



WYCKOFF SCHOOL
DISTRICT

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

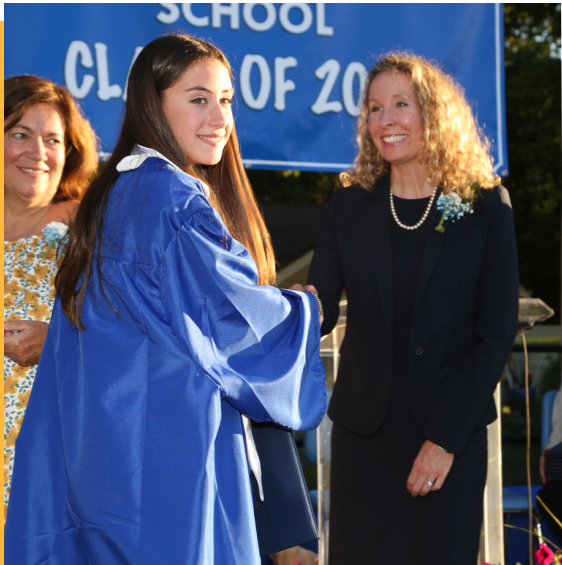
OUR COMMITMENT

2024-2029



A Letter from the Superintendent

Our Past, Our Present, Our Future



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Dr. Kerry Postma, Superintendent

Let us join hands in making these strategic goals a reality, ensuring excellence and innovation in every aspect of our educational mission.

To the Wyckoff School District Community,

As we embark on a new chapter in our district's journey, I am thrilled to introduce our comprehensive Strategic Plan, designed to elevate our educational experience and foster a thriving school environment. This plan, crafted with input from staff, parents, and community partners, centers around four key priorities: Academic Excellence, Student and Staff Well-Being, State-of-the-Art Facilities, and Parent Engagement. Each priority is carefully outlined with specific goals, actionable steps, and outcomes to ensure our progress and success. Together, we will create an enriching and dynamic learning atmosphere that prepares our students for future success while nurturing the well-being and engagement of our entire school community. Let us join hands in making these strategic goals a reality, ensuring excellence and innovation in every aspect of our educational mission.

Kerry L. Postma, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Our Story, Our Journey

Our Past

Before being named Wyckoff Township in 1926, the Wyckoff community, along with Midland Park, Oakland, Franklin Lakes and Ridgewood, was part of Franklin Township, formed in 1797. Wyckoff comes from the Lenape word *wickoff* meaning “high ground.”



1869

A one-room schoolhouse, opens on Wyckoff Ave. It later burned. George Washington School was built there in 1923.

1953

Abraham Lincoln School opens, as Wyckoff’s third public school. (Calvin Coolidge School opened in 1932.)

1967

Sicomac School, the fifth of Wyckoff’s schools, is dedicated. (Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School opened in 1963.)

2024

Today, the Wyckoff School District serves over 2,000 students in grades PreK – 8, making it the largest elementary school district in Bergen County.

01. Awards and Recognition

Eisenhower Middle School received the National Blue Ribbon of Excellence Award in 2004 and was named a School to Watch by the National Association of Middle Level Education in 2016 and again in 2024. Washington School and Sicomac School have been named NJ Reward Schools.

02. WSD by the Numbers

The Wyckoff School District (WSD) houses 2,023 students across 5 schools who are served by 350 faculty and staff. Over 75% of our teachers have advanced degrees. Among our student population, approximately 20 different home languages are represented.

Our Present

District Mission

The Wyckoff School District, a forward-thinking leader in education, in partnership with a supportive community...

Provides engaging and meaningful educational experiences, empowering all students to grow into passionate, confident, and capable life-long learners and leaders.



Our Priorities

Below are the four strategic priorities for the Wyckoff School District in the next five years:

			
Academic Excellence	Student & Staff Well-Being	State-of-the-Art Facilities	Parent Engagement
High standards, critical thinking, innovation, and academic mastery.	Physical and mental health for educational success and fulfillment.	Cutting-edge, well-equipped, dynamic, and modernized spaces.	Collaboration, involvement, support for educational success.

Our Future Strategic Priority #1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

What does this mean?

Students excel academically by mastering subject matter, demonstrating essential skills, and pursuing personal and intellectual growth. There is an emphasis on deep understanding, creativity, and a passion for lifelong learning, transcending grades or test scores.

