



To optimize student potential for success in a global society

Yankton School District

- ◆ Yankton High School
- ◆ Yankton Middle School
- ◆ Beadle Elementary
- ◆ Lincoln Elementary
- ◆ Stewart Elementary
- ◆ Webster Elementary

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FORWARD 2024

2019 – 2024



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Forward 2024 Timeline of Events

In October and November 2018, over 1,000 members of the Yankton Community (including parents, patrons, students, support staff, and teachers) participated in an online survey. The participants shared their thoughts regarding the Forward 2024 focus areas – facilities, funding, school safety, and student achievement along with questions focused on communication, school environment, quality of education, and school support within the Yankton School District.

In November 2018, over 65 members of the community attended Collaborative Strategic Planning Session 1. During this session, the following information was presented: 2014-2019 Strategic Plan goals and accomplishments, statistical data regarding the Forward 2024 focus areas, and the online survey results. In addition, the participants identified strengths, challenges, and needs-to-be-addressed in Forward 2024 to continue to achieve the Mission and Belief Statements of the Yankton School District.

In December 2018, about 40 members of the community gathered for a second collaborative session to categorize the needs identified during the first session. Each group then prioritized the categorized list of needs. The session concluded with visioning statements for the Yankton School District upon the completion of Forward 2024.

In January 2019, the Yankton School District Administrators met to develop focus area goals using the visioning statements written at the second collaborative session meeting. Also, Steering Committee groups were formed for each of the five focus areas. Committee members include administrators, teachers, parents and community members, and a school board member.

The Steering Committees met throughout February and March to develop a 5 year action plan to carry out the focus area goal. Committee members collaboratively wrote objectives and action items with target dates to ensure progress and implementation.

The Forward 2024 Strategic Plan was presented to the community at an informational meeting in April 2019.



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Mission & Belief Statements

The Mission Statement of the Yankton School District is to optimize student potential for success in a global society.

Partnership

Education is a partnership among the community, parents, students and school personnel; high standards are essential for this partnership to be successful.

Environment

The school system provides a safe educational environment, which encourages physical, emotional, and academic growth in a culturally diverse society.

Atmosphere

Learning is enhanced by a positive and supportive atmosphere, which encourages creativity, builds self-esteem, and recognizes students' success.

Individualization

Learning requires recognition of each student's instructional style and the use of effective methods, which make learning interesting and individualized.

Values

Ethical values, including an appreciation of diversity, integrity, compassion, courage, commitment, and responsibility, are integral to the learning process.

Responsibility

With proper guidance, students are capable of making informed choices and are responsible for their actions.

Learning

Education must support lifelong learning by teaching students to access and apply information for success in a global society.

Adopted by the Yankton School Board on June 14, 1993, Action #93-347
Amended June 12, 1999, Action #2000-123
Amended February 9, 2004, Action #2004-17
Amended August 11, 2014; Action #2015-113



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Forward 2024 Goals

- ❖ *To implement a comprehensive plan for an early childhood facility and building configuration.*
- ❖ *To secure ongoing local and state funding for 21st century learning needs, highly-qualified staff, new facilities, and a sustainable employee insurance benefit.*
- ❖ *To provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment to support mental well-being.*
- ❖ *To provide safe, secure, and updated environments.*
- ❖ *To enhance programming that meets diverse student learning needs and continue to rank among the highest in South Dakota for academic achievement.*



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Facilities

VISIONING STATEMENT:

In its five year vision, the Yankton School District has implemented a comprehensive plan for an early childhood facility and building configuration.

GOAL:

To implement a comprehensive plan for an early childhood facility and building configuration.

OBJECTIVES:

- ❑ Development and construction of a new early childhood facility and a recommendation for grade-level or neighborhood buildings.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Facilities Committee Chair: Melanie Ryken, Elementary Principal

Carey Mitzel, Elementary Principal

Dr. Heather Olson, Assistant Middle School Principal

Frani Kieffer, School Board Member

Melanie Duchscher, Early Childhood Teacher

Roxann Hunhoff, Elementary Teacher

Luke Youmans, Middle School Teacher

Brady Muth, High School Teacher

Sarah Powell, Parent/Community Member

Marie Steckelberg, Parent/Community Member



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ACTION PLAN

Objective #1: Development and construction of a new early childhood facility and a recommendation for grade-level or neighborhood buildings.

Action Item: Hire a firm to do a comprehensive study of the academic facilities including the development of an early childhood center and future building configuration (grade-level or neighborhood buildings).

