

Our Focus...

...Student Learning

The Jefferson School District Board of Education, teachers, support staff and administration believe that, for this to happen, we must dedicate time to making ourselves better at supporting student learning, and we must dedicate ourselves to professional growth.

In the spring of 2010, Jefferson School District began working toward creating a culture of learning for our students. We have set aside time during the school year to support a strategic focus on a concept called “Professional Learning Communities.”

In this effort, we have scheduled specific time to address the training and collaborative time needed to make this goal a reality. Jefferson School District appreciates the community allowing us staff development time to create a better learning environment for our students. It is our desire to provide our students with the best opportunity for the best education possible and to support and encourage all of our students to take advantage of maximum learning.

Superintendent's Note...

Dear Friend of Education:

Jefferson School District engaged parents, staff, students, civic and business leaders, and other patrons in the original strategic planning process. Focused on envisioning the best possible future for our children, participants soon determined that everything we do is aimed towards the highest quality of student achievement.

During a subsequent review of the plan, the Board of Directors recognized the efforts of that original 28-member team and acknowledged that the same still holds true today.

This publication outlines the original recommendation with the addition of only a few clarifying statements to reflect current practices.

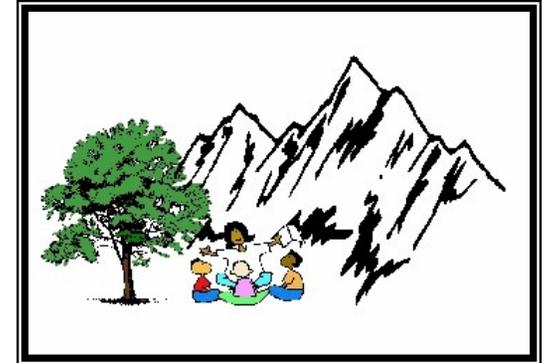
*Sincerely,
Kent Klewitz, Superintendent*

Our Thanks . . .

To the initial group of twenty eight who began the process, and to the School Board and Staff of Jefferson School District 14J for bringing the finished product to completion.

Strategic Plan

JEFFERSON



SCHOOL DISTRICT 14J



*“Teach a Child,
Build a Future”*

2011

Our Vision . . .

***“Teach a Child,
Build a Future”***

We Believe. . .

- . . . education requires everyone.
- . . . every child can be a successful learner.
- . . . education is the strength of our community.
- . . . everyone deserves respect.
- . . . high expectations, challenge, and cooperation promote greater achievement.



Jefferson's families, schools and community join together to provide a quality education for our students.

Our Mission . . .

We are dedicated to providing an appropriate education to ALL STUDENTS enabling them to be positive members of society TODAY and in the FUTURE.

Our Goals. . .

Improve the educational experience by adding learning opportunities and supports annually.

Create partnerships each year that increase classroom learning.

Pursue new or current resources to allow for greater learning opportunities.

Ensure a safe environment by supporting best practices and building student relationships.

Make our district the district of choice as measured by increasing enrollment and increasing state assessment scores.



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Professional Learning Communities...

...or PLC's as we have come to know them, are a purposeful and strategic effort that places all of our attention on student learning. Let's look at the "Big Ideas."

Big Idea #1: Ensuring that Students Learn

This means a simple shift-from a focus on teaching to a focus on learning. We no longer just make sure the students have been taught, we ensure our students learn.

Big Idea #2: A Culture of Collaboration

Working to create structures and practices that promote a collaborative culture and provide focused time for staff to work and plan together. This is seen as a systematic process in which teachers work together to analyze and improve their classroom practice. Teachers work in teams and engage in an ongoing cycle of questions that promotes deep team learning and improved instruction.

Big Idea #3: A Focus on Results

We judge our effectiveness on results. Teacher teams participate in an ongoing process of identifying the current level of student achievement, establishing a goal to improve the current level, working together to achieve the goal and providing periodic evidence of progress. Simply put, we identify what we want the kids to know, teach with a focus on learning the skills, assess for progress, and plan for how we will assist the students who need more time and instruction to learn the skill.