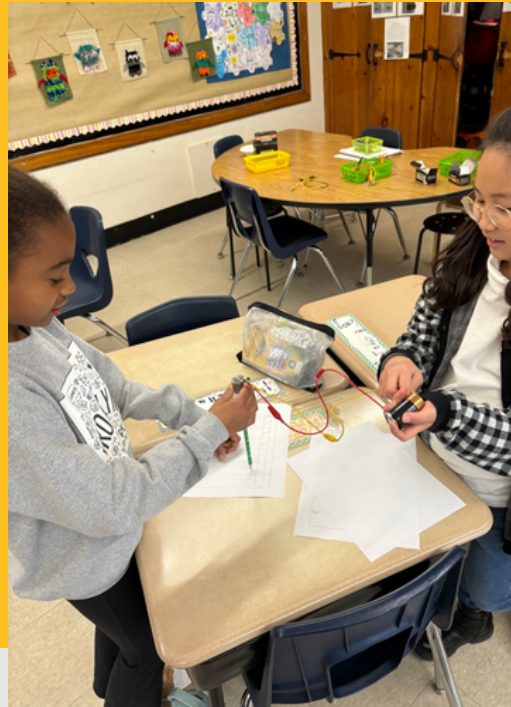
What this looks like:

01. Students are strong performers in math and language arts.

Students showcase strong proficiency in both mathematics and language arts, demonstrating adept problem-solving skills in math, advanced comprehension and analysis abilities in reading, and effective communication skills.

02. Students are prepared for high school success.

With a strong foundation of rigorous academic preparation, students are well-prepared for high school success, equipped with comprehensive subject understanding, refined critical thinking, effective study habits, and essential life skills.



Evaluation of Success

80% of students will demonstrate proficiency by scoring at or above the proficient level on standardized assessments.

Students will demonstrate high school readiness by meeting or exceeding benchmarks in core subjects.

Strategic Priority #1: Academic Excellence

How We'll Get There (Key Actions)



Create...

Key Action #1

Create a comprehensive scope and sequence for a K-8 math program designed to engage and empower students at all levels of mathematical proficiency, fostering deep conceptual understanding, critical thinking skills, and a lifelong passion for mathematics.

Academic Excellence

Achieving academic excellence involves setting high standards, fostering a culture of continuous improvement, providing personalized learning experiences, and equipping students with critical thinking skills and resources to innovate and thrive in their educational journey.

Develop...

Key Action #2

Develop a more robust professional development program focused on enhancing teaching practices to ensure consistency across schools in content, pacing and homework as well as parental access to educational resources.

Enhance...

Key Action #3

Enhance academic assessments, using tools such as the iReady platform, to accurately measure student progress, identify areas for improvement, and provide actionable insights for personalized instruction.

Strategic Priority #2:

STUDENT AND STAFF WELL-BEING

What does this mean?

Promoting well-being and supportive relationships within the educational community is crucial for academic performance, productivity, job satisfaction, and overall school culture.



What this looks like:

01. Students feel safe and a sense of belonging.

Students thrive in a nurturing and inclusive environment where safety and belonging are paramount, fostering trust, respect, and support from faculty and staff, and cultivating a sense of belonging that promotes academic, emotional, and social development.

02. Staff members feel valued and equipped.

Staff are empowered with recognition, support, and tools for success, fostering a culture of appreciation and collaboration that enables them to excel in their roles, contribute to the educational mission, and create a vibrant, enriching environment for themselves and the students they serve.



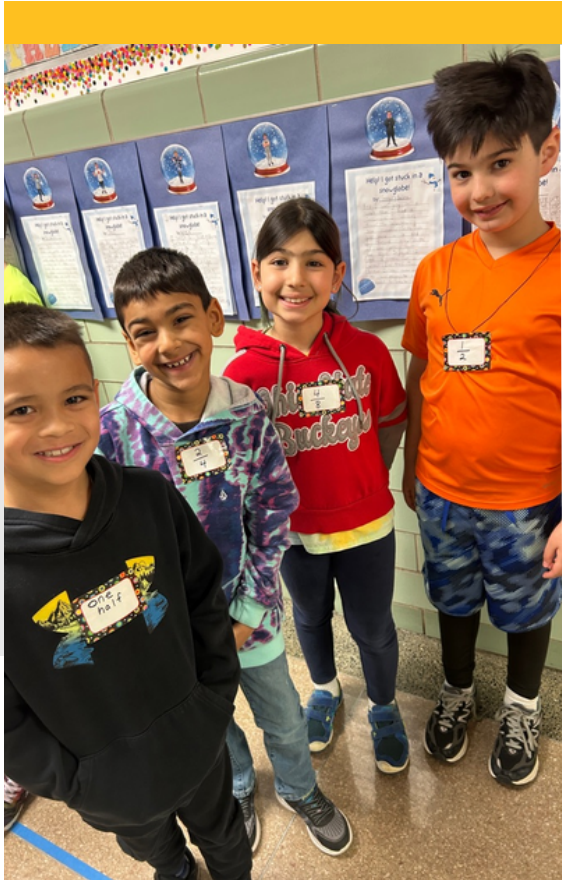
Evaluation of Success

Students will report feeling safe and a sense of belonging, as indicated by positive responses on surveys.

Staff members will report feeling valued and equipped, based on feedback collected through surveys.

Strategic Priority #2: Student and Staff Well-being

How We'll Get There (Key Actions)



Student and Staff Well-being

Nurturing student and staff well-being involves creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere where everyone feels valued and supported. Positive relationships, open communication, peer support programs and physical activity contribute to the overall wellbeing of the school community.

