Focus Group: Harriton High School Staff
Date: 4/11/14

Key Questions
1. What should school look like ten years from now?

Group 1:
Tracking – get rid of leveling
Safe place-
   Emotionally and socially
   Every student with an advisor/mentor/adult to consult regularly
Flexible schedule
No achievement gap

Group 2:
Collaboration emphasized
Ownership of learning on student
More blended/online learning
Programming and code will be a focus

Group 3:
Acceptance/diversity – total inclusion of all students
Digital citizenship
Intrinsically motivated

Group 4:
Fluid
Interdisciplinary

Group 5:
Community important
Collaborative learning
Flexibility/adaptation with/to technology

Group 6:
Interdisciplinary
Flexibility in graduation requirements
Relevant/hands on

Group 7:
Multi-lingual
Multi-cultural
Safe
No high-stakes testing
Collaboration
Challenging instruction
2. What should a Lower Merion School District graduate look like? What are the skills, dispositions, and attitudes that we want for all students?

Group 1:
- Kind and responsible citizens
- Respectful
- Understand surroundings
- Empathy
- Excellent at problem solving
- Using creativity
- Resilient
- Resourceful
- Confident
- Service to school and community
- Enthusiasm for continued learning

Group 2:
- Able to write code/computer programming
- Confident
- Compassionate
- Ethical leaders

Group 3:
- Critical thinkers
- Resilient
- Compassionate

Group 4:
- Character
- Active community members

Group 5:
- Grit
- Global independence
- Ownership of learning
- Growth vs. fixed

Group 6:
- Leadership skills
- Open minded/creative
- Ethical work habits
- Global awareness

Group 7:
- Willingness to take academic risks
- Technologically literate
- Well-rounded
- Inspired to learn beyond the classroom
- Socially responsible/service
3. What do we value as a District? How do we hold onto our traditions while simultaneously embracing change?

Group 1:
Well-rounded students
Challenge traditions/evaluate and refine
Look honestly at traditions
Maintain/value arts and humanities
Value service

Group 2:
Collaboration of all
Diversity
High expectations
Academic rigor
Community involvement

Group 3:
College not the path for all
Diversity
Value education

Group 4:
High standards
Inclusiveness
Work ethic
Kindness/compassion
Cultural diversity
Global communication
Science Olympiad/Mr. Harriton/Day of Service

Group 5:
Not “Cookie-Cutter”
Room for creative autonomy
Great staff
Parental involvement
More reciprocal/partnership desired
Differences (learning and otherwise)

Group 6:
Giving Community for staff/students/LM community
Day of Service
Thanksgiving Food Drive
CAPE
Harriton Heart
IB Program alongside AP Program

Group 7:
Maximizing human potential
Co-curricular experiences beyond the regular curriculum
Excellence