

Meeting Summary

The primary objective of the forum is to give parents and community members an opportunity to express their viewpoints about the Hinsdale schools. Students should be encouraged to attend. The school board or designee will handle all publicity including a “mailer” to all households.

The school board does not plan to respond to questions raised as this is an information gathering event. Comments should be directed to the facilitator not board members.

The forum will take place in the High School library. Refreshments and childcare will be provided by the school board. At this time the plan is to have pizza for those attending.

The forum will begin with the facilitator welcoming everyone and framing the context for the evening. This means explaining the objectives and what the school board hopes to gain from the evening. School board members should then introduce themselves.

Facilitator will explain the format of the evening. There will be three 30 minutes sessions, each session having a different focusing question. The ground rules will be explained by the facilitator.

They are:

1. Be polite
2. No names or personally identifying information ie. The HS principal, the school counselor in the Elementary School,
3. Listen and respect other opinions
4. Do not monopolize conversation

Further explanation will be provided in way of examples as to how a person can be critical without mentioning names or position.

Focus Questions:

Session 1- When I think about the Hinsdale schools I am satisfied...

Session 2- When I think about the Hinsdale schools I am concerned that...

Session 3- As I think about the schools for our children, I wish the Hinsdale schools...

These questions that will be explained by the facilitator are to be guiding questions and need not be strictly adhered to. The important part is to get the information and have a dialogue,

Comments will be written down and posted for people to see. To help prioritize observations, participants will be given stickers (dots) to place on their top three priorities.

This information will all go to the school board for future planning.