

Wall Township Public Schools



Mission Statement

The mission of the Wall Township Public Schools is to empower all students to lead lives of fulfillment and purpose by providing a comprehensive and caring educational environment that will enable students to achieve their unique potential academically, socially, and emotionally. Our students will become confident, creative, and critical thinkers who communicate effectively and engage meaningfully as responsible members of a global society.

Strategic Goals

We will serve *all* of our students by focusing on the following goals within a comprehensive and coherent PK-12 framework:

- The District recognizes that the pandemic has impacted the WTPS community. As such, the District will **strengthen academic and social-emotional student supports**.
 - By May 2022, a systemic, district-wide process for Response to Intervention (RTI) will be strengthened to provide a multi-tiered support structure for student learning loss due largely in part to pandemic learning conditions.
 - By June 2022, professional development opportunities will be provided to faculty and staff to best prepare them for mental health concerns.
 - By June 2022, professional development opportunities will be provided to strengthen pedagogical strategies to meet individual student needs in order to overcome learning loss.

- The District will begin the facilitation of the **strategic planning process**, Spring of 2021.
 - By the end of Fall 2022, a strategic plan will be developed through collaboration between students, parents, faculty, staff, board of education members, and community stakeholders.

- The District will ensure preparation for a **referendum** vote in December 2022.
 - By June 2022, the planned scope of projects will be communicated to the WTPS regarding the December 2022 referendum.

- The District recognizes the need to enhance intra and inter-district **communication**.
 - By June 2022, the district will secure the services of a communications consulting firm.
 - By June 2022, a new district website will be launched.

**Wall Township Public Schools
DISTRICT GOALS 2021-2022**

GOAL #1

The district recognizes that the pandemic has impacted the WTPS community. As such, the district will strengthen academic and social-emotional student supports.

- *By May 2022, a systemic, district-wide process for Response to Intervention (RTI) will be strengthened to provide a multi-tiered support structure for student learning loss due largely in part to pandemic learning conditions.*
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STRATEGIES

The District will:

- Evaluate the current system for monitoring students in the I&RS process.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *RTI Direct*, first introduced to the district in Summer 2020, provides a K-12 online account of the tiered student support systems for students needing additional support. Training conducted during 2020-2021, including the transition of student data from Genesis, allows for school based-I&RS teams and data team coordinators to determine best practices for student interventions and monitor student progress accordingly. In 2021-2022, *RTI Direct* showed an increased use of this tool. Moving forward, there is a need to review and refine this process to address consistencies and discrepancies in monitoring and addressing student needs.

- Implement an assessment tool for students in grades K-8 that provides administrators and teachers with real-time data and intervention strategies to address each students' academic needs in ELA and Math.
- Develop and implement additional academic support programs for identified students with the use of grant funds.
- Assess the need for additional support staff to ensure all students are provided with the appropriate academic and social emotional support.
- Partner with outside agencies to provide our faculty and staff with the necessary tools to address mental health within the schools.

