



Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

2026-2027 Goals

District Goals
Board Goals
School Goals

October 14, 2026

Presented by:

**Dr. Clifford Burns, Superintendent;
BOE Members & Building Principals**

 www.frsd.us





>>> 1. COMMUNICATION

Enhance community trust and engagement by designing, launching, and maintaining systematic, multi-channel communication strategies that measurably increase transparency across the district.

- Partner with municipal and county entities to co-develop, refine, and execute a comprehensive Raritan Township & Flemington Borough/Hunterdon County Joint Communication Strategy.
- Plan and host three interactive, in-person parent academies focusing on high-priority student and family wellness topics, leveraging both district staff and local community experts.
- Establish a structured community outreach initiative targeting non-parent residents, local businesses, and regional partners to foster broader civic investment in FRSD.



»» 2. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Elevate academic performance in grades 1–8 by achieving a minimum 5% increase in the percentage of students meeting or exceeding benchmarks in both reading and mathematics, as measured by NWEA/MAP Growth assessments from Fall 2026 to Spring 2027.

- Design and distribute high-quality, district-wide supplemental curriculum resources to bridge summer learning gaps and maintain academic momentum.
- Require each school principal to present tailored, data-driven academic goals to the Board early Fall, followed by an evidence-based progress report at the end of the academic year.
- Optimize student-to-teacher ratios and prioritize multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) interventions within the constraints of fiscal responsibility.



»» 3. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Ensure rigorous fiscal stewardship by maximizing operational efficiencies, securing alternative revenues, and executing targeted facility improvements that directly support optimal learning environments.

- Increase community understanding of school finance by hosting regular, transparent budget updates during Board meetings and executing specialized public forums (such as referendum-focused Q&A sessions).
- Maintain a dynamic Long-Range Facility Plan (LRFP) integrated with a prioritized 5-year capital budget to address aging infrastructure systematically.
- Fully execute the Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP) to complete long-term infrastructure upgrades and reduce utility expenditures.

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»» 3. FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Ensure rigorous fiscal stewardship by maximizing operational efficiencies, securing alternative revenues, and executing targeted facility improvements that directly support optimal learning environments.

- Aggressively pursue non-traditional revenue channels, including corporate sponsorships, district advertisements, private donations, and competitive state/federal grants.
- Partner closely with the Flemington-Raritan Education Foundation (FREF) to establish targeted fundraising campaigns.
- Identify and secure alternative grant or community sponsorship funding to sustain after-school athletics, clubs, and visual/performing arts programs.
- Maintain long-term fiscal health by allocating a minimum of 7.5% of eligible funds to capital reserves.
- Maintain long-term fiscal health by allocating a minimum of 1.5% of eligible funds to maintenance reserves.



»» 4. RELATIONSHIPS

Foster a collaborative, appreciative professional culture across the board, administration, and all employee units to drive job satisfaction, increase staff retention, and boost instructional morale.

- Implement a minimum of six formal recognition programs during regular Board of Education meetings to celebrate outstanding achievements of both certified educators and support staff.
- Build a formal FRSD Alumni Network to spotlight past graduate achievements and integrate their stories into district communications.
- Restructure the annual climate and culture survey to significantly increase student feedback and participation rates.
- Standardize and launch active Student Advisory Committees in every school building to ensure student concerns and ideas are heard directly.

Board Goals

>>> 1. Expand Community Engagement & Communication Reach

Proactively bridge the gap between the Board of Education and the broader community by creating accessible communication channels and enhancing the board's advocacy skills.

- Improve accessibility by hosting quarterly town hall meetings with flexible, community-driven agendas and attending PTO-sponsored community events.
- Commit to continuous improvement by scheduling Board-wide professional development workshops focused on effective, non-adversarial public communication.
- Assign dedicated Board members as official liaisons to each school's PTO to build stronger, direct relationships with parent leaders.



Board Goals

>>> 2. Fiscal Responsibility

Exercise rigorous, public-facing financial oversight, with a specific focus on the capital referendum, ESIP progress, and taxpayer mitigation programs.

- Provide public, transparent oversight and clear monthly progress updates on ESIP projects and referendum milestones.
- Actively promote state and local tax mitigation initiatives (such as the "Senior Freeze" program) to help ease the tax burden for qualifying local residents.
- Coordinate with local nonprofit partners and community agencies to align fundraising goals with specific, unfunded educational needs.



Board Goals

>>> 3. Community of One

Cultivate an inclusive, collaborative culture where students feel supported, valued, and directly connected to district leadership.

