

District Priorities 2023-24

To educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world.



Superintendent

Dr. Jane Stavem



School Board

Carly Reiter President



Marc Murren Vice President



Nan Baker Member



Dawn Marie Johnson Member



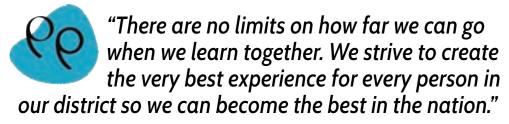
Kate Serenbetz Member



Sioux Falls School District

201 E. 38th St. Sioux Falls, SD 57105

> 605.367.7900 sf.k12.sd.us



- Dr. Jane Stavem, Superintendent

About This Document

The Sioux Falls School District (SFSD) strives to become THE BEST district in the nation and works hard each day to achieve the goals outlined in this document. We recognize and value the impact excellent schools have on building a strong community and we are grateful to the many partners who walk beside us to give students an engaging, real-world look into their futures.

Rooted in the past and growing for the future, we are driven to continuously improve academic offerings, offer high-quality and relevant training for staff, nurture the well-being of those we serve, engage with the community, while wisely using the resources entrusted to us.

We are committed to setting and reaching goals; and then setting the bar even higher. We are accountable and committed to being THE BEST because our students deserve it.

SFSD Is:

Mission-driven, data-informed, and focused on continuous improvement
Deeply committed to students
Developing leaders and cultivating growth
Diverse and proud of student and staff successes
Adaptable, motivated to do what is right for each child
Transparent, listening for multiple perspectives
Understanding, focused on communication and support
Inclusive, inspiring every student to choose his or her own path
Resilient, forward-focused

We Offer:

A world-class education where students can achieve academic excellence in a caring and safe environment

Diverse classrooms to reflect our community and world

Unique career opportunities through strong partnerships with businesses, healthcare providers, and the non-profit community

A culture of innovation, cultivating cutting-edge best practices

A consistent level of quality that parents can count on in every school A wide variety of classes and unique opportunities to encourage student interests and build relevant experience

A broad range of supports for all students

Our Story

Student-centered. Supportive. Innovative. Always growing for the future. The Sioux Falls School District is a special place where every child who enters our doors is our #1 Priority. We deliver a public education that provides students the opportunities they need to be successful adults in our community and the world. We are their launch pad to a bright future.

We are trusted with each parent's/guardian's greatest gift to the world and we work to continually earn that trust. We are equipped to know and connect with every child as a person, meeting them where they are, and helping them become who they want to be.

As a growing community of learners, we acknowledge proud traditions and educational practices of the past while boldly building the next "big thing" in our legacy of success. We are focused on improving our communication and intentional listening. We are striving to grow as professionals to meet the needs of our richly diverse students.

As the largest public school district in South Dakota, we effectively leverage real-world partnerships throughout our community to provide authentic learning opportunities. We recognize the great fortune we enjoy living in a community with many of the supports needed to become the nation's best school district - a great city, school board, staff, curriculum, activities, families, facilities - and above all else, great students.

SFSD Experience

The Sioux Falls School District Experience is the intangible gift of a quality public school education. From the moment children and adults come in contact with our schools, we strive to exceed expectations.

Leadership and Culture

Students have access to leadership opportunities in their school and in the community to build their capacity for future growth and provide value to their educational experience. They are exposed to many cultures to enhance understanding and appreciation for similarities and differences.

Academic Excellence

Students are exposed to real-world experiences through innovative curriculum, hands-on lessons, and partnerships with community and business leaders.

Collaborations and Connections

Current and future partnerships are cultivated to enhance learning. Staff build strong relationships with students to ensure each one has the opportunity for world-class experiences relevant to their future.

Community Engagement

Stakeholder input is important. Listening is the primary focus of meetings to strengthen the understanding that public schools are meant to serve the public.

Support and Belonging

Each student feels supported in their academic pursuits and day-to-day life by having access to information, professional school counselors, and mental health professionals.





ACADEMIC SUCCESS

We believe excellent instruction is the key to fostering high academic achievement. Our tiered system of supports delivers evidence-based instruction and data-informed interventions to meet the unique needs of each student. Through this focused approach, we strive to provide a comprehensive educational experience, promoting growth and success for all.

Initiatives

- The Sioux Falls School District Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)
 Framework Implementation Year Three
 - Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a part of the MTSS Framework
- Multiple Learning Pathways and Opportunities for Future Readiness
- Targeted Professional Learning Aligned with District Priorities



Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

MTSS is our system-wide approach that promotes deeper knowledge of differentiated instruction and interventions. The MTSS Framework aligns problem-solving data teams, Response to Intervention (RTI), and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), allowing educators to create and maintain structural support to address the needs of all students.

