

Somerset Public Schools District Strategy 2015-2020

VISION

The Somerset Public Schools will ensure that students and teachers pursue excellence, achieve their full potential, and cherish learning as students prepare to be high school, college, career, and life ready.

CORE VALUES

Perseverance

- Our students will accept the challenge of a rigorous learning environment and work through those challenges until they experience success.

Respect and Responsibility

- We will create a safe and supportive environment for all students and adults in which everyone feels valued and respected.
- All students will respect themselves, others, and their surroundings.
- We will create an environment in which everyone takes responsibility for their individual and collective actions.

Innovation

- Students and adults will be innovative problem solvers and purposeful and responsible users of technology.
- Students and staff will be skilled at and value collaborative problem solving.

Dedication to the Community

- We will help our students build character and learn respect as they become positive and caring contributors to society.

Excellence

- We will set high expectations for all students and staff.
- Our students will become effective communicators and independent, creative, and critical thinkers.

THEORY OF ACTION

IF we maximize professional collaboration and learning opportunities for educators that focus on meeting the individual learning needs of students, and IF we enhance the curriculum and instruction to incorporate essential skills for the 21st century, and IF we organize the system infrastructure to support this work THEN we will provide a rich learning environment that prepares all students to be successful and achieve excellence.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Objective I	Objective II	Objective III	Objective IV
Create a unified learning organization in which educators consistently use and collaboratively analyze data on student learning	Ensure student academic growth and success through an instructional system of personalized supports and data-driven interventions	Prepare students for success in and beyond high school by promoting STEAM and 21st century skills	Build the information management systems and technological infrastructure required to support instructional excellence

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- A. Implement professional learning communities to provide collaboration among teachers and leaders focused on improving student learning.
- B. Develop teacher leadership opportunities
- C. Expand collaborative opportunities for all district administrators and leaders to ensure consistent expectations of all teachers
- D. Develop an effective system of peer observations and feedback to promote a growth mindset and high expectations for all students across the district
- E. Provide professional learning opportunities for teachers and administrators focused on collaboration and effective use of data

- A. Update and revise existing curriculum documents to incorporate universal design for learning (UDL) principles
- B. Create a balanced assessment system that provides educators with sufficient information on student learning and growth in order to identify needed interventions and supports
- C. Provide resources, staffing, and time to support individual learning plans

- A. Integrate technology standards throughout the existing curriculum and provide professional learning opportunities for teachers to improve technology integration
- B. Develop and implement a STEAM plan that addresses improvements in curriculum (including new science and engineering standards), piloting and adopting new instructional materials
- C. Develop collaborative partnerships with the business and higher education communities to provide learning experiences for students and teachers

- A. Upgrade schools' technology infrastructure to ensure Internet access in all classrooms to promote a blended learning environment
- B. Improve communication with students, families, and the community through technology
- C. Build a data warehouse in Aspen to store all necessary student information that can be used to support instructional improvements
- D. Establish human resources procedures to ensure support for staff and administration, to recruit and hire the highest quality teaching and administrative candidates available, and to provide clear district procedures and understandings of contractual expectations and job descriptions