CENTENNIAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT 12
CONNECTING. ACHIEVING. PREPARING.

Legislative Platform

DRAFT

School Board Regular Meeting
November 16, 2026

CENTENNIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 12
CONNECTING. ACHIEVING. PREPARING.

STRATEGIC ROADMAP

MISSION
OUR CORE PURPOSE

By providing high quality educational opportunities, emotional support, and social development, Centennial School District prepares learners for excellence in their future.

VISION
WHAT WE INTEND TO CREATE

Centennial School District is a welcoming environment where all students, staff, and families belong and will:

- Provide innovative, personalized, rigorous, and relevant educational opportunities for each student.
- Build and strengthen relationships and partnerships with the community to offer educational programs and opportunities for all.

CORE VALUES
DRIVERS OF OUR WORDS AND ACTIONS

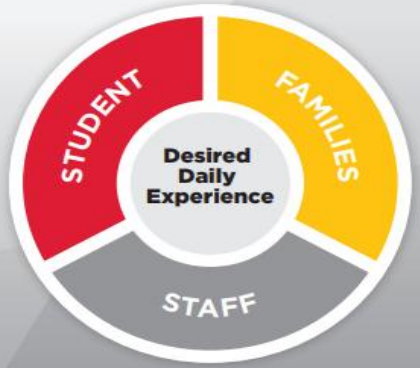
CONNECTING
Engaging students in meaningful ways with their school community.

ACHIEVING
Ensuring student success through academic excellence in learning and teaching while supporting students in their growth and achievement.

PREPARING
Providing opportunities for academic excellence to prepare students for their future.

STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS
FOCUS OF OUR IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

- Improving teaching and learning practices for student success and achievement.
- Increasing engagement, belonging, and strengthening the staff and student experience.
- Supporting staff in continuous improvement of professional practice.
- Increasing family engagement in student learning and school experiences.
- Improving efficiency and effectiveness in district operations.



With input from our stakeholders, the plan includes the goals of providing an educational experience for students, families, and staff.

STUDENT

- I enjoy flexible learning and activity choices that meet my academic, emotional, and social needs.
- I have access to technology to support my educational needs.
- I am comfortable during passing time, lunch, and other times throughout the day.
- I enter a welcoming environment where I feel safe, accepted, and belong at school.
- My race and preferences are respected, acknowledged, and accepted.
- I have positive interactions and relationships with students and staff.

FAMILIES

- I receive consistent communication from my student's teacher, school, and district to support my student's education.
- My student has the appropriate materials, resources, and technology.
- My student's school is welcoming, safe, and inclusive.
- I have opportunities to be involved in my student's school community.
- Staff provide attention and support to meet my student's needs.
- My student's school provides a relevant and rigorous educational experience.

STAFF

- I receive cohesive and timely communication.
- I have a voice and my input matters.
- I receive the support necessary to be successful.
- I am a trusted, respected, and valued professional.
- I have the resources that allow me to meet all my students' needs.
- I am connected and feel like I belong to the Centennial community.
- I have a manageable workload and appropriate class sizes.
- My mental health needs are recognized and addressed.

Serving the communities of Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Lexington, and Lino Lakes.

Legislative Platform

PROVIDE ADEQUATE AND SUSTAINABLE FUNDING

State funding must keep pace with the actual cost of providing a high-quality education. When new requirements or increased costs aren't matched with ongoing funding, districts must redirect existing resources from other student needs. For Centennial, this includes:

Staffing and compensation

Inflation and competitive labor markets drive up staffing costs to maintain appropriate staffing levels.

Special education

Ongoing gaps between the cost of required services and state/federal reimbursement put pressure on the district's general fund.

Student support

Social workers, student and family support, mental health resources, targeted services, and other supports are increasingly important to student success.

Transportation, technology, facilities & operations

Inflationary costs of maintaining safe, functional schools and providing daily services continue to rise.

Equalization

State equalization formulas have not systematically kept pace with inflation or rising property values; the state share of equalization has declined or been eliminated over time.

New mandates

Requirements that create ongoing and additional staffing, training, administrative, or operational costs need corresponding ongoing funding.

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BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Repeal the contingent $250 million reduction to special education cross-subsidy aid.

Minnesota school districts continue to absorb significant costs to provide required special education services that state and federal funding does not fully cover.

This gap, commonly called the special education cross-subsidy, requires districts to use general education resources to meet special education obligations.

PROTECT LOCAL DECISION-MAKING AND RECONSIDER UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

Statewide policy can affect districts very differently depending on their size, demographics, geography, staffing, facilities, and financial circumstances.

Centennial supports legislation that advances meaningful student outcomes while recognizing that districts need flexibility to determine how best to meet them.

Legislative Platform

PROVIDE TIME AND SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENT NEW REQUIREMENTS

Passing legislation is only the beginning, and good policy deserves good implementation.

School districts must translate new requirements into staffing plans, contracts, schedules, programs, training, communications, technology systems, and daily operations.

STATEWIDE HEALTH INSURANCE PROPOSED LEGISLATION

Centennial Schools has invested significant time and resources in developing and managing its employee health insurance program, including its self-insured structure.

As a result, Centennial is opposed to mandatory statewide health care legislation (e.g., Employee Group Insurance Program - EGIP).

Questions/Discussion

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