- The implementation of *iReady*, a diagnostic and instructional learning tool in reading and math, K-8, in September 2021, provides scaffolding academic support, personalized instruction, and immediate assessment data to engage, monitor, and address student mastery of the learning standards. This information allows teachers to implement targeted intervention strategies for individual students.
- On September 28, 2021, all administrators participated in a three-hour training on *iReady Data training for Administrators* with regard to analyzing student data and monitoring student progress.
- In Summer 2021, with the use of ESSER Funds, Title I, and Title III funds, *Summer Knight Academy*, *Summer FOCUS*, *Summer Explorers*, *Knights in Training*, and *Credit Recovery*, provided learning loss programs for student K-12, at no cost to the district and is available to Wall Township Public School students in Summer 2022.
- 2021-2022, with the use of ESSER Funds, Title I, and Title III funds, extended day programs, Level-Up, FOCUS LIVE, and Knights for Success, addressed learning loss after/before school by providing additional academic support to students, K-12.
- On March 22, 2022, the job description for *Director of Intervention Services & Student Wellness* was approved and effective July 2022, the new director will begin. Learning loss and social emotional support are major responsibilities of this new position.
- During the summer 2021 administrative retreat, district administrators participated in *Mental Health First Aid*. A day-long workshop designed to help administrators identify, understand, and respond to the signs of mental illness and substance abuse.
- In the Fall 2021, the district partnered with *Mental Health Association* and *MHA of Monmouth County* for the purpose of crisis stabilization by identifying members of the school district who required support, facilitating communication within the school district and between the district and larger impacted community, and providing immediate support for impacted school district members. This includes in-school counseling to staff, monthly faculty meetings on classroom management, community stakeholder gathering, and parent meetings on communicating with their children. Crisis intervention training with school and district teams, to include administrators, nurses, guidance counselors, CST members, and health/physical education staff, will continue through this year, focusing on prevention, intervention, and postvention along with the *Lifelines* implementation. Dates include five-hour training on February 8, April 11, April 26, and May 26, 2022. Moving forward the *Behavioral Guidance Tool Kit*, developed by the *Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide*, will be made available to parents.
- The district researched and identified curriculum resources, focusing on best practices in addressing mental health strategies, which include Hazelden On Demand *LifeLines* in the grade bands 5-12, *Lead U*

➤ Create a professional development plan that addresses all areas of need with specific workshops led by outside consultants and our staff.

- grades 6-8, and The Affirmative Classroom, grades K-5. Each provides staff with exemplary instructional tools to support student wellness.
- Mindfulness training to staff continues throughout the school year, K-5, during four monthly faculty meetings, and presented to staff, 6-8 on November 2, 2021. *Mindful Mornings* continues for students in grades 6-8. Other teachers participated in a variety of professional development activities throughout the school year to include Mindfulness, High Risk Umbrella Suicide Prevention, Mindful Strategies to Improve Self-Regulation, Keys for Navigating Difficult Times, Resilience and Self-Care, Motivating Disaffected Disinterested and Depressed Students, Managing Anxiety in our Schools and Classrooms, Brain-Based Strategies to Help Children Overcome Anxiety and Promote Resilience, and Zones of Regulation.
 - On August 16-20, 2021, teachers, K-8, participated in a week of training on *Orton Gillingham Multisensory Approach*, and will continue in Summer 2022.
 - On September 17, 21, 22, 2021, teachers in grades 3-5, participated in *Reader's Workshop Training*, with coaching scheduled on April 7 and 13, 2022.
 - The New Teacher Induction Program was two-fold this year. In August 23-25, 2022, all new certificated staff participated in a three-day professional development program to include District Goals and Initiatives, Learning Standards, Danielson Teacher Evaluation Model, Student Growth Objectives, Special education Modifications and Accommodations, ALICE training, Professionalism Communication and Technology Etiquette, OnCourse Lesson Planning and Curriculum access. In September 2022 the district initiated continual professional development support to new staff by conducting monthly training sessions for all new certificated staff to include Communication, Special Education Co-teaching Model, Tracking Student Progress/Assessment, Response to Intervention Student Growth Objectives, Questioning Techniques to Enhance Higher Order Thinking Skills, Differentiated Instruction/Strategy/Groups/Conferencing, District Technology Resources, and Reflection of the Year/Survey. Staff met in both small groups and large group venues, providing opportunities for vertical articulation and feedback on training sessions.
 - On August 4, 16, 17, 2021, all district administrators participated in an Administrators Retreat to include District Goals and Initiatives, Introduction to New Administrators Roles and Responsibilities, Mental Health First Aid, and HIB, Search and Seizure.
 - On September 20-21, 2021, newly hired certificated administrators participated in two sessions on the *Danielson Framework Model*, in preparation for utilizing the district model for the observation/evaluation process. On October 27-28, 2021, and November 8-9, 2021, all district administrators participated in *Danielson Framework Observation Calibration*

