

CLIFTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



**STRATEGIC PLAN ACTIONS
2014-2019**

MISSION STATEMENT

**The mission of the Clifton School District,
in an open and reciprocal community
partnership, is to provide all students with a
quality education to develop the skills
necessary to become literate, life-long
learners who are responsible and productive
citizens contributing to a democratic society
in an ever-changing world.**

Strategic Plan Goal Areas



- **Student Achievement**
- **21st Century Readiness**
- **Communications, Community & Global Relationships**
- **Culture and Climate Connection**

Student Achievement



- **Objective 1: Bridge community and grade span gaps by exploring and implementing a socially responsible program and expanding education beyond the schools:**
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 - **Objective 2: Better identifies student levels and interests; explore programs to address students' varied instructional needs.**
 - **Objective 3: Explore and promote early education opportunities (Pre-K), alternative education opportunities (S.T.E.M., Vo Tech, academies) and global education opportunities (languages and communities)**

Student Achievement



- **Objective 2: Better identifies student levels and interests; explore programs to address students' varied instructional needs:**
 - Streamline the student intervention and support processes
 - Expand use of student data to better target instruction and address individual needs
 - Explore options to add targeted instruction personnel to expand general education support and interventions
 - Research options and funding sources for expanded day, week and year opportunities for student learning
 - Support 21st Century skills and technology options across curricular areas to improve student achievement
 - Create opportunities for all students in specified grade spans to have one to one access to instructional technology

Student Achievement



- **Objective 3: Explore and promote early education opportunities (Pre-K), alternative education opportunities (S.T.E.M., Vo Tech, academies) and global education opportunities (languages and communities):**
 - Collaborate with NJDOE to provide expanded preschool offerings
 - Research feasibility of universal preschool in a mixed service district / community service provider model
 - Fully integrate S.T.E.A.M offerings across curricular and co-curricular areas
 - Research feasibility of a S.T.E.A.M Academy
 - Identify potential enhanced vocational offerings and partnerships
 - Explore options to enhance second language learning

Goal 2 - 21st Century Readiness



- **In order to prepare Clifton students for 21st century readiness, the community and school district will partner to implement developmentally appropriate curriculum which supports college and career readiness in a student centered learning environment:**
 - **Objective 1: Empower teachers as facilitators and promote student ownership of learning.**
 - **Objective 2: Expand course offerings for individualized learning.**
 - **Objective 3: Develop facilities to enhance vocational and career readiness.**
 - **Objective 4: Increase and improve gender gap interactions including social skills, interaction skills, and exploratory skills that lead to greater communication and public speaking.**

21st Century Readiness



- **Objective 1: Empower teachers as facilitators and promote student ownership of learning:**
 - Review and revise teacher professional development programs to enhance quality instruction
 - Explore options to provide additional professional time for collaboration and data review to help teachers increase student achievement
 - Increase teacher opportunities to gain additional certificates and enhance professional knowledge
 - Review teacher mentorship and support programs
 - Explore teacher to student and peer mentorship programs to increase student engagement

21st Century Readiness



- **Objective 2: Expand course offerings for individualized learning:**
 - **Explore possibilities for smaller learning environments**
 - **Identify distance and technology based learning opportunities to enhance course offerings**
 - **Support online learning options for students**

21st Century Readiness



- **Objective 3: Develop facilities to enhance vocational and career readiness:**
 - **Convene committee to review facilities and make recommendations for increased space leading to potential building referendum**
 - **Develop pathways to ensure that every student graduates with purpose and direction and college and career ready**
 - **Research feasibility of specialized academy offerings**
 - **Develop enhanced vocational offerings through community and higher education partnerships**
 - **Increase student access to career information through online programs, partnerships and direct services**

21st Century Readiness



- **Objective 4: Increase and improve gender gap interactions including social skills, interaction skills, and exploratory skills that lead to greater communication and public speaking:**
 - **Review all curricular offerings to identify social skills development provided**
 - **Incorporate social interaction and communication skills development across curricular areas**
 - **Explore possibility of expanding social, emotional and health support options for families**