- Align policy decisions and resource allocations directly with initiatives that clear pathways for student academic and personal success.
- Have designated Board members regularly attend and support individual school Student Advisory Committee meetings to directly hear student perspectives on district priorities.
- Establish a prestigious "Community of One" award program presented by the Board of Education to recognize individuals who embody the district's spirit of unity and inclusion.



School Goals

>>> **Barley Sheaf School**



By June 2027:

- 60% of Grades K–4 students will meet or exceed their individually determined NWEA MAP Growth projected growth scores in Reading and Math.
- Our school will strengthen a schoolwide culture of sustainability and environmental stewardship by expanding student engagement in our Sustainable Jersey, Eco School, and goHunterdon initiatives. Through hands-on experiences in recycling, composting, gardening, hydroponics, outdoor learning, pollinator conservation, and safe routes to school, students will develop the knowledge, skills, and habits needed to become responsible stewards of their school and community.

School Goals

>>> Copper Hill School



By June 2027:

- 60% of Grades K-4 students will meet or exceed their individually determined NWEA MAP Growth projected growth score for Reading and Math.
- Our school will strengthen Tier 1 instruction through purposeful differentiation and the strategic utilization of the WIN/Support Block to ensure that all students receive instruction responsive to their individual learning needs. Teachers will use student data, ongoing formative assessment, and classroom observations to identify students requiring targeted support, particularly students who do not receive additional intervention or support services, while also providing meaningful enrichment opportunities for students who have demonstrated mastery of grade-level standards.

School Goals

Francis A. Desmares School



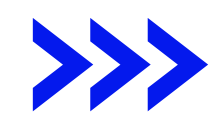
By June 2027:

- 55% of Grades K-4 students will meet or exceed their target for Growth in Reading as indicated by the district assessment.
- 60% of Grades 1-4 students will meet or exceed their target for Growth in Math on their Spring Growth and Achievement assessment.
- At least 80% of Grades 3 and 4 students will participate in a minimum of three school-based sustainability or climate-action activities (e.g., reducing food waste, recycling, composting, gardening, protecting local habitats, or reusing materials). Student participation and progress will be measured through activity participation records and sustainability project data.

NJ Climate Change Standards Alignment: This goal supports the New Jersey Student Learning Standards' emphasis on students developing climate literacy, investigating local environmental issues, gathering information and data, collaborating to identify solutions, and taking informed action to address climate-related challenges.

NJDOE specifically identifies school issues such as food waste, recycling, reusing materials, and reducing consumption as appropriate contexts for student climate-action projects.

School Goals



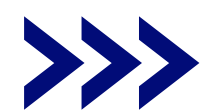
Robert Hunter School



By June 2027:

- 60% of Grades K-4 students will meet or exceed their individualized NWEA MAP Growth projected growth score for Reading and Math.
- As a whole school, we will strengthen students' academic and social interactions by providing intentional opportunities for authentic communication and developing age-appropriate social, communication, and interpersonal skills. We will promote healthy technology habits, provide intentional opportunities for meaningful socialization and cooperative learning, explicitly teach effective communication skills, and build staff and family understanding of developmental milestones and expectations to support students' growth.

School Goals



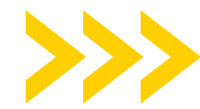
Reading-Fleming Intermediate School



By June 2027:

- 55% of all 5th and 6th Grade students will meet or exceed growth projections on the math and reading portions of the NWEA assessment. This goal will be measured by calculating the percentage of fifth and sixth-grade students who meet their growth projections.
- The RFIS administrative team will strengthen the instructional feedback cycle by using evidence from classroom visits, observations, and professional conversations to identify schoolwide instructional trends, provide meaningful feedback, and inform professional learning and support.

School Goals



J.P. Case Middle School



By June 2027:

- 53% of 7th and 8th grade students will meet or exceed their own growth goal as measured by MAP Growth Reading assessment data from Fall 2026 to Spring 2027.
- 60% of 7th and 8th grade students will meet or exceed their own growth goal as measured by MAP Growth Math assessment data from Fall 2026 to Spring 2027.

Strategic Scheduling: Rethink the master schedule to creatively and strategically leverage staff expertise, explore innovative staffing models, and maximize instructional time and learning opportunities for all students.

Targeted Student Growth: Use MAP and NJSLA data to identify individual student needs, create focused small-group instruction, and use collaborative planning and progress monitoring to close learning gaps and accelerate growth.



Flemington-Raritan Regional School District

QUESTIONS?

COMMENTS?



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