

Mission, Vision, Commitments and Goals: Mount Vernon Community School District

Mission

Fostering growth and confidence as learners and people.

Vision

Through effective and intentional collaboration, the Mount Vernon Community School District will develop clear goals that outline the steps needed to be an exemplary district of choice.

In pursuit of fulfilling our Mission and Vision . . .

- 1. We believe all students can learn at high levels, and meeting the social and emotional needs of all students is critical. To meet these needs we will . . .**
 - Ensure students are engaged in meaningful learning activities.
 - Maintain curricular goals and objectives consistent with state and national standards
 - Engage students in learning activities that prepare them for further education and work after graduation, and prepares them to be contributing members of society
 - Assess the progress of students based on clear learning standards
 - Establish a clear PreK-12th Grade articulation of curriculum standards
 - Maintain systems that identify students who may be at risk
 - Provide an emotionally safe school community
 - Ensure equitable delivery of instruction and student services

- 2. We believe our students should be thoughtful students and global citizens. We expect our students will . . .**
 - Accept responsibility for their own learning
 - Accept responsibility for their own decisions
 - Be students who engage in critical thinking and problem solving
 - Be involved in academic and other activities
 - Contribute to the school and the community in a positive manner
 - Be respectful of people from diverse backgrounds
 - Be respectful of people with differing viewpoints
 - Exhibit cultural awareness when dealing with people or studying global issues
 - Embrace being part of a changing world by contributing to the development of societal values and practices
 - Give their best effort by fully engaging in the learning process
 - Be responsible digital citizens in both academic and social contexts

3. We believe our staff members serve as key role models and support people in ensuring the academic, social and emotional growth of all our students. To this end our staff members will . . .

- Support the stated mission and vision of the Mount Vernon Community School District
- Maintain high expectations for student performance and modeling lifelong learning
- Collaborate on a regular basis to ensure that instructional practices are reflective of best practice
- Actively engage in professional and staff development
- Engage in reflective conversations and seek feedback
- Develop and maintain positive relationships with students and parents

4. We believe a healthy culture is necessary to achieve our goals. To maintain a healthy culture we will . . .

- Ensure everyone is treated with respect and care
- Foster appropriate behavior and character development
- Recognize and celebrate students and staff in all curricular and extra-curricular activities
- Provide an environment that is emotionally and physically safe
- Maintain facilities that are safe, meet the learning needs of students, and are a source of pride

5. We believe it is imperative the district maintain a positive role in Mount Vernon. To maintain a positive connection with the community, we will honor the community's past and look forward to its future and will . . .

- Encourage community members to be a part of the school through volunteer efforts and attendance at school events
- Engage the community in dialogue and problem solving when considering major changes within the district, including changes in curriculum and programming as well as changes and updates to the district's facilities
- Encourage students to volunteer and serve in the community
- Be open with the community, regularly reporting updates using a variety of communication methods
- Share resources including our facilities for community events
- Utilize partnerships with Kirkwood Community College and Cornell College to support academic growth of students as well as to address district facilities needs

Commitments

In order to implement the vision of the Mount Vernon Community School District, we will . . .

1. Work collaboratively in developing instructional strategies and assessments that are reflective of best practices as well as state and national learning standards
2. Provide learning opportunities that meet the individual needs of all students
3. Partner with outside service providers to offer counseling and programming that addresses the social and emotional needs of all students
4. Enhance the climate and culture in all schools by utilizing common language, practices and programs
5. Develop a short and long term plan for facilities upgrades that is consistent with the mission and vision of the district and is reflective of the desires of the larger Mount Vernon community
6. Develop communication protocols that regularly engage the community in dialogue regarding the future of the district
7. Maintain a culture that is committed to equity and respectful of people of all backgrounds

Goals

1. By October 2018, the elementary, middle and high schools will develop school improvement goals based on student achievement and climate data, and will use Professional Learning Communities practices that support the implementation of effective school improvement plans.
2. By May 2019, the superintendent, TLC Instructional Specialist, building administrators, and department leaders will complete a curriculum audit in order to develop a clear PreK-12 curriculum articulation in all departments.
3. By May 2019, the district will develop a clear PreK-12 curriculum flow chart for teachers to follow.
4. By May 2019, the superintendent, business manager and building administrators will develop a five-year financial and staffing plan that meets the academic and social-emotional needs of all students.
5. By May 2019, the District along with mental health professionals will develop a holistic approach with wrap around services to serve students with significant social and emotional challenges.
6. By May 2020, all teachers will have been observed by and collaborated with the instructional coaches and will have developed professional growth goals as a result of this collaboration.
7. By May 2020, the district will update its volunteer efforts to increase the presence of volunteers in the schools, and to put into place new protocols for the screening and recruitment of potential volunteers.
8. By May 2020, the district will work with the City of Mount Vernon to expand opportunities for students to serve the community.

9. By May 2020, the district's Wellness Committee will establish programming for students and staff that enhance student and staff well-being.
10. By May 2020, the district will provide an update on its ten-year technology plan in preparation for the development of a new technology plan.
11. By May 2021, the district will fully implement the Evidence Based Reporting structure to assess student progress and provide timely and effective feedback to students in all academic areas.