

2013-2014 PRIORITY INITIATIVES

A Year of Implementation

STATUS REPORT: FEBRUARY 2014

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

- ✓ Offer an activities bus that provides transportation for 6-12 students participating in extracurricular offerings [more students will have access to after-school activities]
- 📄 Launch a Challenging Behavior Team to support K-8 student success [additional intervention will be available sooner for students in need]
- 📄 Pilot the reporting of performance character to middle school parents [middle school report cards will include measurements of learning behaviors]

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- ✓ Offer college math courses at Senior and Hempstead [students will have access to on-site, advanced academic opportunities delivered through a partnership with Loras College]
- ✓ Provide planning, facilities and technology support for the inaugural Summer Reading Academy as part of the community-wide third-grade reading initiative [50 students will receive summer reading assistance not previously available]
- 📄 Engage parents and families in a district-wide effort to promote the importance of regular school attendance [parents will be educated on why attendance matters]
- 📄 Implement the state METS grant to better prepare special education students to be college and career ready [focus will be on decreasing drop outs and increasing employability of special education students]
- ✓ Partner with City of Dubuque and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque to utilize AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers to implement joint priorities [three VISTA staff members were funded to implement initiatives of the third-grade reading campaign]

EFFECTIVE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- 📄 Update 59 computer labs and add over 1,000 tablets, new lab furniture and enhanced wireless access across the district through the technology plan [students will use significantly more technology in classrooms that are designed to accommodate its use]
- 📄 Enhance facilities, with a priority on the Hempstead renovation, Kennedy renovation and others [new learning spaces will better meet facility needs for educating students]
- ✓ Launch the new finance system on July 1 [24/7 access to up-to-date information from anywhere with internet access]

EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

- ✓ Expand the 21st Century Learning Groups to 72 secondary teachers [more teachers will be trained on the best ways to use technology in the classroom]
- ✓ Begin implementation of Iowa's teacher quality initiatives based on state reform measures, including peer review and teacher leadership opportunities [teachers will collaborate to give feedback and foster better teaching]
- 📄 Train 6-12 staff in issues surrounding sexual violence through the STEP grant [staff will be better prepared to address areas of concern in today's society]

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

- ✓ Expand alternative education support with additional life coach, tech coach and counselor for the ALC/Connect and launch a new 10th grade at-risk program [students in the alternative setting will have more resources available to them to achieve success]
- ✓ Implement a new eighth-grade digital literacy curriculum [eighth graders will gain new collaboration, presentation and communication skills needed to prepare them for high school and beyond]
- 📄 Integrate the Common Core with Response to Intervention to identify and respond to learning and behavior challenges [staff will be able to better respond to the individual learning needs of students]

STATUS UPDATE KEY:



COMPLETED



SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS



STEADY PROGRESS



SOME PROGRESS