DISTRICT VISION, MISSION, AND 21st CENTURY LEARNING GOALS

The Pulaski Community School District articulates the following District Vision, Mission and 21 Century Learning Goals to define the essence of who we are and what we do as a district. The Pulaski Community School District will seek the resources necessary to efficiently and effectively support our activities, to evaluate our results, to access our programs and personnel, and to continuously improve our practices.

VISION

The Pulaski Community School District will develop lifelong self-directed learners who will be contributing citizens, able to meet the challenges of a dynamic society.

MISSION

The Pulaski Community School District will:

- Use a child-centered approach
- Ensure the learning and growth of each child
- Provide a safe environment
- Create a partnership of learners, staff, families and community members
- Hire and develop a highly qualified staff
- Hold high expectations for all
- Deliver a quality curriculum

21st CENTURY LEARNING GOALS

The Pulaski Community School District, as reflected in our district mission and vision, is committed to our students’ present and future success. This commitment is supported by our educational philosophy with the goal of each student gaining the skills and knowledge to be successful in the 21st century. The Pulaski Community School District is committed to instilling in all our students the following 21st Century skills and knowledge as recommended by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI):

- Core subjects with interdisciplinary themes
- Learning and innovation skills
- Life and career skills
- Information, media and technology skills

Core Subjects with Interdisciplinary Themes

We are committed to student mastery of the following core subjects:

- Communication Arts (English, reading, and language arts)
- Science
- Mathematics
- Social Studies (including economics, geography, history, government and civics)
- World Language
- Arts
In addition, we believe our schools must move beyond a focus on basic competency in the core subjects and specific content areas. We must ensure our students have an understanding of academic content in the context of 21st century interdisciplinary themes. The 21st century interdisciplinary themes include:

- Health literacy
- Financial, economic, business and entrepreneurial literacy
- Civic literacy
- Global awareness

Additional content offered in the Pulaski District curriculum including agriculture, business, technology and engineering, family and consumer education will support the teaching of the core subjects and interdisciplinary themes in context, and serve as a means for students to apply their core knowledge and skills. In addition, these elective areas serve to support our students’ acquisition of learning and innovation skills, life and career skills, and information, media and technology skills.

**Learning and Innovation Skills**

Learning and innovation skills increasingly are being recognized as the skills that separate students who are prepared for increasingly complex life and work environments and those who are not. A focus on creativity and innovation, critical thinking and problem solving, and communication and collaboration is essential to prepare students for the future. The Pulaski School District is committed to each of our students understanding, learning and demonstrating the following learning and innovation skills:

1. Creativity and Innovation
   - Demonstrating originality and inventiveness in work
   - Developing, implementing and communicating new ideas to others
   - Being open and responsive to new and diverse perspectives

2. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
   - Exercising sound reasoning
   - Making complex choices and decisions
   - Identifying and asking significant questions that clarify various points of view and lead to better solutions
   - Framing, analyzing and synthesizing information in order to solve problems and answer questions

3. Communication and Collaboration
   - Articulating thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively through speaking and writing
   - Demonstrating ability to work effectively with diverse teams
   - Exercising flexibility and willingness to be helpful in making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal
   - Assuming shared responsibility for collaborative work

**Life and Career Skills**

Life and work environments require far more than thinking skills and content knowledge. The ability to navigate the complex life and work environments in the globally competitive information age requires students to develop proficient life and career skills. The following are five life and career skills the Pulaski Community School District is committed to each of students understanding, learning and demonstrating:

1. Flexibility and Adaptability
• Adapting to varied roles and responsibilities
• Working effectively in a climate of ambiguity and changing priorities

2. Initiative and Self-Direction
• Monitoring one’s own understanding and learning needs
• Defining, prioritizing, and completing tasks without direct oversight
• Utilizing time effectively and managing workload

3. Social & Cross-Culture Skills
• Working appropriately and productivity with others
• Leveraging the collective intelligence of groups when appropriate
• Bridging cultural differences and using differing perspectives to increase innovation and the quality of work.

4. Productivity & Accountability
• Setting and meeting high standards and goals for delivering quality work on time
• Demonstrating diligence and a positive work ethic (e.g., being punctual and reliable)

5. Leadership & Responsibility
• Using interpersonal and problem-solving skills to influence and guide others toward a goal
• Leveraging strengths of others to accomplish a common goal

**Information, Media, and Technology Skills**

People in the 21st century live in a technology and media-immersed environment with access to an abundance of information and technology tools. To be effective in the 21st century, citizens and workers must be able to exhibit a range of functional and critical thinking skills related to information, media and technology. The Pulaski Community School District in the learning experiences we provide is committed to having our students acquire and access following information, media and technology skills:

1. Information Literacy
• Accessing information efficiently and effectively, evaluating information critically and competently and using information accurately and creatively for the issue or problem at hand
• Processing a fundamental understanding of the ethical/legal issues surrounding the access and use of information

2. Media Literacy
• Understanding how media messages are constructed, for what purposes and using which tools, characteristics and conventions
• Examining how individuals interpret messages differently, how values and points of view are included or excluded and how media can influence beliefs and behaviors

3. Technology Literacy
• Using digital technology, communication tools and/or networks appropriately to access, manage, integrate, evaluate and create information
• Using technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate and communicate information
Policy References:

- AD Educational Philosophy
- BA Purpose and Role of the Board of Education
- CA District Administration Team Goals
- GCN Supervision and Evaluation of Professional Staff
- IFD Instructional and Curriculum Policy
- IKA Student Grading Systems
- IL District Assessment of Students
- JFJ Extracurricular Activities
- http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/
- http://www.dpi.wi.gov/

Policy Adopted: June 19, 1985
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Policy Revised: March 12, 2008