Proven Practices

The SFSD classrooms embody a high-performance culture that prioritizes student learning, well-being, and engagement.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Enhance student supports through full implementation of a multi-tiered approach that effectively extends and reteaches essential content standards.
 - Tier I Core Instruction
 - Tier II Supplemental Support and Extension
 - Tier III Targeted Support
- Continue development and use of data analytic tools to assist school level problem-solving teams.

College & Career Readiness Skills

College and career readiness skills play a crucial role in preparing students for the challenges and opportunities they will encounter beyond their educational journey. The Sioux Falls School District designs and implements effective practices to equip students with the necessary tools and knowledge to succeed in higher education, secure meaningful employment, and thrive in an ever-evolving professional landscape.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Design and embed college and career readiness skills across levels to enhance academic and workplace readiness for all students.
- Expand STEAM opportunities that prepare students to be innovative, creative, and systematic problem-solvers in STEAM fields of study and work.
- Expand strategic business partnerships to support student work-based experiences.
- Conduct a review and analysis process to update the middle-level encore programs and learning experiences to ensure relevance, rigor, and alignment with student interests and industry trends.
- Continue development of Agriculture and Cyber Security Courses for career-connected learning.

Targeted Professional Development

By prioritizing professional learning, we address the continuous growth and individual interests of all SFSD staff members. As we strive to establish the nation's leading school district, we ensure every staff member has access to learning opportunities that foster an exceptional educational experience for each and every student.

- Promote continuous professional learning and support for effective implementation of the Learning and Assessment Management System (Canvas).
- Provide growth opportunities for employee groups to support professional goals and aspirations.
 - Leadership Development
- Leading EDGEucators

- EA to Teacher Pathway
- Provide comprehensive training and ongoing support to building-level teams throughout the four-year implementation of MTSS and PBIS.





Progress Indicators

Implementation of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) - Year Three

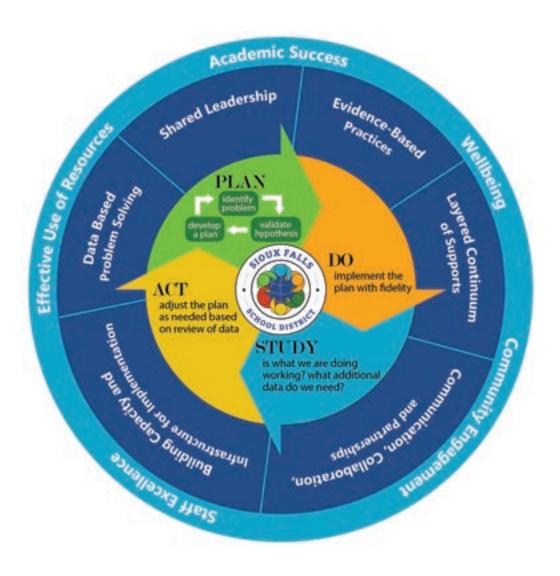
- Building problem solving-teams utilize
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Year Two
 - Classwide Research to Practice in Classroom Management

Expansion of College and Career Readiness Skills

- Increase use of Xello, a proven college and career readiness tool for student career exploration, with middle and high school students
- Assess college and career readiness milestones across all levels using post-assessment data from counseling curriculum

Increased Targeted Professional Learning

- Implementation and ongoing training for the effective use of Canvas and Mastery Connect platforms by staff, students, and parents
- Use of the Canvas platform for delivery of professional learning
- Customer Service training for all employees groups







WELL-BEING

We believe all students and staff must feel a sense of belonging and have the supports needed to be successful both academically and socially. It is our responsibility to create safe, inclusive, and nurturing learning communities in every school.

Initiatives

- Implement Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) Year Three
- Provide Access to Supports for Students, Families, and Staff
- Review and Align Programs that Provide Intensive Supports to Meet the Unique Needs of All Students
- Provide Targeted Professional Development to Equip Staff to Support the Needs of All Students



Multi-Tiered System of Supports

Multi-Tiered System of Supports for Behavior is a framework that identifies effective practices, interventions, and systems-change strategies designed to promote positive student behavior and academic achievement.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Continue full implementation of the MTSS Process (2 4 Year Process).
- Implement Year 2 of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS).
- Ensure continuous evaluation of district programming at elementary schools to minimize the impact on individual campuses while maximizing the utilization of district resources.
- Introduce the online utilization of the CSTAG-Threat Assessment Model to enhance school safety measures.

