



Process

In spring 2019, the Wildwood School Board of Trustees launched a multi-phase process to envision the school's future and its service to children, young adults, and their families. The years prior had included Board-sponsored task forces ranging from Compensation and Benefits to Diversity. To ensure their uniform understanding of Wildwood's progressive pedagogy, its commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging (DEIB) work, and the relevant financial landscape, trustees met in dedicated sessions throughout 2019-2020 before engaging other members of the community in an exploration of the Future of Education (FoE). The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the schedule and structure of the work but did not deter it.

Determined to help Wildwood emerge from the pandemic as a strong, ambitious, and future-focused institution, the Board hired a consultant to guide the future planning and called on members from across the entire community

to roll up their sleeves and dive into the question of what tomorrow's students will need for their futures. FoE leadership structured six Design Teams composed of dozens of faculty, staff, parents/guardians, students, alumni, and trustees. They were charged with exploring themes that arose from generative conversations at the Board's spring 2019 retreat and at the K-12 faculty and staff FoE session in fall 2020. Teams then worked throughout the spring to identify challenges, explore opportunities and potential solutions, and co-create ideas to pursue as we plan for the coming years.

At the May 2021 Board retreat, Design Team members presented and Board members processed, evaluated, and prioritized the findings. Ultimately building upon two-plus years of work and research, the Head's Leadership Team spent summer 2021 drafting a document that would consider Wildwood's values and goals in light of everything they had learned about the future of education.

Intentionally envisioned as a roadmap to follow – rather than goals to be met – this document is meant to guide the Board, school staff, and key volunteers in decision-making and goal-setting as Wildwood navigates the future. With gratitude for all involved in Task Forces and Design Teams, we are pleased to provide the following Framework for the Future of Wildwood.