

Community Consolidated School District 15

District Goals

GOALS APPROVED - BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, OCTOBER 14, 2009

PLAN FOR MEETING AYP AND GROWTH TARGETS (AS MEASURED BY MAP) RANKING 2.00

All sub-groups at all schools meet AYP.

Meet AYP all school and all groups.

Work to close the achievement gap between our top performers and those that struggle to meet or have not met AYP.

Be creative in the usage of available resources and personnel to ensure that all necessary help is given to our students in the various subgroups that are struggling to meet AYP standards.

Given the aggressive targets set for AYP and assuming at this point that the NCLB legislation does not change, develop a plan to: (a) Improve student achievement of all subgroups not making growth targets; (b) Promote parent AYP meeting at all D15 schools to educate parents on school-specific AYP results and overall NCLB/AYP program; (c) Proactively plan for realization that aggressive state AYP goals will put more schools in jeopardy and formulate plan to address possible ramifications.

Develop and implement a plan to improve achievement for students not making growth targets, as measured by MAP. Many of our students are "meets/exceeds" standards, as measured by ISAT, but are not meeting their growth targets, as measured by MAP. These students are meeting the minimum standards, but not continuing to learn. All students should increase their achievement every year.

Student academic growth (improvement)

Student achievement (performance)

DEVELOP A LONG-RANGE FACILITIES PLAN RANKING 3.14

Develop a long-range facilities plan, include identification of high priority life safety projects and the plan to fund them.

Develop and implement a five-year specific long range facilities plan that will both address the needs and implement repair plans that will address the needs of our aging facilities yet remain within long-term budgetary guidelines.

Prepare a long-range facilities plan. This work is unfinished from the previous year, and should continue, with a special focus on the condition of buildings and reconfiguration of buildings to suit the academic/technology and enrollment needs of the student population.

Safety

BUILD A STRONG ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM RANKING 3.71

Fill all administrative positions with full-time, fully committed, and highly competent professionals.

Develop a program for administrative mentoring for growth and retention and a similar program to identify potential administrators in the district.

Ensure that all D15 cabinet positions are filled, specifically Assistant Superintendent of Business.

UPDATE TECHNOLOGY RANKING 4.71

Update classroom technology to 21st century standards while working with staff to incorporate the best usage of technology so that ALL student can maximize their learning potential.

Prepare plan for upgrading classrooms to 21st century capabilities and for training staff to implement technological opportunities.

#8 - 1

Community Consolidated School District 15

District Goals

GOALS NOT APPROVED

STRENGTHEN FINANCIAL PLANNING RANKING 5.14

#2 - 1 Develop a budget that meets the needs of our academic programs and promotes financial stability for the District.

#5 - 3 Complete negotiations of Transportation drivers' contract.

#6 - 2 Follow professional Business standards to insure the community the best value for their investment.

#7 - 1 Financial Responsibility (Reduce to eliminate deficit spending in our budget. Operate within our budget.)

District must maximize the use of its assets to provide the greatest possible service to students, faculty, and the community.

STRENGTHEN THE CURRICULUM RANKING 5.14

#1 - 2 Make data driven decisions regarding increasing our educational opportunities and student achievement.

#4 - 1 **Develop and implement a plan to reduce the number of students that are required/eligible to take remedial courses when they enter the High School System.**
#7 - 2 District 211 is to be commended for implementing a "Freshman Summer Academy" that helps students that are falling behind to prepare for High School. Many of our students who are "meeting" standards, as measured by ISAT, are no longer meeting the minimum standards when they reach High School. District 15 is tasked with preparing all students for High School, and we should be striving to make the Freshman Summer Academy unnecessary.
#8 - 2

Develop a plan to increase rigor of math and science education. With only 20% of High School students graduating with the math and science skills necessary for 80% of today's jobs, our students are unprepared to compete in the global economy. As the world economy continues to shake out in the global economic crisis, the need for well educated students has never been greater. Solid math and science education at the elementary level plays a key role in preparing students for the future. We need to reevaluate the rigor of our math and science education, and encourage teachers to become advocates of math and science. **The Importance of Science--Strong K-8 science education is critical for three reasons:** (1) Science Builds Critical Thinking Skills--a strong science education teaches students to think – not just how a system works, but why. Critical thinking skills are an integral part of scientific learning, and these skills translate into every aspect of learning and every job. (2) Science Builds Appreciation--students that will never become scientists or engineers need to understand the increasingly complex, and science/technology based, world that we live in. (3) Science Builds Scientists--many students have an aptitude for science and engineering, but never consider pursuing it for a variety of reasons. Excitement built at the K-8 level pays dividends in students opting for the harder math and science classes needed for a rigorous science education. We need to support and encourage those with a natural love of science—they are the future architects of the solutions to the world's problems. **The Importance of Math--Strong K-8 science education is critical for three reasons:** (1) Math is the Language of Science--in order for students to understand physics, chemistry or biology, they must have a strong understanding of mathematics. (2) Math underpins the World--mathematics is increasingly integrated into the everyday world. Having a fundamental (K-8) understanding of mathematics is crucial to being able to understand everything from interest rates on home mortgages to Plan Do Study Act business models. (3) Math is Linear--or students with math and science aptitudes, it is critical that their early learning in math be rigorous. Math learning is very linear – each step building upon the previous step. Getting kids on the right track and challenging them early gives them the skills to tackle the more difficult mathematics of High School.

Increase the "connected learning" aspect of our teaching community. Technology should serve learning, not the other way around, but we will never find the ways that technology can serve learning until we explore it. There are many ways that we could be using the latest in social networking to improve instruction or implementing technology into the classroom (e.g. Smart Boards, but also many other possible technologies at lower cost). Students are technology natives and will naturally gravitate to it, but we need to make sure they know how to use technology to become "information literate", not just use the latest gadgets for fun.

Community Consolidated School District 15

District Goals

GOALS NOT APPROVED

FOSTER A POSITIVE, OPEN ENVIRONMENT THAT VALUES LEARNING RANKING 5.29

#2 - 1 Develop/promote an environment for 21st Century Learning in the District.

#4 - 1 Provide ethics, transparency, and honesty to our community.

#5 - 1 The District must be a compelling place to learn, teach, and support our connected learning community.

#6 - 3 The District must be a strong leader in the efforts of the schools. This includes a solid sense of Professionalism, Attention to Detail, Fiduciary Responsibility, Dynamic Leadership, and Urgency.

#8 - 1 The District must be responsive to the needs of the schools and the needs of the community.

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT A MERIT SALARY PLAN FOR ADMINISTRATORS RANKING 5.83

#7 - 3 Implement a merit salary plan for administrators, include update of salary ranges, development of an evaluation process, and rewards for high achievers.

#8 - 1 Develop and implement a merit pay plan for administrators that rewards innovation, creativity, and performance excellence, as well as having a well defined plan for administration remediation if needed.

N/A - Implement merit salary program as set forth in study completed two years ago and recently distributed (June 2009) to BOE members.

Improve the way that teachers and principals are evaluated. These are challenging goals, and we need the highest quality personnel to implement them.

Rigorously evaluating and giving constructive feedback to teachers is essential to have the best teachers serving our students. Principals are in key positions of leadership and need to be effective in collaboratively leading their teaching and parent communities. We need to reassess the way we evaluate principals and teachers to ensure that our methods are effective.

The District, from top to bottom, needs a clear sense of direction, with a specific understanding of how each persons role and function in the District is pushing in that direction.