Student, Staff, & Family Supports

The success of our educational community relies on prioritizing the health and well-being of both students and staff. We ensure access to resources provided by community partners, enabling the cultivation of resilience among students and staff members.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Enhance support for homeless students and families through dedicated social work services and expanded transportation assistance.
- Revitalize and reintroduce the Employee Wellness Program, placing emphasis on incorporating staff feedback and optimizing benefit utilization.
- Establish classes at the Community Engagement Center available for Native American students and families, fostering stronger connections between schools and the community.
- Evaluate results of the recent Needs Assessment Survey among Native American families and students to identify the appropriate actions for future support and funding allocations.

Partners for Success

To fulfill our mission, we must proactively and compassionately educate all students by implementing supportive approaches. By forging community partnerships and leveraging available resources, we will connect students with caring adults, effective programs, and essential support, enabling them to achieve their goals.

- Establish Community Learning Centers (CLC) to offer high-quality after-school programs that support strong partnerships with families.
- Expand the Family Forum Series by launching its second phase, providing valuable information and resources to benefit our students and families.
- Collaborate with local agencies to bolster support for student health requirements and enhance access to healthcare services.
- Foster ongoing partnerships to augment the pool of adult mentors dedicated to serving our students.

Professional Development - Student Support

Research shows one of the greatest impacts on student performance and overall success is an excellent teacher. Prioritizing professional development opportunities for teachers is pivotal in ensuring student achievement.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Conduct staff training to ensure successful implementation of the third year of the MTSS.
- Complete the second year of PBIS Training for all staff.
- Provide staff-relevant professional development at the Inspire Education Conference.
- Present district-wide training session by Tim Kanold on The Role of Engagement, High Energy, and Effort in the Workplace Culture and How to Live a Fully Engaged and Well-Balanced Professional Work Life.
- Provide the New Hire Academy, consisting of quarterly meetings dedicated to supporting and guiding new teachers during their first and second years in the profession.

Progress Indicators

Implementation of Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS)

- MTSS professional development provided district-wide for all teachers (Year 3)
- Implementation of the PBIS model at all elementary and middle schools (Year 2)
- PBIS training for all levels to provide greater consistency across the District
- Consistent processes developed and used by all MTSS Teams
- Full and consistent implementation of CSTAG model to ensure systemic interventions for all students and schools

Creation of Student, Staff, and Family Support Systems

- Continued development of well-being resource hub on SFSD website
- Continued implementation and access of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- Community Learning Centers expanding services with Social Worker staffing
- Increased number of adult mentors to support student needs

Increased Programming Supports for Students

- Assessment of current and development of new programming options to support students in the Native American community
- Implementation of District and school-level strategies to support regular student attendance
- Continued implementation of behavior program model enhancements to address student mental health and the feedback from an independent review team

Completion of Professional Development by Staff

- Enhanced training for teachers to support MTSS/PBIS implementation and its effective impact in the classroom
- Offer professional development specific to staff personal well-being







COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We believe when stakeholder relationships are intentionally cultivated, students grow through hands-on learning experiences and real-world work and career opportunities. Through these school-community partnerships, we believe students develop a deeper connection to living and working in Sioux Falls.

Initiatives

- Expand and Enhance Strategic Partnerships to Support District Opportunities
- Embed Community Conversations into the Community Learning Center Model
- Leverage Staff Expertise to Share Knowledge and Information to Support Students and Families
- Enhance District Website Pages for Information and Accessibility

Strategic Partnerships

Strong schools are an economic driver. Businesses and schools are better when they work together.

- Forge fresh strategic partnerships to actively support the diverse opportunities within the District.
- Evaluate current partnerships to identify potential areas for expansion and improvement.
- Persist in assessing areas of potential growth to effectively align needs with available resources.

Stakeholder Listening and Learning

Active listening and valuing the diverse perspectives and feedback of stakeholders are integral to achieving continuous improvement in all areas. By actively engaging with stakeholders and considering multiple perspectives, we gain valuable insights that drive our progress and ensure that our actions align with the evolving needs and aspirations of our community.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Integrate community conversations as a core component of the Community Learning Center model, fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration.
- Actively utilize feedback from multiple sources to continuously refine our practices.