Create...

Key Action #1

Create communication channels for gathering feedback and insights from both students and staff, i.e. surveys for each group, to understand their needs and perspectives, and to improve satisfaction and engagement within our educational community.

Develop...

Key Action #2

Develop a K-8 scope and sequence for existing social-emotional (SEL) programs, i.e. the Responsive Classroom approach, to provide a clear roadmap for SEL instruction, including training for students on the Anti-Bullying Act.

Enhance...

Key Action #3

Enhance programs and resources for staff to equip them to serve the diverse needs of students, and to recognize and celebrate their efforts and accomplishments.

Strategic Priority #3:

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

What does this mean?

Investing in state-of-the-art facilities is essential for providing an optimal learning environment that fosters innovation, collaboration, and a vibrant school culture.

What this looks like:

01. Schools are updated and well-equipped.

Schools are equipped with modernized learning spaces, cutting-edge technology, and inviting outdoor areas, fostering dynamic learning experiences and providing a supportive environment that promotes growth, creativity, and achievement for students and staff alike.

02. Infrastructure elevates student performance.

Physical and technological infrastructure, thoughtfully designed for optimal functionality, create an ideal environment for fostering student success academically, creatively, and personally, setting the stage for lifelong achievement.



Evaluation of Success

School facilities will meet or exceed established standards for modernization and equipment adequacy.

The impact of infrastructure will reflect in student performance and overall academic achievement.

Strategic Priority #3: State-of-the-Art Facilities

How We'll Get There (Key Actions)



Create...

Key Action #1

Create a comprehensive multi-year plan for functional and aesthetic building upgrades, strategically aligned with evolving 21st-century needs and educational standards, aiming to enhance both the physical environment and functionality of our facilities, thereby fostering an optimal learning and working environment for all stakeholders.

State-of-the-Art Facilities

State-of-the-art facilities are achieved through strategic planning, financial allocation, community engagement, and ongoing maintenance, ensuring adherence to contemporary educational standards and the provision of optimal resources for students' academic growth and development.

Develop...

Key Action #2

Develop our repertoire of cutting-edge resources, computing devices, and AI integration strategies, to equip students and educators with innovative tools and technologies that enhance learning outcomes.

Enhance...

Key Action #3

Enhance our plans for future enrollment and education needs, ensuring proactive preparation for anticipated shifts in student demographics, educational requirements, and technological advancements.

Strategic Priority #4:

PARENT ENGAGEMENT

What does this mean?

Fostering robust parent engagement initiatives is essential for cultivating a collaborative educational community that empowers student success, strengthens partnerships, and enriches the overall school experience.

What this looks like:

01. Parents are involved and informed.

Parents actively participate in their child's education, supported by volunteering, attending workshops, and involvement in decision-making. Regular communication keeps them updated on their child's progress, upcoming events, and opportunities for involvement.

02. Community partners enhance learning.

Partnerships with local organizations, businesses, and individuals offer diverse resources and opportunities to enrich students' learning experiences, prepare them for future success, and foster a sense of civic responsibility.



Evaluation of Success

Parents will be actively involved and feel well-informed about their child's education, based on survey responses.

Community partners will provide resources, expertise, and opportunities that align with our educational goals.

Strategic Priority #4: Parent Engagement

How We'll Get There (Key Actions)



Parent & Community Engagement

Collaborative efforts among parents, families, caregivers, and the broader community are crucial to support students' academic success and overall well-being. Participation in educational activities, communication with school staff, volunteering, and community partnerships enhance the learning environment.

Create...

Key Action #1

Create diverse and accessible avenues or platforms for parents to offer feedback, ranging from surveys and town hall meetings to online forums and interactive workshops, fostering a collaborative partnership between parents and educators, promoting transparency, and ensuring that parental perspectives are valued and integrated into decision-making processes within the educational community.

Develop...

Key Action #2

Develop a more extensive array of parent involvement opportunities within the school community in support of student learning, ranging from volunteering programs and parent-teacher associations to workshops, seminars, and interactive events

Enhance...

Key Action #3

Enhance the partnership with the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) and the local Education Foundation (WEF), leveraging their resources, expertise, and networks to bolster support for a wide array of academic and social initiatives.

The Path Forward



Preparing Students for Future Success

The above strategic plan sets forth a comprehensive framework for advancing educational excellence and fostering a supportive school environment. By prioritizing Academic Excellence, Student and Staff Well-Being, State-of-the-Art Facilities, and Parent Engagement, we aim to create a dynamic and inclusive educational community that empowers students, nurtures their holistic development, and prepares them for success in an ever-evolving world.

Through collaborative efforts and strategic initiatives outlined in this plan, we are committed to cultivating a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and excellence in the Wyckoff School District. By working together with students, parents, staff, and the broader community, we will create an educational environment where every individual can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally, ensuring that our schools remain centers of learning, growth, and inspiration for years to come.

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