Target Date: 2020-22 School Year

Action Item: Formulate an early childhood facility committee of volunteers to lead the efforts in educating and engaging the parents, community, and businesses about the need for an early childhood facility.

Target Date: 2022-23 School Year

Action Item: Secure funding for an early childhood facility.

Target Date: 2023-24 School Year



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Funding

VISIONING STATEMENT:

In its five-year vision, the Yankton School District is continuing to secure ongoing local and state funding for 21st century learning needs, highly-qualified staff, new facilities, and a sustainable employee insurance benefit.

GOAL:

To secure ongoing local and state funding for 21st century learning needs, highly-qualified staff, new facilities, and a sustainable employee insurance benefit.

OBJECTIVES:

- Secure additional local funding through the passing of a successful Opt Out for the Yankton School District.
- Provide a sustainable Health Care Plan and Self Insurance Fund for the Yankton School District.
- Issue Capital Outlay Certificates for construction of a new early childhood facility.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Funding Committee Chair: Dr. Wayne Kindle, Superintendent

Jason Bietz, Business Manager

Kathy Greenaway, School Board Member

Sue May, Elementary Teacher

Stacy Ryken, Middle School Teacher

Angela Larson, High School Teacher

Kevin Moe, Parent/Community Member

Matt Tereshinski, Parent/Community Member



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ACTION PLAN

Objective #1: Secure additional local funding through the passing of a successful Opt Out for the Yankton School District.

Action Item: Formulate committee, led by volunteers, which will lead the efforts in educating and engaging the public, parents, community, and businesses about the need for an Opt Out.

Target Date: 2019-20

Action Item: Adopt an Opt Out Resolution.

Target Date: Adopted before July 15, 2020

Objective #2: Provide a sustainable Health Care Plan and Self Insurance Fund for the Yankton School District.

Action Item: Develop and implement an on-going plan of action which provides for a sustainable Health Care Plan and Self Insurance Fund.

Target Date: 2019-20 School Year

Action Item: Provide ongoing monitoring of the Health Care Plan and Self Insurance Fund through the formation of a committee appointed by the School Superintendent.

Target Date: 2019-24 School Year

Objective #3: Issue Capital Outlay Certificates for construction of a new early childhood facility.

Action Item: Secure funding for an early childhood facility through Capital Outlay Certificates.

Target Date: On or before 2023-24 School Year



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Mental Well-Being

VISIONING STATEMENT:

In its five-year vision, the Yankton School District is providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment to support mental well-being.

GOAL: To provide a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment to support mental well-being.

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify mental wellness needs of students in the Yankton School District at all grade levels.
- Provide professional development and staff training so that students are provided skills to develop a healthy, whole person.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Mental Well-Being Committee Chair: Kathy Wagner, Director of Student Services

Paul Struck, Elementary Principal

Tony Beste, Assistant High School Principal

Terry Crandall, School Board Member

Andrea Wright, Counselor Department Chair

Jamie VanWinkle, Elementary Teacher

Drew Lawrence, Middle School Teacher

Mallory Schmidt, High School Teacher

Kristen Taggart, Parent/Community Member

Jennifer Powell, Parent/Community Member



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ACTION PLAN

Objective #1: Identify mental wellness needs of students in the Yankton School District at all grade levels.

Action Item: Survey staff, students, and parents to determine mental wellness needs.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Prioritize mental wellness needs at each level - PreK-5, 6-8, 9-12.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Objective #2: Provide professional development and staff training so that students are provided skills to develop a healthy, whole person.

Action Item: Explore new programs and resources to identify programs and/or curriculum to be implemented.

Target Date: 2020-2024

Action Item: Identify partnerships and meet with local agencies.

Target Date: 2020-2024

Action Item: Explore and provide education and resources to staff, parents, and students.

Target Date: 2020-2024



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School Safety

VISIONING STATEMENT:

In its five-year vision, the Yankton School District is continuing to provide safe, secure, and updated environments.

GOAL:

To provide safe, secure, and updated environments.

OBJECTIVES:

- Review existing school resource officer program.
- Provide parents information on student safety.
- Provide staff training and practice implementing safety plans.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Safety Committee Chair: Jerome Klimisch, Elementary Principal

Ryan Mors, Activities Director & Assistant High School Principal

Jill Sternquist, School Board Member

Preston Crissey, School Resource Officer

Michele Fleeer, Elementary Teacher

Cierra Voeltz, Middle School Teacher

Tom Kuchta, High School Teacher

Brad Parker, Community Resource Officer

Aaron Crisman, Parent/Community Member



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ACTION PLAN

Objective #1: Review existing School Resource Officer program.

