

## TOPICS AND PRESENTERS

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## SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CITIES

### TED KOLDERIE, CO-FOUNDER AND SENIOR MEMBER, EDUCATION EVOLVING

#### **Public education today is challenged. How can cities and mayors help?**

- The essential approach has been to try and improve performance under the assumption that education could improve without the system being different. It's increasingly clear the problem is partly one of design – not of performance.
- More learning is happening outside of schools today than inside. Schools need to compete for students.
- The quality of schools impacts a city's ability to attract and hold residents.
- Mr. Kolderie suggested that the city manager system might also be applied to school districts. What if mayors had more direct involvement with overseeing schools in their cities?
- What could MN do to improve education? We need to think about what the state could do as the 'big school board' and expand the ways we educate to meet the needs of all students.

#### **Curt Johnson posed the following questions:**

*For mayors, what feedback do you hear from students and teachers? For superintendents, what innovations are under way in your respective districts? Do mayors and superintendents meet regularly?*

## SUPERINTENDENTS JOIN MAYORS TO DISCUSS EDUCATION

*Various mayors and superintendents highlighted how their districts have, in fact, been changing and how schools have been working to innovate and adapt, often with the support of mayors and others in the community.*

- Many districts are seeing dramatic demographic changes in their student bodies. How to ensure we are teaching kids, that they're graduating and getting good jobs?
- Some districts are beginning to focus more on preparing students for trades, the workforce, and to excel beyond traditional 'academics.' Brooklyn Center is working toward community schools and inviting services into schools. Shakopee will be opening the academies of Shakopee in their high schools, trying to make a mega-high school seem smaller and give students real experiences in interest areas. The city, county, and school district will be working together, for example by inviting speakers from the community and businesses. Elective classes could give certifications recognized in industry.
- Anytime you have more than just the school district involved, it's helpful. Two-way partnerships are important. What can the city give to school boards and vice versa? Example: providing mental health delivery to avoid student suicide, and to make sure students can perform well.

### *What are the mechanics of city-district partnerships? What will schools look like in 5 -10 years?*

- City-school partnerships are a practical imperative. We need a positive perception of both neighborhoods *and* schools if we are going to get people to move to a district. Mayors and superintendents should see their goals as the same.
- We need to work together to own the following problems: 1. The undereducation or miseducation of vulnerable populations (ELL and POC, who are overidentified for special-ed, kids living below the poverty line), and 2. Underpreparing our students for the trades, positions that continue to go unfilled.
- The US is unique regarding its division of responsibility that says schools are responsible for education of kids, rather than all of us. It's difficult to isolate the schools as the problem creating disparities. These partnerships used to happen more organically when communities were smaller and when teachers, police, and everyone ran into each other in church, in groceries, etc. Most of this collaboration doesn't happen outside the classroom anymore. It happens with long maternity leave, happens when kids have twice as much recess, happens to entire communal shared accountability that says we are all responsible for learning outcomes.
- We need strong partnerships with powerful, outside entities. Statewide we could be a promise state, all caring for our kids of color. If we limit our conversation to just the schools and superintendents' power, we are limiting the solution we can create.
- The goal in the St. Paul promise neighborhood and the [Northside Achievement Zone](#) is for everything to be a learning environment. Lots of learning should occur outside of the classroom, for example getting libraries and schools to tutor in the same methods, and the rec center programs to complement the curriculum.
- College saving accounts proposal: St. Paul is going to put some money in the bank for every child born in the city. Kids with savings, even less than \$500, put away for college are more likely to go and more likely to graduate. We also have teachers frustrated with not knowing kids existed in the city before they walk into kindergarten. Cities can let school districts know about kids being born so that families can get started even earlier and get connected to resources on the front end. St. Paul's plan is totally open-book and Mayor Carter is happy to share resources.

### *Do mayors see schools as part of their bundle of what to worry about? Or are concerns left to superintendents?*

- Ownership of the problem is part of the problem. There is no ownership required between a city and school district. School districts are important for making cities attractive, but there is no requirement that mayors get involved with schools. Should we force it structurally?
- It's convenient as a mayor to relegate school problems to school board. But the reality is, creating sustainable communities involves developing talent from within. We are finding the first step with conversation.
- The problem is not well defined. We need to find commonality around the problem. What does success look like? What will the metrics be? What do we want change to look like? As growth brings these problems to us we must sit at the table and decide how to collectively use our resources.
- In one city, mayors and superintendents are involved through realtors. They see schools as businesses and ask how the city can better serve them.
- More money is needed but it's not always just the solution. We have to be careful to get down to the 'why', and make sure things are working efficiently with the money we have.
- Two issues to be addressed collectively: 1. Public Safety: What role does SRO have? We need a better shared vision about what that person is supposed to be doing. 2. Race: We have to address issues of disparities, but also see how residents are fleeing and worried about schools teaching to the 'lowest common denominator' with minority populations rising. Public conversations about this are important. City council members should also be included here with mayors and superintendents.
- Take caution with generalizations. In many instances, the mayor has a good relationship with the superintendent, many are working together and planning regular meetings.

### *Next Steps?*

- More regular meetings like this one.

