

**February 5, 2010**

**Flossmoor School District 161 is conducting an online survey as part of a community-wide strategic planning process in the District that began earlier this month.**

**The survey will be posted on the District's website which is [www.sd161.org](http://www.sd161.org) between Friday, February 12 and Friday, February 19. The survey data as well as information received during a several focus groups will be used for the development of a strategic plan to guide the District's work over the next five years.**

**Respondents to the survey will be asked a series of questions in the areas of Communications, Financing/Facilities, School Structure/Organization, Student Learning/Achievement, and Human Capital Development.**

**The short survey should take between 10 and 15 minutes to complete.**

**Once all of the data from the survey and input from the focus groups has been collected, the District will conduct large group sessions with a cross-section of community and school representatives to identify themes and trends in the five main areas of concentration.**

**This work will be used to assist in the identification of strategic goals for District 161 for the next five years. The group will**

**be asked to deliver a draft plan to the Board of Education in May with a final strategic plan adopted later in the summer.**

**Strategic planning is a way to help a school district operate more effectively and efficiently by helping guide the allocation of resources in order to achieve District-wide goals. The goal is to develop a plan that reflects the beliefs, values, and wants/needs of the community.**