

District Planning Team Agenda for January 20, 2026

DeRuyter Central School District Mission Statement

Empowering students to become engaged, compassionate, and productive members of the community through transformative educational experiences.

DPT Mission/Purpose

The District Planning Team is the organizational body that leads school improvement efforts. It is comprised of representatives from the school district and the community. The planning team's focus is to assess and improve school effectiveness and student achievement. It also sets improvement goals and designs instruction, support services, and professional development around those goals. The planning team's focus is instruction, curriculum, and support for student learning, rather than school operations. Typically, it focuses on the Strategic Plan and promotes teamwork and communication.

Date: January 20, 2026
Time: 1 PM - 3 PM
Location: Zach's Room

To prepare for this meeting:

- Review the PLP Draft

Agenda Topics:

1. Review Committee Commitments and Goals
2. Review PLP Draft (will try and get it to you soon!)
3. Update and Feedback on Strategic Plan Workgroups
4. SED Updates
5. Around the Room
6. Reflection

Team Members: Neal Capone (Facilitator), Melissa Wheatley (notetaker), Stephen Rafferty, Jenny Valente, Kathy Cook, Erin Brown, Sheri Smith, Jared Tiffin, Zach Miller, Amanda Ladd, Sam Filippi, Jess Zech, Betsy Pierce,

Guest:

Absent: Kathy Cook

Commitments

- ****Commitment to Professionalism and Respect:**** We want a professional environment where input is valued without criticism or judgment. We will ensure that all voices are heard and respected, fostering a culture of openness and collaboration.
- ****Focused and Manageable Agendas:**** We want focused meetings with specific agendas and goals. We will prioritize creating clear, targeted agendas to ensure that each meeting is productive and that we address issues thoroughly.
- ****Enhanced Communication and Transparency:**** Our feedback highlighted the importance of transparent communication and representation from all grade levels and departments. We will work on improving our communication channels and ensuring that all stakeholders are adequately represented.
- ****Consistent Meeting Schedules and Follow-Through:**** We have concerns about meeting frequency, consistency, and follow-through. We will establish regular meeting times and ensure that there is clear follow-up on action items to maintain momentum and accountability.
- ****Building Trust and Team Cohesion:**** We expressed the need for team building and trust within the DPT. We will focus on creating a supportive and collaborative environment where all members feel valued and motivated to contribute.
- ****Reflecting and Acting on Feedback:**** We understand the importance of reflecting on our work and seeing tangible results. We will implement mechanisms to regularly review our progress and make necessary adjustments to ensure that our efforts lead to positive outcomes for our school community.

Goals for the 2026 School Year: Strategic Planning, Curriculum Development, SED Initiatives

Time	Agenda Topic	Notes	To Do	Person(s) Responsible
N/A	Standing Tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Share committee-approved minutes with BOE ● Share approved minutes with staff ● Post minutes on the website ● Create an Agenda for the next meeting and update the shared drive ● Snacks for the meeting 		Neal

	Review Commitments and Goals			
1:10-1:37	Update and Feedback on Strategic Plan Workgroups	<p>Strategic Plan Workgroups (SWGs)</p> <p>Point Person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AGQ - Communication <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will meet on Jan 30th for 1st time ● JV - Culture of Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Will also meet on Jan 30th for 1st time ○ Solid representation, also has Amanda Ladd on it (parent and town library rep) ○ Will start with a SWAT analysis (What are we already doing well?) ● SR - Culture and Climate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meghan, Missy, Jen H, Brian, Rachel, Shannon, Angela ○ Will focus on students, staff, family ○ Currently, elementary teachers are knee-deep in implementing the new ELA curriculum materials, hard to get any elementary teachers for the committee ○ Students: bullying and emotional safety both scored low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Will high unfavorability score RE bullying improve now that there are no cell phones bell to bell? 	<p>Try for elementary rep on C&C in the fall</p> <p>TBD: how to get elementary student input on Culture and Climate</p> <p>Invite AGQ to next meeting to share update on Communication SWG</p>	<p>Steve</p> <p>Steve and C&C Committee</p> <p>Neal</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Time survey is administered could impact the way raters rate each item, was given April 23rd to MS/HS students ○ Tips on surveying elementary students: few core questions (5? No more than 10), with visuals, may need to be administered interview style with PK-1 ○ To get parent surveys completed... maybe provide computers on Open House Night, have names entered into reward raffle of some sorts, such as a Sal's gift card... maybe during Literacy Night for elementary families (March), drama production <p>Meeting Times: monthly</p> <p>DPT Involvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gather input as needed ● 		
1:37-1:43	Policy Updates	<p>Working with ERIE1 BOCES to update DCS policy book</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently: Policy Committee Review / Edits ○ Submit full edits to E1 BOCES Feb '26 ○ E1 BOCES reviews - returns for BOE review April '26 ○ DCS BOE Policy Book Adoption July '26 ● IE: dog policy update 	Provide copy of Updated DCS Policy Book (July?) to DFA and CSEA	Neal

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desha's Law student training was completed during PE (was due Jan 20th) 		
1:43-1:46	Construction Project	<p>Will begin Spring Break</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some people will have to move for the remainder of the year and have been notified of where they will move (Space Committee met to review) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science rooms Summer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foyer Band area 		
1:46-1:51	SED Updates	<p>Regionalization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> State-wide regionalization topics include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early childhood, UPK Mental health and SEL Specialized academic and elective program Personal Finance Education requirement (implemented next school year '26-'27 for MS/HS, '27-'28 for elementary) Climate Education ('27-'28 for MS/HS, '28-'29 for elementary) Assessment Implementations to Match New / Revised Standards 		

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This school year: Algebra II, Physics, ELA, Chemistry 		
1:51-2:55	Review PLP Draft	<p>CTLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Grade level meetings, faculty meetings, etc can count as long as it pertains to your area of certification and/or pedagogy 	<p>P3: delete Andrew Scherrer, add Jessica Zech, Meghan Morgan, and Sam Filippi</p> <p>Look into exemption of ELL CTLE requirements</p> <p>Eliminate bottom sentence on p5 "CTLE credit will only be given ..."</p> <p>PD offerings on campus, faculty meetings, etc, keep log of who was in attendance</p> <p>Provide some training on TEACH CTLE requirements</p>	<p>Neal / Juanita</p> <p>Neal</p> <p>Neal</p> <p>Admin</p> <p>Admin</p>

			Put Vendor List in ABC Order	Neal
	Around the Room			
- 3:00	Meeting Reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What worked for you? • What didn't work for you that we can do better? 		