Action Item: Track and report incident data to the school board to guide safety needs.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Explore funding grants with other agencies at the local, state, and federal levels.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Objective #2: Provide parents information on student safety.

Action Item: Have School Resource Officer, School Administration, and Counselors provide information on current student safety issues through safety forums, school newsletters, and text messaging with student safety themes.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Objective #3: Provide staff training and practice implementing safety plans.

Action Item: Train new staff on safety plans.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Create flip chart of duties and practice reunification plan.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Study software options for crisis planning and reunification.

Target Date: 2019-2021



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Student Achievement

VISIONING STATEMENT:

In its five-year vision, the Yankton School District is implementing programming to meet diverse student learning needs and continuing to rank among the highest in South Dakota for academic achievement.

GOAL:

To enhance programming that meets diverse student learning needs and continue to rank among the highest in South Dakota for academic achievement.

OBJECTIVES:

- ❑ Use progressive programming that provides resources to support educators, students, and parents in our community while showing growth for all students at their achievement levels.
- ❑ Use 21st century skills to expand curriculum and cultivate engagement for student success.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Student Achievement Committee Chair: Dr. Jennifer Johnke, High School Principal

Todd Dvoracek, Middle School Principal

Nicole Valnes, Curriculum Director/Elementary Technology Integrationist

Sarah Carda, School Board Member

Cody Lukkes, Early Childhood Special Education (Birth to 3 Provider)

Rebecca Gravolt, Elementary Teacher

Emily Harriman, Middle School Teacher

Brett Sime, High School Teacher

Danyal Chance, Parent/Community Member

Jennifer Larson, Parent/Community Member



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ACTION PLAN

Objective #1: Use progressive programming that provides resources to support educators, students, and parents in our community while showing growth for all students at their achievement levels.

Action Item: Build a district-wide STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math) Library.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Examine math intervention programs for all levels to differentiate learning and to provide parent support for content.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Objective #2: Use 21st century skills to expand curriculum and cultivate engagement for student success.

Action Item: Provide Makerspaces and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math) labs by examining existing spaces to create diversified classrooms.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Provide and use optimal professional development experiences for staff.

Target Date: 2019-2024

Action Item: Continue to offer communication tools for student and parent support.

Target Date: 2019-2024



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Timeline 2019-2024					
	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Facilities <i>Chair-Mel Ryken</i>		Hire a firm to do a comprehensive study of the academic facilities including discussions regarding early childhood development center along with future building configuration (grade-level or neighborhood buildings).			
				Formulate an early childhood facility committee of volunteers to lead the efforts in educating and engaging the parents, community, and businesses about the need for an early childhood facility.	
			Secure funding for an early childhood facility.		
Funding <i>Chair - Dr. Wayne Kindle</i>	Formulate committee, led by volunteers, which will lead the efforts in educating and engaging the public, parents, community, and businesses about the need for an Opt Out.				
	Adopt an Opt Out Resolution. (before July 15, 2020)				
	Develop and implement an on-going plan of action which provides for a sustainable Health Care Plan and Self Insurance Fund.				



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	Provide ongoing monitoring of the Health Care Plan and Self Insurance Fund through the formation of a committee appointed by the School Superintendent.			
				(on or before) Secure funding for an early childhood facility through Capital Outlay Certificates.
Mental Well-Being Chair - Kathy Wagner	Survey staff, students, and parents to determine mental wellness needs.			
	Prioritize mental wellness needs at each PreK-5, 6-8, 9-12.			
		Explore new programs and resources to identify programs and/or curriculum to be implemented.		
		Identify partnerships and meet with local agencies.		
		Explore and provide education and resources to staff, parents, and students.		
School Safety Chair - Jerome Klimish	Track and report incident data to the school board to guide safety needs.			
	Explore funding grants with other agencies at the local, state, and federal levels.			
	Have School Resource Officer, School Administration, and Counselors provide information on current student safety issues through safety forums, school newsletters, and text messaging with student safety themes.			
	Train new staff on safety plans.			
	Create flip chart of duties and practice reunification plan.			
		Study software options for crisis planning and re-unification.		
Student Achievement Chair - Dr. Jennifer Johnke	Build a district-wide STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math) Library.			
	Examine math intervention programs for all levels to differentiate learning and to provide parent support for content.			
	Provide Makerspaces and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math) labs by examining existing spaces to create diversified classrooms.			
	Provide and use optimal professional development experiences for staff.			
	Continue to offer communication tools for student and parent support.			