out of Youngstown is no longer acceptable.
3. Mr. Sheppard thanks everyone for attending on short notice, and explains that the reason for the urgency to meet was due to the movement in the Ohio legislature in crafting a bill and passing it.
4. Dr. Ross requests that Mr. Harris and Mr. Duff explain the plan in detail
5. Mr. Harris thanks everyone for their hard work and Mr. Duff begins describing the plan.
6. Dr. Hathorn asked for clarity regarding students' ability to be moved throughout the district and requests that the legislation be as clear and direct as possible in order to help protect the children.
 - a. Dr. Ross responded and felt that Dr. Hathorn's concern will be addressed within the writing of the new plan.
7. Bishop Murry raised a concern of communicating the plan to the public.
8. Discussion took place amongst the cabinet regarding how to move forward with addressing the potential concerns of the public.
 - a. Mr. Humphries states that there is a PR person set to work with the Cabinet in order to ensure that everyone's public message is consistent.
 - b. Mr. Humphries has compiled a list of community groups/individuals that should be contacted to easily identify who the Cabinet must contact to avoid bad PR.

9. Dr. Hathorn endorses the plan and excuses himself.
10. Judge Douglas expresses his appreciation of a well thought out plan and stated his overall support for something new.
11. Dr. Ross and Mr. Humphries conclude the meeting by reinstating the fact that the Cabinet must remain confidential.