Goal 3 - Communications, Community & Global Relationships



- **Develop initiatives that build community, communication and foster global awareness/relations:**
 - **Objective 1: To improve public relations through the use of newsletters, website, Moodle, Internet, survey needs.**
 - **Objective 2: Identify key communicators among parents representing a diverse community within Clifton.**
 - **Objective 3: Utilize parent portal and other communication tools to increase parent education/training and involvement.**
 - **Objective 4: Empower students to create/explore solutions to global problems/concerns.**

Communications, Community & Global Relationships



- **Objective 1: To improve public relations through the use of newsletters, website, Moodle, Internet, survey needs:**
 - Evaluate current modes of parent communication across district.
 - Conduct survey of parent communication activities across district
 - Review parent communication survey results
 - Convene committee to develop recommendations to strengthen communication with parents and community
 - Develop protocols to ensure consistent district public relations outreach
 - Implement improved communication plan components

Communications, Community & Global Relationships



- **Objective 2: Identify key communicators among parents representing a diverse community within Clifton:**
 - **Work with each school to identify key communicators among parents representing the diverse community**
 - **Work with each school to identify parents in need of communication in a language other than English**
 - **Strengthen school based parent / teacher organizations**
 - **Investigate extended partnerships and activities through central parent advisory committee**

Communications, Community & Global Relationships



- **Objective 3: Utilize parent portal and other communication tools to increase parent education/training and involvement:**
 - Survey types of parent involvement activities across schools.
 - Develop protocols balancing standardized and individualized parent involvement offerings
 - Research innovative funding sources to increase parent education opportunities
 - Expand use of parent portal, website and other emerging modes of communication.

Communications, Community & Global Relationships



- **Objective 4: Empower students to create/explore solutions to global problems/concerns:**
 - Review multicultural and global outreach opportunities across curricular and programmatic areas
 - Expand opportunities to involve local community organizations in learning activities
 - Embed specific global outreach / communication component in identified curricular areas
 - Embed a project based learning component into identified curricular areas
 - Increase co-curricular offerings focusing on community and global awareness

Goal 4 - Culture and Climate Connection



Develop programs that foster and nurture a genuine sense of interconnectedness and community amongst all stakeholders

- **Objective 1: Cultural sensitivity training for staff to help them develop an open line of communication for the diverse backgrounds based on each school's needs**
- **Objective 2: Develop a sense of community by including the culturally diverse family units in beautifying the overall aesthetics of the aging buildings**
- **Objective 3: Form partnerships by establishing opportunities for current students to become involved in apprenticeships/internships with local businesses**

Culture and Climate Connection



- **Objective 1: Cultural sensitivity training for staff to help them develop an open line of communication for the diverse backgrounds based on each school's needs:**
 - **Roll-out multi year professional development strand to support faculty and staff outreach to Clifton's diverse population**
 - **Research feasibility of expanding opportunities for staff to attain additional teaching certificates in the areas of second language acquisition and special education to meet the needs of diverse learners**
 - **Research feasibility of adding coaches and counselors to meet diverse student and parent needs**

Culture and Climate Connection



- **Objective 2: Develop a sense of community by including the culturally diverse family units in beautifying the overall aesthetics of the aging buildings:**
 - Increase parent and community outreach
 - Identify possible parent and community collaborations and celebrations
 - Research possible grant funds to support whole school community and extended day week and year programs in schools
 - Research possible local sources of funding for parent / community / school based projects or activities.
 - Develop community support for possible referendum on increased space

Culture and Climate Connection



- **Objective 3: Form partnerships by establishing opportunities for current students to become involved in apprenticeships/internships with local businesses:**
 - Review current district mentoring and internship programs
 - Research model programs offered in other school districts
 - Identify needed staffing and resources for program implementation
 - Expand student opportunities based on recommendations.