- On August 17 and 19, 2021, January 5, February 1, 2022, *Safe School Return Plan Committee* met to review and make recommendations to the district plan.
- Throughout the school year, Dr. Paul Riccomini provided training and coaching on the implementation of math RTI strategies, K-12. Scheduled for K-5: January 27, 31, February 3-4, March 21-24, May 24-25, 2022. Scheduled for 6-8: February 1, 2022, April 4 and 6, 2022. Scheduled for 9-12: February 2, April 5-6, 2022.
- Other teachers participated in a variety of professional development activities throughout the school year to include Strengthening Essay Writing of Students who Experience Difficulty with the Writing Process, Co-Teaching Strategies for Success, Smart But Scattered - Improving Executive Skills to Promote School Success.
- On October 11, 2021, the district-wide Professional Development Day focused on strategies to address learning loss in RTI, mental health, and pedagogy to include:
 - ★ **Dr. Paul Riccomini RTI:** Reinforcement and implementation of the strategies Practice Test Retrieval (PTR), Space Learning Over Time (SLOT), Interleaved Practice Format (IPF), and Work Solution Strategy (WSS), K-12.
 - ★ **iReady:** Using data to inform instruction helps all students reach high expectations and increases student achievement. Throughout the year, teachers use data regularly to recognize class and individual student growth, progress toward goals and identify areas for improvement, K-8.
 - ★ **Read 180:** Instructional model and technology tools utilized to assist teachers reading support, 6-8.
 - ★ **Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum:** Supporting social studies and science teachers in reading and writing strategies, 6-12
 - ★ **Skills Progression:** Understanding skill progressions as a vehicle to differentiate reading instruction, ELA 6-12.
 - ★ **Mental Health First Aid:** Identify, understand, and respond to the signs of mental illness and substance abuse disorders, Health/PE and classroom teachers, 9-12.
 - ★ **Programming for Students with Autism or Other Developmental Delays:** Components of Assessment Functional/Basic Living Skills, Special Education teachers, K-12.
 - ★ **Visual and Performing Arts:** NJSLA and alignment to district curriculum and vertical articulation, K-12.
 - ★ **Computational Thinking and Creative Communicating:** With a focus on the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards of Computational Thinker and Creative Communicator, this hands-on workshop focuses on ways teachers can integrate coding in the classroom to allow students to demonstrate knowledge of content in all curricular areas, K-12.

- ★ **Conferring in Reading:** Incorporates a resource called the Learning Progressions into the curriculum that are pathways to learning and map out the developmental steps for each reading standard/skill, 3-5.
- ★ **Gifted and Talented Resources to Use in the General Education Classroom for Higher Ability Learners:** Understand the traits of giftedness, the identification process and specific techniques used with groups of students. Resources included and Project Based Learning activities to offer extra differentiation, K-5.
- ★ **Screencastify:** Hands-on learning experience to create individualized content specific to professional needs. Learn new features, which include the ability to embed interactive questions and view video analytics to assess student engagement and understanding. K-12.
- ★ **Sheltered English Instruction (SEI):** Focus on making content comprehensible to English Learners (ELs) through research-based strategies. The model is entitled FABRIC (Foundational Skills, Academic Discussions, Background Knowledge, Resources, Individualized Assessment, and Culture) and was developed by the NJ DOE as a means for districts to employ Sheltered English Instruction (SEI), K-12.
- ★ **Sight Word Retention Strategies:** Participants utilize research-based strategies to help students to promote mastery and immediately apply one or all of these strategies into daily *Foundations* instruction, K-2.
- ★ **Technology Tools for Interactive Learning:** Create interactive classroom extension activities utilizing online tools including Google Jamboard, Google Forms, Padlet and Edpuzzle to enhance classroom instruction through fun, engaging, interactive experiences, and the development of formative and summative assessments, K-12.
- ★ **Ten Things to Love About Seesaw:** Beginners and intermediate users join a Seesaw Certified Educator to learn 10 super Seesaw features, and research the Seesaw library to design a new lesson that can be readily implemented into the classroom, K-2.
- ★ **Crisis Prevention Institution (CPI), Nonviolent Crisis Intervention:** The web-based instruction contains a variety of interactive presentations, scenarios, videos, and learning assessments that relate to each unit of the Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training program. The classroom instruction provides discussion, activities, and participant best practices utilized to reinforce concepts with a focus on the school-based application, K-12.
- ★ **Mindfulness:** Focusing on emotional wellness to slow down, reconnect with a purpose, and take time to reflect on what is truly important. Discuss ways to incorporate feelings and intentions into our professional career, as well as our lives, K-8.
- ★ **Teacher of Visually Impaired (TVI) Presentation:** Applying specific recommendations for the educational team working with a student with visual impairments, K-5 team.

