Excellence is the Standard

ROBBINSDALE Area Schools
Individual focus. Infinite potential.
Message from the Superintendent

Welcome to Robbinsdale Area Schools

The Unified District Vision: High Intellectual Performance through Equity is the current strategic plan for Robbinsdale Area Schools. Adopted in 2014, this plan is a commitment by the entire community to prepare all students to be career and college ready. Right now Robbinsdale Area Schools is at a pivotal juncture. We have written and stated that everything we do will be through an equity lens. We will achieve this vision when excellence is our standard. Through excellence, equity happens.

How do we achieve and maintain excellence? Our team has taken on this challenge to define excellence in our school district. We are using our data to create intentional goals and targets that are measurable. We are building our collective capacity by developing ourselves and our teams in the areas that will make the greatest difference. We are focusing our teaching and learning strategies and ensuring students are in the center of our work.

Education is the great equalizer. Every community member has an important role to play. When we stay focused on excellence for all students, I know we can achieve our goals.

Sincerely,

Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D.
Superintendent
Robbinsdale Area Schools

Unified District Vision: High Intellectual Performance Through Equity

Our Mission
The mission of Robbinsdale Area Schools is to inspire and educate all learners to develop their unique potential and positively contribute to their community.

Unified District Vision
Robbinsdale Area Schools is committed to ensuring every student graduates career and college ready. We believe each student has limitless possibilities and we strive to ignite the potential in every student. We expect high intellectual performance from all our students. We are committed to ensuring an equitable and respectful educational experience for every student, family and staff member, focusing on strengths related to:

- Race
- Culture
- Ethnicity
- Home or First Language
- National Origin
- Socioeconomic Status
- Gender
- Sexual Orientation
- Age
- Ability
- Religion
- Physical Appearance

The Unified District Vision consists of four key goals:
1. Implement policies and practices that open pathways to academic excellence for all students
2. Utilize culturally relevant teaching and personalized learning for all students
3. Engage family and community members as partners
4. Engage and Empower students by amplifying student voice

Robbinsdale Area School Board
Sherry Tyrrell, Chair
Helen Bassett, Vice Chair
Patsy Green, Clerk
John Vento, Treasurer
David Boone, Director
Michael Herring, Director
Pam Lindberg, Director
Goals and Strategies

Implement Policies and Practices that Open Pathways to Academic Excellence for All Students

We are committed to focusing on each individual student’s potential for academic excellence. We will strengthen our policies and practices to ensure our programs and services provide equitable access for all students, especially with regard to areas which currently have high racial and economic predictability or disproportionality among groups of students.

STRATEGIES

• Implement policies, practices and admissions criteria that ensure all students participate in rigorous coursework.
• Implement policies and practices that ensure that behavioral referrals and suspensions for inappropriate behavior are not disproportionate to particular student groups.
• Eliminate policies and practices that lead to overrepresentation of specific student groups in Special Education programs.
• Implement policies and practices that ensure all students participate in co-curricular activities and fine arts.
• Hire and retain staff members who reflect the diversity of our students.
• Hire and retain staff members who are proficient in culturally relevant educational practices.

Goal 2: Utilize Culturally Relevant Teaching and Personalized Learning for All Students

We are committed to delivering teaching that inspires all students to experience the highest levels of critical thinking and achievement. We will implement research-based best educational practices to engage our students in learning. Equity is raising the achievement of all students; student success will not be predictable based on race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status.

STRATEGIES

• Utilize curriculum and learning environments that reflect the culture and history of racial groups that reside not only in our own community, but in the rest of the world.
• Engage all staff and the School Board in professional learning focused on high expectations, identification and development of student strengths, and culturally relevant teaching practices.
• Provide enriched learning experiences to meet the individual needs of students.
• Enhance programs to ensure every student graduates career and college ready.
• Enhance all academic programs through the implementation of research-based best practices.

Goal 3: Engage Family and Community Members as Partners

We are committed to providing opportunities for meaningful engagement to support the learning of every student. Family and community collaboration is vital to success in educating our students.

STRATEGIES

• Develop a community engagement plan that increases the involvement of family and community members through focused marketing, effective communication, and intentional outreach.
• Utilize parent engagement practices that connect with families in places and in ways that are most familiar to them.
• Partner with individuals and community organizations to support student success and social-emotional well-being.
Goal 4: Engage and Empower Students by Amplifying Student Voice

We are committed to intentionally engaging student voice in important decisions. We believe that students are our most important stakeholders. Their input is invaluable to the growth and success of our district and the larger community.

STRATEGIES

• Amplify student voice within classrooms to engage students, inform instruction, enhance cultural relevance, and strengthen student sense of belonging.
• Increase student leadership opportunities.
• Expand service learning opportunities.
• Provide appropriate opportunities for student voice regarding school and district decisions.

We will measure our progress in multiple ways that will meet and go beyond the requirements of Minnesota’s World’s Best Workforce statute. This will include disaggregation of the following data by racial groups, economic status, special education status, and grade levels:

• Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs)
• Measures of Academic Progress (NWEA’s MAP assessments)
• Graduation Rates
• ACT Results
• Kindergarten Literacy and Math Assessments
• Third Grade Literacy Assessments
• Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Exam Results and Participation Rates
• Participation in the Arts and Rigorous Courses
• Out-of-School Suspensions and Administrative Hearings for Possible Expulsions
• Referrals for Special Education Services and Student Participation in Special Education Programs
• National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) Exams
• Percentage of students who receive remedial services in MNSCU colleges

Measurements of Success

We will measure our progress in multiple ways that will meet and go beyond the requirements of Minnesota’s World’s Best Workforce statute. This will include disaggregation of the following data by racial groups, economic status, special education status, and grade levels: