

# BENSALEM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT



## **Mission Statement**

Striving to be the premier educational institution in Bucks County, we will provide a first class education for the whole child that challenges and supports each student to discover a passion for learning while designing and achieving a personal vision of success.

## **Shared Values**

- Each child has unique learning needs.
- All students can learn and be successful.
- Success in school can be defined in multiple ways.
- Our success requires the collaborative support of the entire community.
- Each member of our school community deserves mutual respect in a safe and healthy environment.
- While the District maintains fiscal responsibility, decisions should be driven by students' needs and interests.

## **Vision Statement**

The Bensalem Township School District has experienced many changes in its history. It has evolved from a “one room schoolhouse” community, to an escape from areas of urbanization, to the “metro suburban” township it is today, a township rich with all the trappings and amenities of a big city. Throughout these changes, the school district has remained mindful of its roots as a community of friends organized around the concept of a “good peace.” Now the school district celebrates and strives to meet the challenges of a diverse and changing community. We are committed to serving a student population rich with a diversity of socioeconomic background, ethnicity, race, religion and educational ability. We work in consort with numerous community service organizations to create and sustain an environment that supports educational excellence for each individual student. We strive to be the premier educational institution in Bucks County, a school system that is a beacon for families that settle in the greater Philadelphia area and a work place that is the employment goal of teachers and support staff throughout Bucks County. We seek to ensure that each student has the explicit opportunity to discover a passion for learning and achievement that enhances the child’s future aspirations and values. We build an educational environment that ensures that each child is safe, engaged, healthy, supported and challenged. In order to meet the needs of the whole child, we require skilled and compassionate leaders; knowledgeable, creative and dedicated faculty and staff; proud and involved parents and stakeholders; and a spirit of innovation and perseverance. Through continuous reflection and renewal, innovative programs, comprehensive professional development, and active community involvement and coordination, we will achieve our vision for the Bensalem Township School District.

## **Goals**

### **Goal #1 – Equity and Excellence - Close the Achievement and Access Gaps**

#### **Strategies/Actions:**

- Develop common assessments in all core academic areas that are aligned to the PA Core Standards
- Develop a tiered system of academic and behavioral intervention for grades K-8
- Conduct a K-12 curriculum audit to identify gaps in standards alignment

### **Goal #2 – Communication and Engagement**

#### **Strategies/Actions:**

- Promote strong relationships between the schools and community
- Continue to support and develop School-Wide Positive Behavior Support (SWBPS) and Restorative Practices and other best practices
- Develop relevant parental engagement and education programs for grades K-12
- Enhance and expand social skills, preventions and anti-bullying curricula K-12
- Use school communication systems (newsletters, e-mail blasts, website) to educate parents on the social and problem solving skill-building programs addressed in schools
- Expand use of social media including Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- Enhance district website to include a search feature, the new e-School Home Access Center district-wide, and mobile device website applications
- Increase accessibility of district communications to speakers of other languages
- Improve parental involvement in all schools through district-wide scheduling and announcement of all parent involvement opportunities via the website calendar and news links
- Increase use of global communication systems for non-emergency and emergency announcements

### **Goal #3 – Systems and Procedures**

#### **Strategies/Actions:**

##### **1. Management**

- Intentional multi-year planning
- Set and follow Organizational Structure
- Follow best practices for hiring and managing staff
- Increase Professional development at all levels

##### **2. Accountability**

- Hold administrators responsible
- Communicate the desired measurable goals based on data, and budget appropriately

##### **3. Consistency**

- Follow procedures established in the plan at each level
- Hold quarterly status meetings to ensure short and long term goals are met