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">★ PE2theMAX: Addressing physical, SEL and life skills in the physical education classroom. Activities are designed for students of all athletic abilities the opportunity to have fun, be active, and acquire movement, and sport skills, with social and emotional support, K-8.★ Visual and Performing Arts: Instructional Alignment, Enhancement, and Enrichment through the Lens of the 2020 NJSL. NJ Arts in Education presented strategies to support the NJSL, K-12. |
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**Wall Township Public Schools
DISTRICT GOALS 2021-2022**

GOAL #2

- *The District will begin the facilitation of the strategic planning process, Spring of 2021.*
 - *By the end of Fall 2022, a strategic plan will be developed through collaboration between students, parents, faculty, staff, board of education members, and community stakeholders.*

STRATEGIES	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
<p>The District will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Identify an outside agency to facilitate the Strategic Plan process. ➤ Engage ALL stakeholders in the process. ➤ Work with the consulting firm to review the results and create the plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Purnell Group LLC</i> ➤ April 2022 WTPS Steering Committee was formed ➤ May 2, 2022, the district held a Strategic Planning Committee meeting ➤ June 19,2022, the District launched its Strategic Planning Campaign by posting the <i>Vision 2025 Strategic Planning Survey</i> for all community members, staff, faculty and students to complete on the District website ➤ Elicit members of each stakeholder group to participate on the committee ➤ On August 8, 2022, members of the Strategic Planning committee will meet with the consulting firm to review the data and review suggestions for next steps.

**Wall Township Public Schools
DISTRICT GOALS 2021-2022**

GOAL #3

- *The District will ensure preparation for a referendum vote in December 2022.*
 - *By June 2022, the planned scope of projects will be communicated to the WTPS regarding the December 2022 referendum.*

STRATEGIES	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
<p>The District will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Conduct a facilities walkthrough of the district to determine the needs. ➤ Preparation for identifying and submitting projects to the NJ Department of Education ➤ Launch the Referendum Campaign 	<p>The Finance & Facilities Committee conducted walkthroughs of each of the District's facilities to see the needs of the district first hand.</p> <p>The Finance & Facilities Committee reviewed the prioritized projects included in the District Facilities Conditions Assessment Report prepared by the district's architect of record, Spiezle Architectural Group.</p> <p>Projects included in the assessment were prioritized by the Finance & Facilities Committee in January 2021 for preparation and submission to the NJDOE by the architect for preliminary approval and to determine available state aid.</p> <p>June 14, 2022, Board of Education Vice President, Adam Nasar presented the 2022 Wall Township Public Schools Referendum Update to the community and provided a broad overview of why the district is pursuing a referendum in 2022.</p>

**Wall Township Public Schools
DISTRICT GOALS 2021-2022**

GOAL #4

The District recognizes the need to enhance intra and inter-district communication.

