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To the staff of Linden Public Schools for their continued professionalism and dedication to the students and community they serve.



Linden Public Schools Strategic Plan 2015-2020

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Bryan A. Russell (*President*)

Susan L. Hudak (*Vice President*)

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Executive Summary

A Message from the Superintendent, Danny A. Robertozzi, Ed.D.

The Linden Public School District stands at the threshold of an exciting point in time. We continue to see an increase in our college acceptance rate at incredibly prestigious schools and we also continue to prepare students for the careers that await them post high school. Linden Public Schools has much to be proud of in terms of athletic accomplishments, artistic achievement, and overall student recognition.

The world is changing, and the Linden Public School District is committed to promoting global citizenship by preparing our students with exemplary instruction and accessibility to cutting-edge technology. The purpose of our Five Year Strategic Plan is to provide a road map for the continued success of our district. I look forward to working with our community and stakeholders during these next five years.

We truly are a “District of Distinction.”



Vision and Mission

Vision:

The Linden Public School District is committed to developing respect for diversity, excellence in education, and a commitment to service, in order to promote global citizenship and ensure personal success for all students.

Mission:

The mission of the Linden Public School District is to promote distinction through the infinite resource that is Linden's diversity, combined with our profound commitment to instructional excellence, so that each and every student achieves their maximum potential in an engaging, inspiring, and challenging learning environment.



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Goals:

All students will have the educational opportunities and experiences needed to ensure overall academic achievement and personal growth. Additionally, all teachers will have the tools and support systems available to achieve instructional success.

Objectives:

- All students will have access to a rigorous curriculum across grade levels and disciplines.
- The district will continually foster the improvement of instruction.
- District factors, including disparities in academic achievement, will be examined and addressed.
- Teacher involvement will be sought in shaping school improvement.



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Strategies (Elementary Level):

Create a district-wide schedule for supervisor/teacher-led grade level or discipline meetings and cross grade level meetings to set a common standard.

Year 1:

- Analyze overall schedule and look for opportunities to collaborate
- Designate a point person and create initial schedule

Year 2:

- Begin implementation
- Solicit teacher input for number and frequency of meetings
- Review, adapt, and implement schedule for next academic year

Year 3:

- Continue with implementation
- Review, adapt, and implement schedule for next academic year

Year 4:

- Continue with implementation
- Review, adapt, and implement schedule for next academic year
- Evaluate overall process and determine successes and weaknesses

Year 5:

- Final evaluation to determine overall success of 5 year implementation
- Determine next steps



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Supervisors support ongoing professional development to enhance professional knowledge base and unify expectations. Opportunities will be provided for coaches and teachers to model lessons that support the curriculum.

Year 1:

- Assess needs of students and staff

Year 2:

- Designate point person and create initial schedule to merge with the needs assessment
- Review, adapt, and implement schedule for next academic year

Year 3:

- Continue with implementation
- Review, adapt, and implement schedule for next academic year
- Reassess teacher needs

Year 4:

- Continue with implementation
- Review, adapt, and implement schedule for next academic year
- Evaluate overall process and determine successes and weaknesses

Year 5:

- Final evaluation to determine overall success of 5 year implementation
- Determine next steps



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Create a teacher professional development academy to support ongoing professional development and provide teacher training in data review and analysis

Year 1:

- Conduct needs assessment
- Compile and analyze results for review

Year 2:

- Present findings to stakeholders
- Develop a plan to enhance professional development

Year 3:

- Implement plan

Year 4:

- Review, adapt, and implement plan for next academic year
- Evaluate overall process and determine success and weaknesses

Year 5:

- Final evaluation to determine overall success of 5 year implementation
- Determine next steps



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Provide opportunities for family involvement to support student academic achievement

Year 1:

- Assess family needs
- Create a plan based on needs

Year 2:

- Outline parent goals for involvement
- Create resources and references
- Promote and distribute

Year 3:

- Review parent participation
- Create additional resources
- Identify the most successful resources and programs

Year 4:

- Continue to promote parental involvement
- Survey parents and utilize feedback to continue planning

Year 5:

- Determine next steps to promote successful parental involvement



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Create a district team to oversee curriculum development

Year 1:

- Identify members for a curriculum development team
- Establish roles of team members

Year 2:

- Begin review of curriculum
- Promote curriculum expectations
- Set goals for curriculum team

Year 3:

- Implement plan

Year 4:

- Evaluate and adapt plan according to needs

Year 5:

- Continue to review and update curriculum



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Review time allotments for best implementation of technology goals at the elementary level, and incorporate additional technology opportunities for grades Pre-K-2

Year 1:

- Review time allotments for all subject areas
- Determine time allotment, resources, and focus necessary for technology growth

Year 2:

- Create a plan for implementation
- Secure resources and necessary approvals to carry out implementation

Year 3:

- Begin implementation of plan
- Continually monitor and assess plan for effectiveness

Year 4:

- Evaluate and adapt plan according to needs

Year 5:

- Continue to review, update, and implement plan



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Create a district-wide character education program

Year 1:

- Form a character education planning team
- Research successful options, plans, and programs to consider towards the development of a district-wide character education program

Year 2:

- Develop a cohesive character education program for district-wide implementation
- Provide staff training

Year 3:

- Secure resources for plan implementation
- Begin implementation of district-wide character education program

Year 4:

- Evaluate and adapt plan according to needs

Year 5:

- Continue to review, update, and implement plan



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Analyze assessment tools, measures, and criteria at the elementary level

Year 1:

- Form teams to evaluate assessments in each subject area
- Determine the instructional impact of assessments

Year 2:

- Create an assessment master schedule
- Provide teacher training in utilizing data to inform instructional decision-making

Year 3:

- Solicit feedback from teachers, administrators, parents, and students regarding appropriateness of assessments
- Continue teacher training in utilizing data to inform instructional decision-making

Year 4:

- Evaluate and adapt plan according to needs

Year 5:

- Determine next steps



Academic Achievement Curriculum and Instruction

Strategies (Secondary Level):

Review the process for curriculum writing. Revisions will be continuous and inclusive of all stakeholders

Year 1:

- Explore online curriculum builder programs
- Create district curriculum templates in accordance with QSAC requirements and student needs

Year 2:

- Begin the rewrite/revision process using curriculum builder template

Year 3:

- Form department curriculum teams to write/revise core curriculum
- Form a district curriculum evaluation team that reviews curriculum
- Adopt a curriculum evaluation rubric to assess newly developed curriculum

Year 4:

- Evaluate and adapt plan according to needs

Year 5:

- Determine next steps

