

Branchburg Township School District



2020 - 2021 School Goals

October 1, 2020

Proposed Strategic Plan Goals

2020-2025

1. Ensure that all students are provided opportunities to learn and achieve through educational programs and activities that result in sustained learning.
2. Support and nurture an inclusive culture that values positive relationships among our students, staff, and families.
3. Create a structure of resources and practices in support of collaborative partnerships between the District and the Community.
4. Maintain a safe and secure learning environment that supports efficient and sustainable use of District Facilities.

2020- 2021 Goals

**Whiton Elementary School
Stony Brook Elementary
Branchburg Central Middle School
Curriculum Department
Student Services Department**

Ensure that all students are provided opportunities to learn and achieve through educational programs and activities that result in sustained learning.

- o Ensure a curriculum that supports creativity, diversity, inclusion, innovation, and collaboration.
- o Respect and affirm student identity and background through diverse content and experiences.
- o Review the early childhood program (K/1/2) to support developmental appropriateness for academics and social-emotional learning.

Steps to Achieve Goal

- Media Centers will highlight books that focus on diverse characters by sharing websites, conducting book talks, creating storyboard displays, and collaborating with classroom teachers on ways to highlight diversity in the content areas.
- Art and music teachers will highlight the works of diverse artists and introduce students to the styles of art and music found in the diverse communities and cultures found among our student body.

Steps to Achieve Goal

- o Academic Coaches will work with classroom teachers to expand classroom libraries to include, identify, and recognize the works of more diverse authors, inventors, entrepreneurs, historical figures, and current trail blazers.
- o Guidance Counselors will work with all students to build a greater understanding of the value of diverse opinions in a Democratic society.

Steps to Achieve Goal

- o Look to assimilate information about best practices in Early Childhood Education and use this information to review and refine our current practices in each of these grades.

Support and nurture an inclusive culture that values positive relationships among our students, staff, and families.

- o Develop a clear understanding of the implications of bias and stereotype in student achievement.
- o Reinforce curriculum and practices that support and sustain a district culture that promotes and prioritizes a healthy school environment.

Steps to Achieve Goal

- o Explore topics of bias and stereotype and the impact on student achievement through articles and book studies among the staff.
- o Create a system of support for students and parents as students transition from one school to the next within the District and to Somerville High School.
- o Develop a more inclusive model for students in self-contained classrooms.

Steps to Achieve Goal

- o Insure dedicated time in each of the buildings for the development of social-emotional skills and competencies.
- o Guidance Counselors will look to expand the resources for students that address topics related to social emotional growth (managing stress and anxiety, developing healthy friendships, etc.)

Create a structure of resources and practices in support of collaborative partnerships between the District and the Community.

- o Establish systems that help demystify the school environment for parents.
- o Increase opportunities for teacher/parent communication on student progress (conferences).
- o Define standards for communication between teachers and parents.
- o Recruit, train, and support a diverse professional staff.

Steps to Achieve Goal

- o Virtual Town Hall Meetings to address topics of concern or provide information for parents in an interactive forum.
- o Workshop offerings for parents on topics of interest to the school community.
- o Expand the areas where job postings are located to attract a more diverse candidate pool.

Next Steps

- o Increase the amount of “in-school” time for cohorts.
- o Establish instructional groups at the K-5 level for targeted instruction.
- o Expand afternoon remote instruction primary grades.

Continuing Goals

- o Health and safety of the school community.
- o Balancing the curriculum to fill learning gaps and move students forward in their learning.
- o Assisting teachers as they look to balance the learning needs of their students.
- o Effectively addressing the social/emotional needs of students and staff.
- o Remaining “at the ready” in case of a school closure.
- o Clear and frequent communication.