The SFSD Experience

The Sioux Falls School District Experience is the intangible gift of a quality public school education. From the moment children and adults come in contact with their public schools, we strive to exceed expectations.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Harness the expertise of staff to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and information, providing valuable support to students and families.
- Improve the District website by optimizing its pages for effortless access to a wide range of information and resources.
- Offer assistance and training to parents, equipping them with the necessary skills to
 effectively utilize new learning tools and become active partners in their child's educational
 journey.
- Deliver targeted professional development sessions designed to enhance customer service skills in a school setting, equipping staff with tools to provide exceptional support and assistance to students, parents, and other stakeholders.

Progress Indicators

- Conduct Thorough Review of Existing Partnerships to Identify Areas of Progress and Potential Growth Opportunities
- Schedule Community Learning Center (CLC) Community Conversations at All Sites to Facilitate Dialogue and Collaboration
- Align and Review Consistent Service Expectations With All Staff Members
- Develop and Deliver New Community Resources by Leveraging Staff Expertise
- Update and Expand Information on Primary Web Pages and Improve Search Functionality





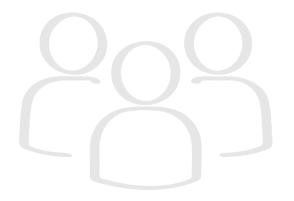


STAFF EXCELLENCE

We believe organizations must invest in building professional capacity of all staff. New and veteran employees should be continuously learning throughout their careers. When professional growth is prioritized, staff feel valued and satisfaction increases.

Initiatives

- Foster Professional Growth and Enhance Professional Capacity by Offering Relevant and Aligned Learning Opportunities to Address District and School Priorities
- Prioritize Intentional Staff Recruitment, Recognition, and Retention Strategies to Attract and Retain Talented Individuals



Build Professional Capacity

We attract, invest in, and retain staff members who consistently excel in their positions, demonstrate integrity, and embody a commitment to the SFSD vision and mission.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Provide tuition assistance programs for staff seeking Special Education certification.
- Enhance Professional Development/Leadership Development Series for administrators.
- Coordinate the Inspire Education Conference.
- Offer engaging and job-relevant training opportunities for non-teaching staff to inspire growth.
- Provide support and resources for classified staff members interested in becoming teachers.

Staff Recruitment, Recognition, and Retention

In a competitive landscape, the top applicants have many options. When we demonstrate a commitment to strong working relationships and a focus on student achievement, the District's brand is positively recognized. By cultivating a work environment and organizational culture that prioritizes staff motivation, engagement, and sense of beloning, we foster an atmosphere conducive to professional growth and sustained engagement.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Recognize and celebrate high-achieving staff in all employee groups.
- Enhance and expand the employee milestone recognition program.
- Conduct evaluations of recruitment and staffing strategies.
- Extend onboarding activities for new staff members to provide support and foster belonging
- Analyze the weekly pay program for substitute teachers and determine feasibility for other employee groups.

Staff Innovation

SFSD encourages staff to take risks and seek innovative solutions to enrich the student experience and the staff work environment.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Foster a spirit of collaboration and innovation by cultivating staff ideas for new opportunities.
- Increase opportunities for staff members to experience innovation within our community and facilitate networking with educators from other school districts.
- Create a vibrant platform for sharing insights and best practices, enabling staff to connect and learn from one another.

Progress Indicators

- Increased Employee Retention in All Groups, with Special Focus on Hard-to-Fill Positions
- Collection and Use of Employee Feedback Through Various Communication Methods
- Recruitment of Diverse Employees to More Closely Represent Student Demographics







EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES

We believe the effective and strategic use of resources results in optimal conditions to educate and prepare each of our students to succeed in a changing world.

Initiatives

- Analyze Future Facility Needs to Adequately Accommodate Growth
- Evaluate Impact of Transportation on Student Success and Engagement
- Expand Access and Strengthen Child Nutrition Program
- Foster Fiscal Responsibility

Future Facility Needs

A strong economy drives the need for school expansions and new facilities. The District works collaboratively with community partners to determine when and where schools are needed.

- Work with community partners to enhance after-school options at all levels.
- Analyze enrollment projections to establish timeline for purchasing land for a future elementary school in western Sioux Falls.
- Collaborate with City and community partners to assess existing Whittier site, the neighborhood, and Falls Park master plan for potential location alternatives.
- Strategically plan opening of Northwest Elementary in 2025, including attendance boundaries, name, purchasing furniture/equipment, and securing staff.