- *By June 2022, the district will secure the services of a communications consulting firm.*
- *By June 2022, a new district website will be launched.*

STRATEGIES	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
<p>The District will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Research communications firms that are aligned to the needs of the WTPS. ➤ Establish a timeline for research, review, training, and launch of new website. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Secured the services of Laura Bishop Communications. Three firms were interviewed. ➤ September 2021 - Website hosts vetted for key elements identified by the 2020/2021 Districtwide Website Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ SchoolMessenger and Blackboard identified as final viable solutions. ➤ Fall 2021: C&I Committee Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ October 7, 2021: H.Daniel discussed the importance of positive website messaging to promote home and community connections and the importance of the integration of multiple media into the new website. ★ December 1, 2021: H. Daniel shared an update on her review of the current web site and facilitated feedback regarding aesthetic and functional changes. Metrics of current social media and web site monitoring were discussed.

- December 2021: H. Daniel joined the New Jersey School Public Relations Association to network with member districts regarding branding, website, and communications solutions.
- January 2022: H. Daniel attended Techspo's communications workshops and networked with other district's PR personnel to discuss experiences with both Blackboard and SchoolMessenger. H. Daniel learns that Blackboard exceeds SchoolMessenger in manageability through the ability to "push-out" to individual building web sites with "fewer clicks." Additionally, templates include video streaming (SchoolMessenger's templates do not). Speaks to presenters about their choice of hosts - Blackboard.
- February 2022: H. Daniel and J. Higham meet with Blackboard to discuss the upgrade of our current communications platform (for which they are already our vendor) and the benefits of integrating their web site design and hosting service.
- February 2022: H. Daniel meets with Blackboard representative Kaitlin Ford to discuss MyWay Ultra Template Features that align to the core components identified by stakeholders.
 - ★ ADA Compliance
 - ★ Responsive Displays
 - ★ Streaming Videos
 - ★ Automatic Maintenance
 - ★ Featured Content Cycles
 - ★ Google Branded Translator
 - ★ Multimedia Gallery
 - ★ Color Configurability
 - ★ High Contrast Toggle
 - ★ Social Media Integration
 - ★ Global Icons
 - ★ Configurable Footer Links
- March 2022
 - ★ Contract routed to Mr. Smyth for review and approval.
 - ★ Design kick-off begins upon approval.
- April - June 2022
 - ★ Met with Blackboard consulting team to plan and implement redesign
 - ★ Data analysis and stakeholder review and feedback
 - ★ Identified building-based webmaster teams

- ★ Ongoing rebuilding process: each site from blank template
- ★ Soft launch on June 30, 2022
- ★ Hard launch and summer content building planned for August and Back to School
- ★ Dynamic multimedia components developed
- ★ District-wide design standards developed
- ★ Intranet developed for employee resources
- ★ Streamlined content creation and sharing between departments and buildings
- ★ Integrated Ally Tool for ADA Compliance
- ★ Strategized App development for *Google Play* and *App Store* for increased seamless communications.
- ★ Blackboard Mass Communications upgrade
 - Social Media Integrations
 - Streamlined System that “pushes” directly to new websites
- ★ SMORE newsletter adoption
 - Consistent and streamlined school/parent/community school communications tool
 - Integrates with Blackboard Mass Communications System
- ★ Scheduled on-site Blackboard training for Administrative Support Staff: July 27, 2022
 - Website content creation and editing
 - Ally for ADA Compliance
- ★ Scheduled on-site Blackboard training for School Administrator Retreat: July 28, 2022
 - Blackboard Mass Communications Upgrade
 - Ally for ADA Compliance
 - Website content creation and editing
- ★ Collaboration with NJ School Public Relations Association and Laura Bishop Communications regarding social media launch
- ★ Planned Integration of Social Media @WallTwpSchools
 - New District Facebook Page - Goes live 1st day of school for students
 - New District Instagram Account - Goes live 1st day of school for students
 - Continue District Twitter
- ★ District brand refresh process initiated