

## 2011 – 2012 District SMART Goals

### Student Achievement

- By June 2012, the Primary School (Total Population of students) will evidence continuous improvement in Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics as will be demonstrated by achieving a five percent (5%) aggregate overall improvement in scores less than eighty five percent (85%) as compared to previous year’s results on the New Jersey Proficiency Assessments of State Standards (NJPASS).
- By June 2012, the Elementary, Middle and High Schools (Total Population of students) will evidence continuous improvement in Language Arts Literacy and Mathematics as will be demonstrated by achieving 40 out of 40 participation/performance benchmark indicators thus realizing Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP).

Content Area	Grades	2011-2012
Language Arts Literacy	3, 4 & 5	79%
	6, 7 & 8	86%
	11	92%
Mathematics	3, 4 & 5	83%
	6, 7 & 8	80%
	11	86%

(Specific attention will continue to be focused on the following initiatives: Response to Intervention (RtI), Differentiated Instruction and Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).)

- By June 2012, students will increase active participation in their own learning through self-reflection and self-improvement. Students will become increasingly aware of their unique needs, talents, and abilities so that appropriate post secondary educational and career choices can be made.
- By June 2012, the placements and educational programs of all special education students will be reviewed to ensure the provision of Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment, with appropriate educational interventions and materials, as evidenced by continuous improvement in academic, social, emotional, and behavioral growth based upon individual goals and objectives described in each student's IEP.

## **Technology**

- By June 2012, continue to enhance the skills of teachers and students to advance 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and promote the technology standards across the curriculum by embedding meaningful planning and assessment strategies which; integrate and monitor student and teacher growth, develop advanced skills, engage students in the learning process, and make connections to content and the global community.

## **Parent Partnerships**

- Communication is the foundation of effective school-parent-family partnerships. Research visibly indicates that family involvement in schools increases student achievement (Henderson & Berla, 1994; Ballen & Moles, 1994; Epstein, 1995). The benefits of parent and family involvement include improved assessment scores and grades, better attendance, a greater degree of completion of homework, positive attitudes and behavior, higher graduation rates, and increased enrollment in higher education. Hence, by June 2012, the District will continue to expand, extend and strengthen communication and school-parent-family partnerships as well as partnerships with members of the community while at the same time increasing opportunities for parent-family involvement in District schools. Also, the District will enhance public relations and increase the quality and flow of information within the community via the coordination of the available resources of home, school and community. Toward this end, parents, family members and schools will communicate regularly and clearly regarding information critical to student success. District schools will inform families relative to expectations, responsibilities and standards and how they relate to curricula, learning objectives, methods of assessment, school programs, discipline/attendance codes of conduct, and student progress. Sharing information will be accomplished through such means as, however not limited to; student-parent handbooks, Back to Night events, parent-teacher conferences, open houses, parent-family involvement sessions, newsletters as well as home visits, homework "hot lines", Parent Access, e-mail, eRams, and voice mail. If needed, translations/translators will be made available, to ensure non-English speaking parents-families are fully informed. Strengthening the school-parent-family partnerships with professional development/learning for school staff as well as parents and other family members is an essential investment and as such, will be delivered accordingly. All District schools will explore the feasibility of developing personal learning plans for students. Additionally, the District will investigate the purchase and utilization of the Naviance Program to assist with the formulation personalized student learning plans. The Naviance program helps students establish meaningful post-secondary goals and connect those goals with their coursework and college planning activities; increases communication with parents around important decisions such as course planning, college admissions and post-secondary planning; encourages students to pursue more rigorous coursework by combining academic data with information about student college and career interests as well

as provides more support, encouragement and guidance to students with a variety of communication tools that help students stay motivated. Parents must fully understand their child's program and how that program would ensure they learn to high standards. Linking families to services and community organizations can strengthen home environments and student learning. These partnerships will create a shared responsibility for the well being of children, families, and schools by all members of the community. Additionally, District schools will support families and students by forming collaborative relationships with public and private agencies that provide family support services. These relationships may include partnerships with public health and human service agencies, local businesses, institutions of higher education, youth-serving organizations, and religious, civic, and other community-based organizations.

### **Facilities**

- In an effort to enhance the delivery of 21<sup>st</sup> century learning experiences, by June 2012, continue to provide direction, guidance and oversight relative to the successful completion of the high school infrastructure and facilities upgrade referendum projects within the detailed scope of work parameters as well as in a manner that is most cost effective and efficient. These projects focus on window and exterior door replacement, gymnasium roof replacement, adding air conditioning, electrical upgrades, security upgrades, library renovation, technology infrastructure upgrade, and restroom upgrades, science lab renovations, special needs science lab alterations, music room and auditorium renovations and lighting upgrades. Continue to meet with a variety of district stakeholders to disseminate pertinent information regarding the status of the high school renovation referendum projects.

### **Budget**

- By October 2012, enhance the budget preparation and development procedures to reflect a pragmatic, transparent and fiscally sound process. To this end, all proposed expenditures will disclose detailed justifications, instructional benefits and educational outcomes as well as be aligned to the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards (NJCCCS). Proposed expenditures will be grouped as *Priority I* items – required to operate the existing instructional program at the proposed budget level for the 2012-2013 school year or *Priority II* items – required to enhance/expand/extend the existing instructional program for the 2012-2013 school year. Forward *Priority I and Priority II* items to the Board of Education Finance Committee for discussion and consideration.
- By April 2012, continue to collaborate with district, parent and community constituents to forward as well as produce a majority consensus of support for the passage of the local school budget. Continue to investigate/seek possible avenues to maintain costs of all district endeavors in order to best represent the financial interests of the taxpayers while providing high quality educational experiences for

all students. Additionally, continue to partner with key district stakeholders, parent and community constituents to explore innovative methods for alternative funding in preparation for future local budgetary challenges.

### **Student Services**

- By June 2012, South River Public Schools will enhance student support services as they relate to Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) as per updates mandated by the State Department of Education. The enhancements will occur in the areas of prevention, training and identification of HIB (staff, students, and parents/guardians), investigations, reportage, interventions/remedial measures for offenders, supports for victims, and systematic review as well as changes as necessary.

### **Student Attendance and Discipline**

- An effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and a high level of school attendance by the students. By September 2011, utilizing the District's Student Conduct/Discipline Policy as a foundation, all District schools will develop and implement a code of student conduct that establish standards and procedures for positive student attendance as well as development and behavioral expectations on school grounds, including on a school bus or at school sponsored functions.