

2015-2016 PRIORITY INITIATIVES

STATUS REPORT: FEBRUARY 2016

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

-  Use feedback and research to transition the performance character pilot into a 21st-century performance skills assessment integrated into course assessments beginning in 2016-2017. [this assessment will more clearly measure skills students need for success]
-  Determine and secure various sources of support to sustain middle-school LEAP programming. [valuable extracurricular student programming will continue]
-  Expand middle-school behavior program by adding two new structured-behavior classrooms at Washington and Roosevelt Middle Schools. [students with behavior challenges will have increased support]
-  Add one therapeutic classroom at the elementary-school level. [students with therapeutic needs will have increased support]

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

-  Increase business community engagement through the Transition Alliance Program to create job placements for students eligible for vocational rehabilitation. [businesses will fill an employment need and give students (up to age 25) work support]
-  Review and recommend changes to the district's attendance policy in a way that fosters success for all students. [policies will support an environment conducive to academic success and will support the community-wide Campaign for Grade-Level Reading]
-  Collaborate with the local business community to redefine and revitalize school-business partnerships. [schools and businesses will better collaborate to benefit students]
-  Expand student mentoring in middle and high schools. [mentoring opportunities will be strengthened and expanded]

EFFECTIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

-  Focus facility planning efforts on a district pool solution. [planning will begin for a needed facility for district swimmers]
-  Take necessary, measured steps to meet district financial health targets in a time of state funding uncertainty. [careful, intentional planning will help ensure continued viability]
-  Ensure that each PreK-5 general classroom has an interactive whiteboard (by adding 135 interactive projectors) and each grade 2-5 general classroom (approximately 145) is outfitted with seven readily accessible laptops. [technology will be enhanced and consistent across elementary buildings]

-  Pilot a technology device check-out program at the secondary level and promote opportunities for families to get discounted internet access through the federal Connect2Compete program. [student access to devices and connectivity will be enhanced]

EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

-  Establish plans for expanding mental health awareness education and cultural competency training to all staff in the district. [staff will work more effectively with all students]
-  Provide professional learning to teacher leaders and administrators in the Professional Learning Standards. [teacher leaders and administrators will facilitate enhanced instruction for staff through use of the standards]
-  Provide professional learning to all content leaders on the district's learning management system. [selected teachers will be prepared to utilize the learning management system for instruction]
-  Launch a mentoring and induction program for new head coaches / program directors. [this new partnership will improve student programming, staff longevity and leadership skills]
-  Explore options for an employee wellness plan using district facilities and third-party wellness incentive programs. [employees will have additional wellness resources available to them]

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

-  Launch a new math curriculum for grades 6-12. [students will use a rigorous, standards-based math curriculum]
-  Implement a reading program to supplement the current K-5 language arts curriculum. [reading skills will be further supported with Lexia Core Reading 5]
-  Implement a district-wide strategy (Cognitively Guided Instruction) for teaching elementary students to think mathematically. [student learning will be enhanced through this program]
-  Align course content and enhance teacher collaboration for courses utilizing the learning management system. [collaboration and use of the learning management system will help ensure equitable content and shared instructional delivery strategies]
-  Create new rigorous and authentic problem-based instructional assessments that measure desired outcomes and incorporate 21st-century skills. [assessments will be more directly reflect intended course outcomes]