

WLCS D - Good to Great

2014-2019

I. Curriculum and Instruction

The WLC School District will be characterized by a relentless focus on scholarship, the centrality of language, a coherent curriculum, and empowerment of students in a climate of active learning.

Objective 1: Leverage state, federal and local content standards, competencies and shifts in instructional practice to more fully engage all students in high quality learning activities.

Action Item: Implement the District's supervision and evaluation model with changes based on feedback from evaluators and teaching staff. Add Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) as a pilot. Continue to seek input and feedback from evaluators and teaching staff throughout the implementation.

Action Item: Develop a venue and increase the use and sharing of student work, growth and achievement data to study and address the causes of students who are not succeeding. Implement recommendations as time and resources allow.

Action Item: Support an agenda for the District Curriculum Coordinator to work with teachers at each level (elementary, middle, high) on documenting the standards, competencies, desired teacher outcomes, assessments and classroom activities for each grade level and content area for the 2015-2016 school year.

Action Item: Explore the possibility of accelerating students at the high school by offering higher level learning opportunities in various content areas, using a school within a school philosophy.

Action Item: District Coordinator will increase department and grade level leaders' roles in moving curriculum forward.

Objective 2: Explore and expand opportunities for learning that acknowledge students' learning styles and motivation, to include such items as stem/steam courses or modules, full day kindergarten, NAEYC accreditation, gifted and talented/enrichment opportunities, expanded ELOs, career oriented electives, and 21st century practical skills.

Action Item: Identify individuals and/or committees that investigate new opportunities for learning. Complete a review and revision of the program of studies for the high school. Implement a daily block of time for elementary students to engage in enrichment opportunities that involve student choice as the first step toward a gifted and talented program. Begin the NAEYC accreditation process at the LCS Early Learning Center. Empower the STEAM group to repeat a STEAM night at the high school, with added participation from elementary teachers and students.

II. School Culture and Climate

A) WLC schools will be inviting, clean, healthy, attractive, safe and secure learning environments.

Objective 1: Expand the conversation regarding maintaining and improving facilities, empower principals to set priorities and fully manage the day-to-day operations.

Action Item: Include principals in capital projects planning and the development of an Integrated Master Plan with respect to facilities and grounds, maintenance and furnishings.

Action Item: Develop a facilities maintenance manual that addresses responsibilities for all staff to maintain cleanliness and orderliness of classrooms and other interior spaces in our schools.

Objective 2: Develop a district crisis management plan in conjunction with the District Safety Committee that addresses natural and man-made disruptions in the safe running of our schools. Review safety and security at the entrances and exits of each school, with recommendations for implementation of needed upgrades.

Action Item: Employ safety and security advisor to work with members of the district safety committee to complete and ready for implementation a crisis management plan.

Action Item: Make secure vestibules a priority for each school and implement upgrades where needed.

B) WLC schools will foster acceptance and respect for all, a sense of duty to self and others, and work to instill value for the educational process among parents and students.

Objective 1: Implement, review, and revise programs and activities that focus on respect for self and others.

Action Item: Have staff review programs such as Responsive Classroom and Guidance Curriculum to monitor implementation, document changes in student behavior, and revise the curriculum as needed.

Action Item: Proactively build capacity to work with families to intervene and remediate student barriers to success such as student attendance/participation in school.

Action Item: Bring families and community into venues inside and outside the school day that feature individual student work.

Action Item: Ensure the administrative team models professional respect for all and sets expectations for respectful behavior for all staff.

Objective 2: Pursue time to support increased staff collaboration to collect and share feedback on individual and shared professional practice in pursuit of an authentic learning community.

Action Item: Develop a schedule and an agenda that creates teacher collaboration among and across WLC schools to create a climate of mutual support and expanded instructional opportunities for students. Include a collaboratively planned and delivered professional development day focused on enhancing student engagement through technology.

III. Leadership and Service:

A) The WLC School District will leverage its small size and strong sense of community to balance rational and cultural connections that guide decisions.

Objective 1: Create and follow norms for decision-making that seek and allow for diverse viewpoints to be welcome and thoughtfully considered while ensuring timely decisions that move an agenda forward.

Action Item: Optimize administrative meeting time with group developed meeting norms, an agenda that is focused on making progress on the Good to Great Plan, and occasions for collaborative problem solving. Communicate and inspire staff to give input and engage in a Good to Great philosophy that uniquely applies to our district.

Objective 2: Institute occasions for Board/teacher conversations at Board meetings based on informational items presented by small groups of content or grade specific staff.

Action Item: Plan and implement a series of teacher presentations that explore different curricular areas and give rise to informal discussion with Board members regarding successes and concerns.

Objective 3: Seek input whenever possible and practical from a broad representation of school community stakeholders through informational events such as community forums and/or information gathering tools such as surveys.

Action Item: Place a recurring item on administrative meeting agenda to identify occasions that lend themselves to seeking input and implement as many as time and resources allow.

B) The WLC School District will expand opportunities for participation and leadership in school activities, protocols and events among staff, students, parents and community.

Objective 1: Actively seek input from staff, students, parents and community that sets a direction for high quality education in the District.

Action Item: Employ a survey and/or community forum(s) to answer questions such as:

- What does a great school district do for students desiring to go on to college?
- What does a great school district do for those students entering the workforce?
- Do we prepare students with life skills that translate into post-secondary success?

Objective 2: Explore curriculum structures that empower teachers to incorporate the students, parents and community into the learning activities.

Action Item: Encourage and expect that teachers will develop plans to bring the community into the schools and the schools into the community.