Transportation

Safety is a top priority. Bus transportation is available in identified District locations.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Streamline and enhance field trip management by implementing an automated system to increase efficiency and reduce scheduling/billing errors.
- Implement messaging system to deliver communication regarding bus changes/delays directly from the transportation provider to the parents/families.
- Increase parent/family usage of Stopfinder app.

Child Nutrition

Healthy and well-fed students are more able to focus on school work. Nearly half of SFSD students qualify for free/reduced priced meals based on income guidelines.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Prioritize meal quality and student preferences while encouraging healthy eating habits.
- Offer customer service training to all meal service staff to create a supportive environment and enhance the overall dining experience.
- Enhance methods by which families can apply for free/reduced meals paper, phone, online, etc.

Fiscal Responsibility

Taxpayers deserve accountability and SFSD consistently delivers a balanced budget. The District also advocates for appropriate levels of funding to support strong programs and opportunities for students, as well as competitive compensation for staff.

The Sioux Falls School District will:

- Implement and facilitate training of new time management system to improve efficiency and accuracy of payroll management.
- Maintain favorable financial comparisons to both local school districts and national peers as a measure of accountability to taxpayers and responsible stewardship of resources.

Progress Indicators

- Increase Participation in After-School Programs
- Decrease Bus Routes with Delays Over 10 Minutes
- Increase Student Meal Participation Rates
- Achieve Top Quartile Ranking for Lowest Homeowner Property Tax Obligations for Sioux Falls and Surrounding School Districts





Profile of a Learner

A Sioux Falls School District student demonstrates adaptability and flexibility in an ever-changing world as....

An Empowered Learner

- Mastering rigorous content and applying knowledge to real-life situations
- · Showing passion for and ownership of their own learning
- Exhibiting responsible digital citizenship and utilizing technological skills to explore, exchange, and design
- Demonstrating ability to analyze problems and explore solutions

A Global Citizen

- · Modeling respect for all
- Understanding and engaging in local, national, and global issues
- Engaging in conversations to create inclusive and welcoming communities
- Assuming shared responsibility in collaborative work

A Resilient Thinker

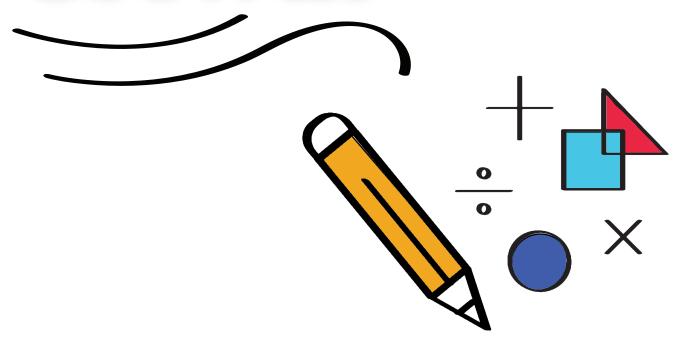
- Taking risks, accepting challenges, and valuing the learning that comes from failure
- Displaying resilience, grit, and honesty
- Demonstrating confidence in the ability to affect change
- Engaging in self-reflection to understand strengths and unique gifts

A Skilled Communicator

- Speaking and writing with clarity and purpose
- Actively listening to discern meaning, advance understanding, and support others
- Developing a responsible digital footprint
- Evaluating information sources for validity, relevance, and impact



