



Strategic Plan 2019-2024

Core Belief: All students will graduate college and/ or career-ready and prepared for their future.



GOAL STATEMENTS



1

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT & TECHNOLOGY

To ensure each student is instructionally challenged at their level of learning.

2

SCHOOL CLIMATE & CULTURE

To create a unified school district that embraces diversity, values achievement and encourages community pride.

3

FACILITIES & FINANCE

School facilities that support learning, belonging, and safety through keeping current with community needs.

COMMITMENTS, STRATEGIES, and KEY ACTION STEPS

1

COMMITMENT 1: ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE BY DELIVERING A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION TO EVERY STUDENT

STRATEGIES

1.1: Individualize teaching and learning with a high level of rigor and relevance

1.2: Provide students with a variety of learning opportunities that maximize their learning potential.

1.3: Provide support services for all students in the District.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.1

1.1.a. - Evaluate and create policies that articulate the district's theory of action for teaching and learning.

1.1.b. - Continue to ensure that the Somers Point Curriculum is aligned to the NJSLA and is supported by coherent and aligned assessment systems.

1.1.c. - Continue to ensure that the curriculum is aligned for the core courses, enrichment courses, and advanced courses.

1.1.d. - Include stakeholder voice through the curriculum design process.

1.1.e. - Develop a process for students to explore and student career/ trade opportunities.

1.1.f. - Provide a safe, caring, and positive learning culture that inspires innovation and excellence.

1.1.g. - Build partnerships with stakeholders that extend student learning to meet individual student needs.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.2

1.2.a. - Students will have multiple opportunities for a flexible and personalized learning environment.

1.2.b. - Provide an array of course offerings and programs to fit individual student interests.

1.2.c. - Create opportunities for students to participate in problem-based activities.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.3

1.3.a. - Each student will be actively engaged in learning and connected to the school and community.

1.3.b. - Each student will be academically challenged and prepared for success in high school to continue in future studies or the trades for employment and participation in a global environment.

1.3.c. - Each student will learn in a physically and emotionally safe environment.

1.3.d. - Each student will learn about and practice healthy lifestyles.

COMMITMENT 2: IMPLEMENT AN INNOVATIVE USE OF TECHNOLOGY

STRATEGIES

2.1: Integrate technology into daily instruction.

2.2: Provide flexible learning environments.

2.3: Promote use of technology throughout the District.

COMMITMENT 3: ENSURE ALL STUDENTS PERFORM AT OR ABOVE GRADE LEVEL IN ALL CORE CONTENT SUBJECTS

STRATEGIES

3.1: Improve growth and proficiency for all students in Reading and Writing.

3.2: Improve growth and proficiency for all students in Numerical Fluency and Problem Solving Skills

3.3: Support early childhood, Pre-K, and early grade levels to promote math and reading for all students

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 2.1

2.1.a. - Provide immersive, student-centered, inquiry and problem-based instruction to all Somers Point students.

2.1.b. - Align professional development and technology integration.

2.1.c. - Deploy new technology systems and processes for building capacity among all stakeholders (i.e. curriculum management, Student Information System, parent portal, etc.)

2.1.d. - Continue to create a robust technology model for teaching and learning.

2.1.e. - Create an opportunity for students and *Staffulty* to share their technology development with the Somers Point School community (i.e. Apps, websites, YouTube Videos, etc.)

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 2.2

2.2.a. - Optimize online learning and their environments.

2.2.b. - Update and enhance Somers Point Infrastructure.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 2.3

2.3.a. - Optimize district support for technology integration and implementation (i.e Teacher Websites, Parent Portal, Blackboard Connect Phone Calls/ Text, Website, etc.)

2.3.b. - Communicate through Social Media Platforms (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.)

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 3.1

3.1.a. - Refine the literacy plan that includes the science of reading instruction and includes practical applications of concepts.

3.1.b. - Provide school level support for implementation of balanced literacy model to support students at all ability levels.

3.1.c. - Provide ongoing, school-based professional development that supports core instruction, Response to Intervention (RTI), and curriculum implementation.

3.1.d. - Evaluate the ESL program to determine the impact on student achievement.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 3.2

3.2.a. - Implement a plan to increase the number of students performing numerical fluency and at or above grade level in math.

3.2.b. - Refine and expand the computational fluency model to increase student achievement in mathematics and provide targeted intervention.

3.2.c. - Support explicit, direct instruction that is systematic, sequential, and cumulative.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 3.3

3.3.a. - a. Provide varied and substantive support to enhance math and childhood, pre-K, and early reading skills in early childhood, pre-K, and early grade levels across schools.

3.3.b. - Expand early literacy, early childhood education, and pre-K programs.

COMMITMENT 4: PREPARE ALL STUDENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND THEIR TRANSITION TO ADULTHOOD

STRATEGIES

4.1: Provide high-quality interventions and resources to support all students.

COMMITMENT 5: DEVELOP CIVICALLY-ENGAGED STUDENTS

STRATEGIES

5.1: Provide opportunities for civic engagement for all students.