# REGIONAL THINKING, LOCAL ACTION: BEST PRACTICES ON HOUSING PRESERVATION

MAYOR MIKE MAGUIRE, CITY OF EAGAN

## [LINK](#)

- Mayor Maguire is currently serving on the governor's task force for housing, which is ending after about 6 meetings as a full task force, another 6-7 meetings in work groups, and a series of community outreach public forums around the state. There are 80 recommendations organized into 7 overarching frames. The real focus is on the lack of affordable housing and what can we do in the market to increase the supply to meet the high demand, with a secondary focus on preservation. A report will be finalized at the end of July.
- We (Minnesota and the MSP Metro) are better than other regions in affordable housing, giving us an economically competitive advantage that we don't want to lose.
- How do we keep properties up to date and of good quality while still maintaining affordability? It's important to ensure the user can either afford what they are in or have help to move.
- ULI worked with 18 cities over last 2 months to work on policies that can help communities afford affordable housing.

## **Local Best Practice Tools & Policies for Housing Preservation (more details included in document linked above)**

- Local 4D Tax Pilot Program – Minneapolis
- Tenant Protection Ordinance – St. Louis Park
- Small Unit Rental Rehab Loan Fund – Richfield, St. Paul
- Building Permit Fee Reduction tied to Affordability – Richfield
- Utilize HRA Levy Authority/Funds – Bloomington
- Housing Improvement Areas – Bloomington, Minnetonka

## **Opportunity for regional action to support state legislative reform.**

- What do we do with good local policies like this? Local units of government could adopt these. Is there a way of taking this and making it the model for a statewide law? This is more impactful than the piecemeal approach of certain cities adopting and certain cities not.
- Could we get behind any of the drafted policies and collectively try to get them implemented?

## **UPDATE FROM GREATER MSP**

PETER FROSCH, VP STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS, GREATER MSP

## [LINK](#)

- Upcoming Greater MSP Business Investment Summit to discuss bringing more jobs and capital investment to the cities: Thursday, August 2 from 9:30-3:00 at Mystic Lake Casino Hotel. Mayors, ED staff, and others will attend educational and inspirational presentations from nationally leading site selectors and thought leaders.
- Discussion of how to develop Economic Development Partnerships. This is important as we all want more jobs and capital investment here, so we should do more deals.
- MSP Regional Strategy: Improve the regional product, add businesses to the economy, help existing businesses grow, and strengthen MSP's brand and image.
- Outline of public and private 'deal-making' process, see attached presentation for more detail.

# ATTENDEES

## MAYORS

James Hovland	City of Edina (co-chair)
Molly Cummings	City of Hopkins (co-chair)
Doug Anderson	City of Lakeville
Kirt Briggs	City of Prior Lake
Melvin Carter	City of St. Paul
Bob Crawford	City of Elko New Market
Pat Elliott	City of Richfield
Jerry Faust	City of Saint Anthony
Mary Gaasch	City of Lauderdale
Mary Giuliani Stephens	City of Woodbury
Shep Harris	City of Golden Valley
Denny Laufenburger	City of Chanhassen
Chris Lund	City of Hamburg
Julie Maas-Kusske	City of Maple Plain
Mike Maguire	City of Eagan
Mary McComber	City of Oak Park Heights
Tim McNeil	City of Dayton
Nora Slawik	City of Maplewood
Ken Willcox	City of Wayzata
Janet Williams	City of Savage
Tim Willson	City of Brooklyn Center
Gene Winstead	City of Bloomington

## SUPERINTENDENTS

Denise Pontrelli	Stillwater Area
Kaohly Her	Mayor Carter's Director of Education
Rhoda Mhiripiri-Reed	Hopkins
Teri Staloch	Prior Lake-Savage
Gary Anger	Shakopee
Christine Osorio	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale
Michelle Yener	North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale
Dave Watkins	Burnsville-Eagan-Savage
Renee Corneille	St. Anthony-New Brighton
Karen Orcutt	Orono
Astein Osei	St. Louis Park
John Schultz	Edina

## GUESTS

Todd Otis, Think Small; Peter Frosch, Greater MSP; Tracey Hester, Target; Ellen Sahli, Family Housing Fund; John Adams, University of Minnesota; Sandra Kresbach, American Technical Education Association, Curt Johnson; Ted Kolderie; Jean Kane, Colliers International; John Breitingner, Cushman & Wakefield; Julie Urban, Richfield; John Stark, Richfield; Jamie Verbrugge; Bloomington; Bryan Hartman, Bloomington; Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County; Margo Geffen, Hennepin County; Burke Murphy, Red Wing/Humphrey School; Mark Casey, St. Anthony; Bob Engstrom, Robert Engstrom Co.; Nick Koch, HGA; Brad Larson, Savage; Bob Butterbrodt, Wells Fargo; Scott Neal, City of Edina; Casey Casella, City of Edina; Elizabeth Bueno, City of Edina; Angie Skildum, City of Minneapolis; Terri Smith, Metropolitan Council; Stephanie Brown, McKnight Foundation; Stephanie Hawkinson, City of Edina; Lael Robertson, Housing Justice Center; Libby Starling, Metropolitan Council; Cedric Baker, St. Paul Public Schools; Peter Ebnet, Minneapolis Mayor's Office

## ULI MINNESOTA

Aubrey Albrecht, Cathy Bennett, Caren Dewar, Rachel Lieberman

## NEXT MEETING

**There is no August meeting.**

Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Seattle Room at Dorsey & Whitney, 50 South 6th Street, Minneapolis, MN.