Measuring Growth

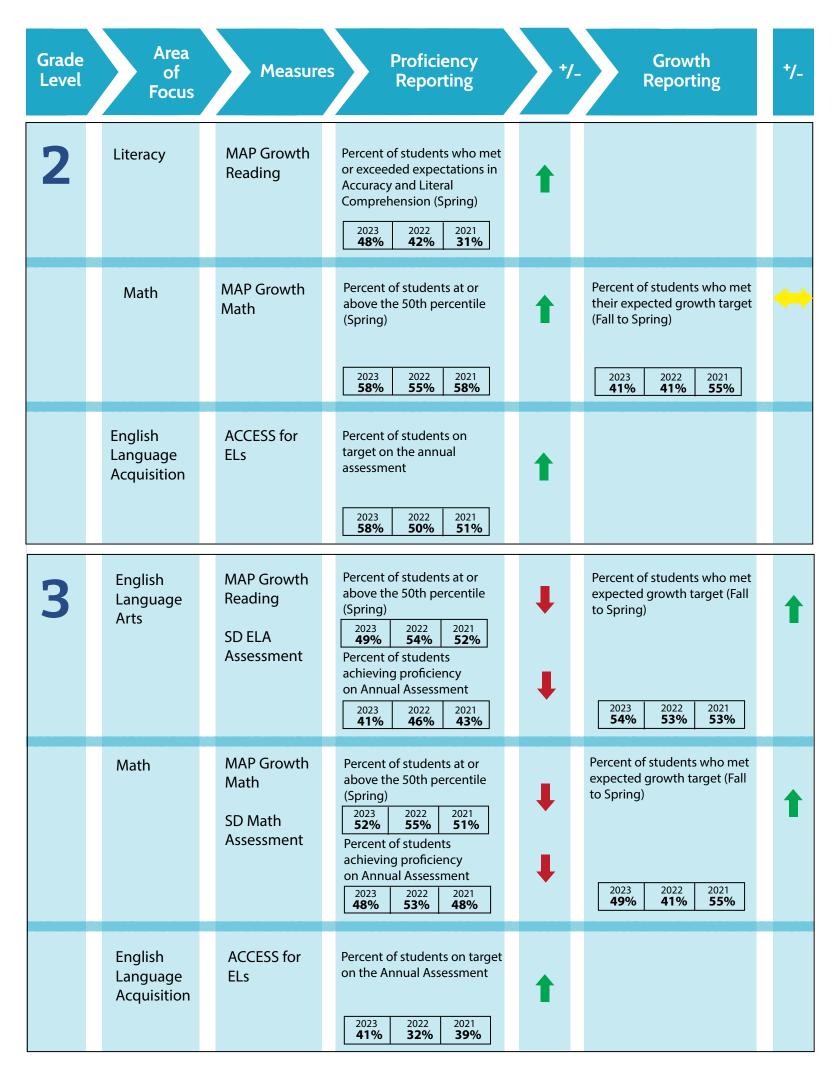


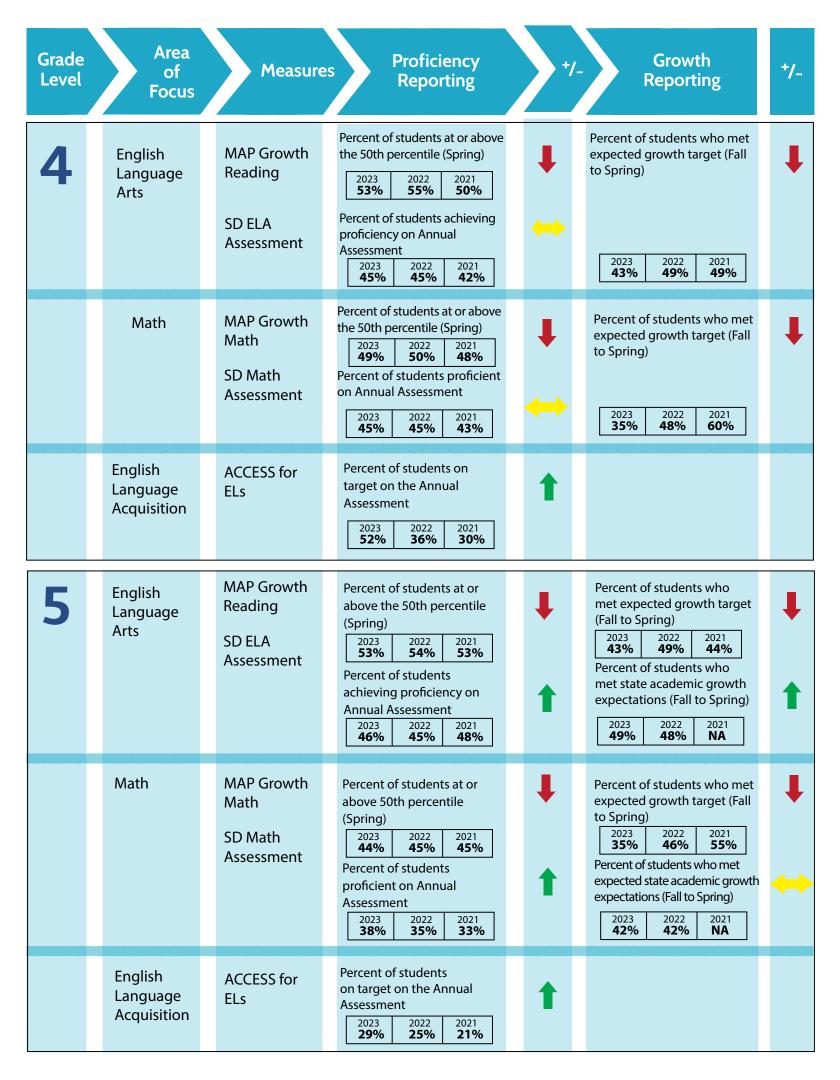
District Metrics

To educate and prepare each student to succeed in a changing world.