2

COMMITMENT 1: ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE BY DELIVERING A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION TO EVERY STUDENT

STRATEGIES

- 1.1:** Create a unified school district.
- 1.2:** Incorporate diversity among *Staffulty* members.
- 1.3:** Promote a positive image of the District.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 4.1

- 4.1.a.** - Improve supports to struggling learners by improving interventions, and training. Additionally, articulating these interventions in curriculum and instructional tools.
- 4.1.b.** - Ensure successful transitions between school levels (pre-K to elementary, elementary to middle school, middle school to high school).
- 4.1.c.** - Identify students with special needs and life circumstances and ensure that they receive consistent access to curriculum, appropriate services and supports.
- 4.1.d.** - Review and strengthen the middle school years RTI and Basic Skills Programs.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 5.1

- 5.1.a.** - increase civic engagement and service learning across all three schools.
- 5.1.b.** - Promote student participation in, and support teacher implementation of, community impact projects.
- 5.1.c.** - Engage students in authentic problem-solving experiences to address and improve issues relating to gang activity, drug awareness, bullying, and cultural proficiency and inclusion.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.1

- 1.1.a.** - Continue to refine the decisions directed by redistricting.
- 1.1.b.** - Sponsor public forums to review recommendations (i.e. Town Hall Meetings and/ or Parent Forum).
- 1.1.c.** - Implement additional phases of redistricting, based upon surveyed needs (One District Community).
- 1.1.d.** - Consider rebranding options for the District.
- 1.1.e.** - Continue to develop and add events like STEM/ Science Fair, Geography Bee, and Spelling Bee with inclusion of the unified Somers Point District PTO.
- 1.1.f.** - Develop a new mission and vision statement that represents the district currently and in the future.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.2

- 1.2.a.** - Continue to recruit minority candidates through partnerships with local colleges and universities.
- 1.2.b.** - Advertise open positions in a variety of media sources and social media, in order to entice minority candidates to apply.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.3

- 1.3.a.** - Utilize website, social media and robo call systems to promote school events.
- 1.3.b.** - Notify media outlets with press releases and invitations to all school events.
- 1.3.c.** - Create a process for public relations to coordinate efforts for community involvement.

COMMITMENT 2: CREATE A SCHOOL CLIMATE THAT PROMOTES SAFETY AND CELEBRATES DIVERSITY

STRATEGIES

2.1: Celebrate diversity among students and *Staffulty*.

2.2: Increase student perception of safety in grades Pre-K to Eighth.

2.3: Increase student and *Staffulty* perception of District schools providing a safe and caring environment.

COMMITMENT 3: CREATE A CLIMATE AND CULTURE WHERE SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING IS A FOCUS FOR EDUCATING THE WHOLE STUDENT

STRATEGIES

3.1: Focus of the Social and Emotional well-being of students and *Staffulty*

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 2.1

2.1.a. - Continue to have Cultural Awareness events in all schools.

2.1.b. - Enhance celebrations and curricular activities that focus on diversity.

2.1.c. - Create a district-wide thematic unit approach to diversity and its core values within our families in Somers Point.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 2.2

2.2.a. - Design and conduct annual School Climate Survey and use with all stakeholders to obtain pre- and post- school year data on school climate and culture (stakeholders = students in grades 3-8, *Staffulty* and parents/ guardians).

2.2.b. - Evaluate School Climate Survey Data and recommend changes to school practice and policy concerning school climate and culture.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 2.3

2.3.a. - Evaluate School Climate Survey Data and recommend changes to school practice and policy concerning school climate and culture.

2.3.b. - Provide assemblies, programs and implement life skills lessons for students that provide strategies on how they can enhance their school experience.

2.3.c. - Provide training to the *Staffulty* and students on how to report and respond to instances of unsafe and potential Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying situations.

2.3.d. - Provide training to students on how to cope with stress and difficult situations, teaching students how to stand up for themselves appropriately.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 3.1

3.1.a. - Provide teachers and counselors with appropriate resources and curriculum to help students develop coping skills.

3.1.b. - Provide training to students on how to cope with stress and difficult situations, teaching students how to stand up for themselves appropriately.

3.1.c. - Create a school climate and culture committee.

3.1.d. - Continue to develop the Social and Emotional Learning Committee and its mission to help students with understanding who they are as a whole person.

3.1.e. - Create celebrations and traditions, for students and *Staffulty*, that allow for the majority to be recognized for their academic progress along with overall improvement.

3

COMMITMENT 1: ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE BY DELIVERING A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION TO EVERY STUDENT

STRATEGIES

1.1: Upgrade facilities structurally and cosmetically.

1.2: Continue to restructure the District to maximize resources for student learning while being fiscally responsible.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.1

1.1.a. - Continue to develop policy that prioritizes and articulates necessary structural updates for all three schools.

1.1.b. - Develop an action plan that prioritizes and articulates necessary updates for all three schools (Facilities Department in conjunction with the Business Administrator).

1.1.c. - Ensure that all facilities projects are funded through the proper vendor bidding and abide by all city and state code guidelines (in conjunction with Architect of Record).

1.1.d. - Include stakeholder voice through Board of Education meeting discussions, as to planned physical upgrades/ improvements.

1.1.e. - Plan for development of a building environment that nourishes learning and safety, and is adaptable to change, as needed.

1.1.f. - Build partnerships with community stakeholders that extend opportunities for innovative ideas (i.e. outdoor classroom space, satellite learning environments, etc.)

1.1.g. - Develop and propose referendums, as needed, for facility updates/ upgrades.

1.1.h. - Propose security and cafeteria upgrades, as per the redistricting plan.

KEY ACTION STEPS - STRATEGY 1.1

1.1.a. - Plan for capitalizing on best practice through direct collaboration with all stakeholders.

1.1.b. - Support teacher to better focus on student needs.

1.1.c. - Continue to create opportunities for administration to become experts on grade level/ content areas.

1.1.d. - Continue to develop plans for greater consistency in programs and curriculum.

1.1.e. - Maximize resources and professional development so that they are better allocated throughout the district, while minimizing teachers absences from the classroom (i.e. half and full in-district Professional Development days)

1.1.f. - Continue to evaluate fiscal responsibility with district services (i.e. retrofitting classrooms, busing, etc.)

1.1.g. - Prioritize cost saving/ curriculum/ program enhancing steps.

1.1.h. - Create a food service program that offers variety and is desirable to students and Staffulty.