



WOODBURY CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

A Leader in Personalizing Education

2015-2018 Strategic Plan: Targeting Excellence

Approved by the Woodbury City Board of Education on December 17, 2014

BELIEFS

We believe that . . .

- Each individual has inherent worth.
- Every individual desires to succeed.
- All people can learn.
- Individuals are responsible for the choices they make.
- Each person bears responsibility to work toward the common good of the community.
- The family is the primary influence in the development of the child.
- Shared moral values are essential for the well being of the individual and the community.
- The strength of the community is directly related to the strength of its schools.
- Diversity increases the opportunity for mutual respect and personal growth.
- High expectations and hard work drive individuals and organizations toward excellence.
- The education of the entire population is fundamental to the survival of democracy.
- Education is a responsibility shared by students, families, school, and community.
- Education expands opportunities throughout life.

PARAMETERS

- All decisions will be based strictly on what is best for students.
- We will always operate safe schools conducive to learning.
- We will not tolerate behavior that demeans the self-worth or dignity of any individual or group.
- All new programs or services will be consistent with the strategic plan, benefits will clearly exceed cost, and provisions will be made for staff development and program evaluation.
- All existing programs or services will be retained as long as they continue to have an optimum contribution towards the mission and the benefits continue to justify the cost.
- Site-based decisions will always be consistent with the strategic plan.
- We will continuously improve communication between our staff, families, and community.
- We will hire and retain the best individuals available for the Woodbury community.
- We will identify and appropriately respond to ineffective performance by administrators, teachers, support staff, and students.

MISSION

Building upon our history, diversity, and beliefs, the mission of the Woodbury City Public Schools,

a leader in personalizing education,

is to ensure each child becomes a responsible member of our society who excels in his or her endeavors and meets life's challenges with courage, confidence, and pride; this is accomplished by utilizing proven instructional strategies and innovative methods by highly skilled and dedicated individuals in partnership with families, our city, and the global community.

Theories of Action

Strand I:	Student Success
Strand II:	English as a Second Language & Community
Strand III:	Careers
Strand IV:	Technology
Strand V:	Public Relations & Finance

Strand I: Student Success

IF we provide early opportunities for Woodbury youth to be engaged in meaningful literacy activities, **THEN** student achievement in all academic areas will improve.

- We will continue to expand the preschool opportunities to Woodbury youth.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Additional three-year old classrooms
 - Outreach to families through churches, doctors' offices, library, etc.
 - Additional classrooms (need for more space?)
- We will fully implement the Reading and Writing Workshop programs in grades K-5.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Full implementation of Foundations® & Benchmark Education's *Word Study* 2014-15
 - Full implementation of Reading Workshop in 2015-16
 - Pilot Writing Workshop in 2015-16
 - Full implementation of Writing Workshop in 2016-17
 - Family Night awareness sessions
- We will foster ways to increase reading (eyes on text).
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Providing summer reading books to students
 - All students read silently each day
- We will cultivate ways to increase summer literacy opportunities
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Provide current K-2 students with Foundations®, guided and independent reading instruction every day during special July/August sessions
 - Consider other summer opportunities for grades 3-5, Junior-Senior High School

Strand II: English as a Second Language & Community

IF we build stronger relationships with our families and the local community, with a special focus on the growing Hispanic members of the school community, **THEN** we will enhance the success of all students.

- We will partner with community organizations.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Coordinate services with the Family Success Center sharing staff and facilities
 - Regularly communicate with community organizations such as the Kiwanis Club and the Rotary Club.
 - Provide stronger opportunities for our buildings to be used by community organizations
- We will create opportunities for community members to support “life-long-learning.”
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Survey the community for interests
 - Create a *Community of Learning* that includes educational and social activities involving all ages
 - Encourage students to lead activities
 - Partner with the city to coordinate community-wide programming
- We will increase opportunities for students and families to access and understand school communication and school programs.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Employment of a bilingual “family/community liaison”
 - Documents in native language
 - Program awareness activities

Strand III: Careers

IF we provide early knowledge of and exposure to the different types of career opportunities for Woodbury youth, **THEN** our students will be better able to choose their career paths and have an increased awareness of career opportunities.

- We will create a program that will allow local residents and alumni to spotlight their career choices in various student forums.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Identifying person(s) responsible for creating and overseeing program
 - Outreach to community to solicit potential speakers
 - Marketing the program to the students and the community
- We will provide early exposure to post-secondary plan development.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Use of Naviance software program with elementary students to develop educational and career plans that can be revised through the high school years
 - Family Night Awareness sessions on careers and the Naviance software program
 - Career Fair at the elementary schools
 - 5th Grade exit project: career focused

- We will expand Option II programs by working to develop stronger partnership with local businesses that will allow for career exploration activities.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Inventory of career sectors locally
 - Identify potential partners within each sector
 - Identify a person responsible to supervise students
- We will institute a hybrid of curricular based internships and business electives that will better prepare students for career choices.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Hire full time business teacher; increase business electives; develop curriculum
 - Select business software
 - Increase career-based technology learning
 - Consider renovation of the 4th Floor (TV Studio, Tech Labs, Option II Space, Career Academy)

Strand IV: Technology

IF we provide increased opportunities for Woodbury students to have more access to technology, **THEN** they will be better prepared to meet life’s challenges.

- We will add one-to-one technology access each year.
- We will establish on-going technology training for all teachers.
- We will ensure that all curricula incorporate available technology.
- We will explore technologically advanced instructional practices.
Example activities include but are not limited to:
 - Blended learning opportunities
 - Learner-Active, Technology-Infused Classroom™
 - Project-based learning
 - Use of technology to improve student problem solving skills
 - Use of technology to monitor student progress

Strand V: Public Relations & Finance

IF we can develop and improve the relationship between the district and the community, **THEN** we can increase opportunities for student involvement within the community.

- We will improve community access to Woodbury pride items.
- We will create and foster relationships with civic groups both within Woodbury and surrounding areas.
- We will continue to improve and expand Option II opportunities with local businesses and organizations.
- We will continue to improve and expand service learning opportunities with local businesses and organizations.
- We will explore ways with the city to improve and expand opportunities for Woodbury youth to have greater access to sporting venues.