Elementary Students Proficiency & Growth Targets Kindergarten - Grade 5

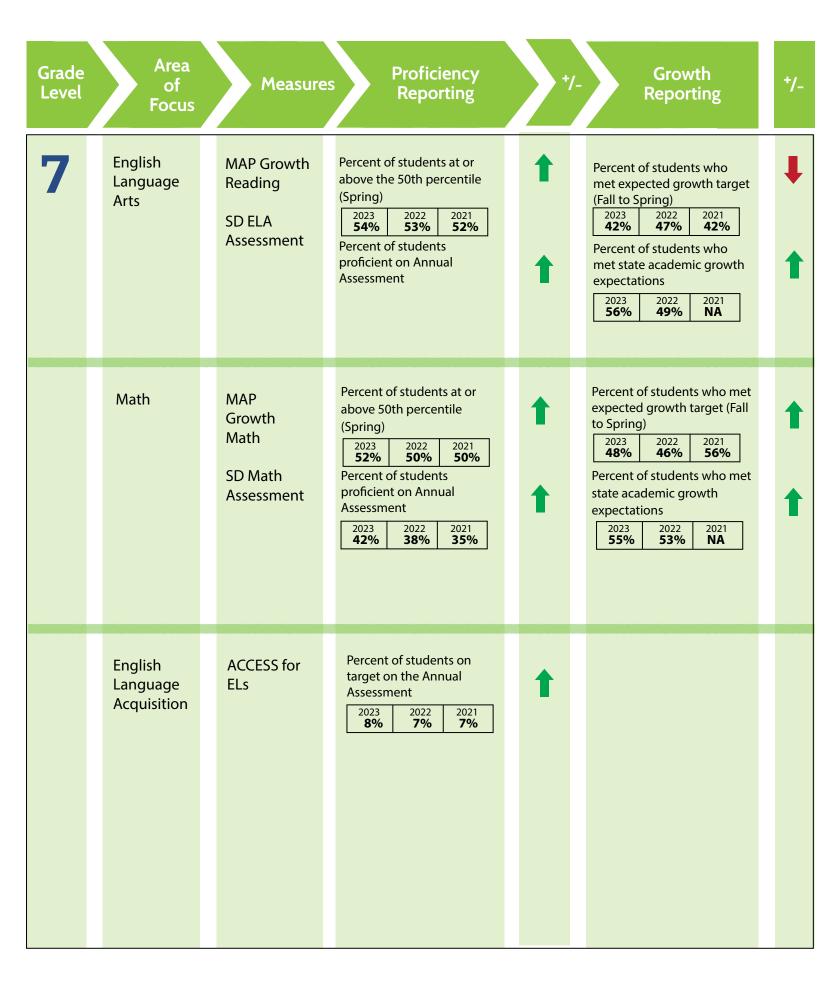
Grade Level	Area of Focus		Proficiency Reporting	Growth Reporting	+/-
K	Literacy	MAP Reading Fluency	Percent of students who met or exceeded expectations in Phonological Awareness and Phonics/Word Recognition (Spring) 2023 2022 2021 70% 71% 67%		
	Math	MAP Growth Math	Percent of students at or above the 50th percentile (Spring) 2023 2022 2021 59% 58% 63%	Percent of students who met expected growth target (Fall to Spring) 2023 2022 2021 48% 49% 51%	1
1	Literacy	MAP Reading Fluency	Percent of students who met or exceeded expectations in Phonological Awareness and Phonics/Word Recognition (Spring) 2023 2022 2021 45% 45% 37%		
	Math	MAP Growth Math	Percent of students at or above the 50th percentile (Spring) 2023 2022 2021 48% 51% 49%	Percent of students who met expected growth target (Fall to Spring) SY23: 40 SY22: 41 SY21: 50 2023 2022 2021 40% 41% 50%	1
	English Language Acquisition	ACCESS for ELs	Percent of students on track on the Annual Assessment 2023 2022 2021 57% 66% 62%		

