Center Cass School District Mission and Purpose

OUR MISSION

Inspire, empower, challenge, and support every learner to grow academically, socially, and emotionally—preparing them to make a meaningful impact in an ever-changing world.

OUR PURPOSE

Cultivating a safe, inclusive, and rigorous learning environment where students learn to take ownership of their educational journey, communicate and collaborate with meaning, build the confidence to take creative and academic risks, apply life skills, and engage as citizens—all in partnership with engaged educators, families, and the community.

Goal 1 - Vision Statement

Intentionally design a student-centered learning environment that supports and develops educators to engage learners in authentic experiences where everyone feels empowered to be problem solvers, critical thinkers, creators, and purposeful users of technology.

Goal One: Proposed Strategic Plan Statements

Focus Area 1: Core Curriculum

Revised Goal Statement:
Strengthen district-wide curriculum and instructional practices for alignment, consistency, and equity to support the shift to a competency-based education.

Action #1:
Develop realistic pacing guides and clear, consistent learning progressions.

Outcome 1:
- 1A: Pacing guides for each content area at each grade level
- 1B: K-8 Learning Progressions for each content area

Action #2:
Establish and protect a system for teacher collaboration to refine and align instruction, practices, and student learning.

Outcome 2:
- Protected time and structure for instructional collaboration

Action #3:
Develop a long term professional learning plan between, within, and beyond grade levels.

Outcome 3:
- Long-Term Professional Learning Plan with consistent time for professional development

Focus Area 2: Purposeful Technology

Revised Goal Statement:
Purposefully leverage instructional technology to personalize learning, support diverse needs, and improve academic and digital-readiness outcomes.

Action #4:
Create a collaborative process and team (including administrators, teachers, and technology support) to review current and future technology decisions and investments in respect of instructional goals.

Outcome 4:
- A comprehensive process that includes teacher input for selection, revisions, and retention of technology resources to support instruction and communication with staff

Action #5:
Support professional learning that helps educators evaluate technology to determine when and how to leverage it to meet instructional needs, including incorporating digital literacy, safety, and citizenship.

Outcome 5:
- Include professional development for technology usage in the overall long-term professional learning plan

Focus Area 3: Future Ready Opportunities

Revised Goal Statement:
Cultivate essential, evolving skills, real world learning, and early career exploration to empower confident transitions through District 66 and beyond.

Action #6:
Develop teachers' ability to integrate real-life problem-based tasks into curriculum and implement them.

Outcome 6:
- 6A:Include professional development for problem based learning in the overall long-term professional learning plan
- 6B: PBL opportunities incorporated into pacing guides for each content area as appropriate

Action #7:
Expose students to diverse life and career possibilities early and often.

Outcome 7:
- K-8 PACE Framework for Center Cass 66

Goal 2 - Vision Statement

Strengthen partnerships and expand meaningful opportunities that reinforce learner characteristics, deepen belonging, and connect students with their community.

Goal Two: Proposed Strategic Plan Statements

Focus Area 4: Early Childhood Connections

Goal Statement:
Build and strengthen early childhood outreach, community partnerships and programming to establish foundations for successful transitions into school and life-long learning.

Action #8:

- Create and distribute a Birth-to-Five Family Toolkit featuring developmental resources, at-home learning activities, and guidance to support successful school transitions.

Outcome #8:

- Increase family connections to early childhood resources and support

Action #9:

- Establish and monitor a system to measure the number of families reached and the participation of those families in district-provided resources and educational opportunities.

Outcome #9:

- Increase in readiness and successful school transition.

Focus Area 5: Learner Characteristics & Exec. Functioning

Goal Statement:
Cultivate learner characteristics and executive functioning skills that empower students to become self-directed, engaged, and successful learners in school and beyond.

Action #10: (KNOWLEDGE)
Establish vertically aligned PK–8 progressions for District 66 Learner Characteristics and identify core executive functioning skills for developmental stages.

Outcome #10:

- Increased teacher and student knowledge, recognition, and reflection of Learner Characteristics and Executive Functioning

Action #11: (GROWTH)
Design and embed learning experiences that develop learner characteristics and executive functioning skills across instruction, classroom routines, extracurricular activities, and all tiers of support.

Outcome #11:

- Students grow and increase application of Learner Characteristics and executive functioning skills.

Focus Area 6: Before & After School Opportunities

Goal Statement:
Expand accessible before- and after-school opportunities that enrich learning, develop student interests and talents, strengthen relationships, and foster belonging beyond the traditional school day.

Action #12:
Partner with staff, families, and community members to expand engagement opportunities.

Outcome #12:

- Increase student participation and engagement in before and after school opportunities

Action #13:

- Conduct a districtwide analysis and develop an action plan identifying barriers to equitable program participation and the supports needed to increase access and engagement.

Outcome #13:

- Reduce barriers to equitable access and engagement.

Focus Area 7: Community Connection

Goal Statement:
Build authentic partnerships among students, families, schools, and the community that extend beyond the classroom and foster service, leadership, belonging, and real-world connections.

Action #14:
Develop sustainable, reciprocal partnerships with families, businesses, civic groups, agencies, and leaders.

Outcome #14:

- Expand student access to community partnerships that provide students with increased opportunities for authentic, real-world learning experiences, service, and community engagement.

Action #15:

- Community members share input and expertise that shape meaningful community-connected experiences for students.

Outcome #15:

- Increase varied pathways for community connected experiences.

Goal 3 - Vision Statement

Cultivate a safe, stable, and innovative learning environment where students and staff excel.

Goal Three: Proposed Strategic Plan Statements

Focus Area 8: Premiere Staff

Goal Statement:
Employ high quality people through competitive compensation-benefits and a supportive, collaborative, and empowering culture which values professional learning and staff wellness.

Action #16:
Attract, develop, and retain a top-tier healthy workforce.

Outcome #16:
- Increased staff retention rates and competitive recruitment metrics across all roles.

Action #17:
Provide appropriate and adequate staffing.

Outcome #17:
- Balanced staffing ratios that support instructional quality and workload sustainability.

Focus Area 9: Learning Spaces

Goal Statement:
Provide a dynamic, high-quality learning environment that ensures access, opportunity, and pride for students.

Action #19:
Invest in modern and appropriate space to meet student and employee needs.

Outcome #19:
- Updated and adequate learning spaces designed for modern, flexible, and collaborative instruction.

Action #20:
Maintain infrastructure and honor replacement cycles.

Outcome #20:
- Execute a long-term capital improvement and facility lifecycle plan reviewed annually.

Focus Area 10: Strong Fiscal Practices

Goal Statement:
Ensure long-term financial stability for the district's future.

Action #21:
Monitor financial health through relevant forecasting, realistic budgets, and building fund balances.

Outcome #21:
- Balanced budgets and 3-6 months of reserves to ensure long-term stability and flexibility.

Action #22:
Build on current financial plan that anticipates future educational trends, demographic shifts, and economic changes to ensure sustainable long-term resource allocation.

Outcome #22:
- Communicate a proactive and future focused financial plan that leads to efficient and effective decision making.