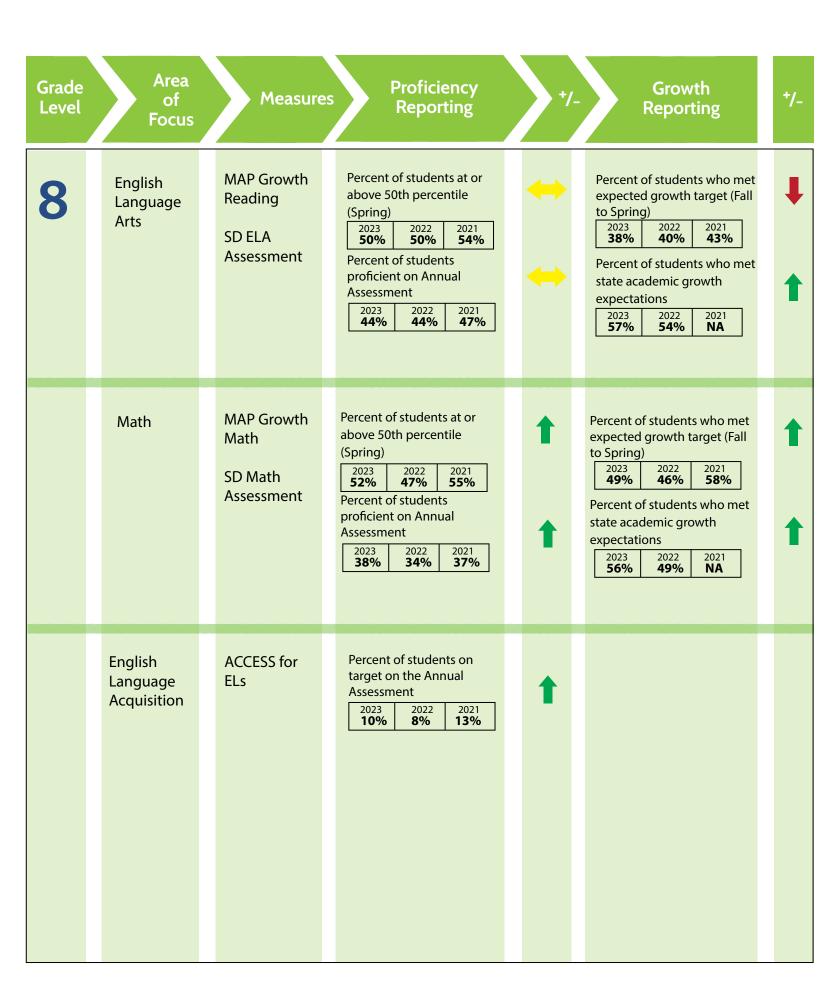




Middle School Students Proficiency & Growth Targets Grades 6 - 8

Grade Level	Area of Focus	Measures	Proficiency Reporting	+/.	Growth Reporting	+/-
6	English Language Arts	MAP Growth Reading SD ELA Assessment	Percent of students at or above the 50th percentile (Spring) 2023 2022 2021 50% 54% 52% Percent of students proficient on Annual Assessment 2023 2022 2021 42% 43% 40%	•	Percent of students who met expected growth target (Fall to Spring) 2023 2022 2021 44% Percent of students who met state academic growth expectations	1
	Math	MAP Growth Math SD Math Assessment	Percent of students at or above the 50th percentile (Spring) 2023 2022 2021 46% Percent of students proficient on Annual Assessment 2023 2022 2021 37% 34% 30%	1	Percent of students who met state academic growth expectations (Fall to Spring) Percent of students who met state academic growth expectations 2023 2022 2021 48% 42% NA	1
	English Language Acquisition	ACCESS for ELs	Percent of students on target on the Annual Assessment 2023 2022 2021 10% 9% 5%	1		





High School Students Proficiency & Growth Targets Grades 9 - 12

Grade Level	Area of Focus	Measures	Proficiency Reporting	+/-	Growth Reporting	+/-
H S Grades 9-12	English Language Arts	SD ELA Assessment [Grade 11]	Percent of students proficient on Annual Assessment 2023 2022 2021 66% 67% 61%	•		
	Math	SD Math Assessment [Grade 11]	Percent of students proficient on Annual Assessment 2023 2022 2021 43% 43% 39%	↔		
	English Language Acquisition	ACCESS for ELs Grade 9 Grade 10 Grade 11 Grade 12	Percent of students on target on Annual Assessment	1		
	On-Time Graduation Rate	SD Report Card	2023 85.35% 2022 2021 85.6% 84.7%	1		
	College/ Career Readiness	Assessment Readiness Coursework Readiness College & Career Readiness	Percent of grads who were assessment ready Percent of grads who were coursework ready 2023 2022 2021 63% 64% 75% Percent of grads who were assessment and coursework ready 2023 2022 2021 51% 47% 53%	1		