

Tacoma School District

Strategic Plan

Every Student. Every Day.



A Message From The Board of Directors

The Tacoma School District 2011-2015 Strategic Plan is the result of our belief that all students achieve their full potential by participation in an educational experience that is relevant, challenging and individualized, an experience that shares such common values as equity, cultural understanding, accountability and leadership and was designed based on the overarching goals of achievement, innovation, instruction, collaboration, early learning, and safety for all students in all schools.

Through this Strategic Plan the Tacoma School District will gain:

- A roadmap that drives district initiatives
- Educational programs and philosophy rooted in the district's core values
- A laser-like focus on students meeting/exceeding academic standards
- System accountability for meeting the academic needs of all students
- Parent and community partnerships to meet the social, emotional and academic needs of children
- Annual budgets that reflect the district's prioritized goals and objectives



What We Want to Accomplish: Our Goals

- ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

All students will perform at or above grade level, and we will eliminate disparities among all groups of students.

- PARTNERSHIPS

We will fully engage our parents, community and staff in the education of our children

- EARLY LEARNING

We will focus on early assessment and intervention at the Pre-K through third grade levels to ensure early academic success.

- SAFETY

All schools will create and maintain safe learning environments that promote excellent academic achievement.

A Message from Dr. Art Jarvis Superintendent, Tacoma Public Schools

The need for Tacoma Public Schools to have a strategic plan was never more critical than now – a time when a revolution in public education is taking root and the educational needs of our community far outweigh the resources we anticipated before the economy's collapse. This long-range planning, based firmly in a real understanding of the challenges and shortfalls, will help us make the right decisions at the right time for the right reasons.

You can feel confident that this is your strategic plan. We asked for your help over six months this year in multiple, comprehensive community workshops to tease out your ideas, your hopes and your expectations for our school district's future. We heard you. We incorporated your

contributions. Thank you.

As you'll see, our future and the success of this plan hinges on the words "community" and "collaboration." Your school district cannot succeed alone. We need your ongoing help. The quality of education we expect for our kids depends on our ability to work together in ways we never have before. This, my friends, is our call to action. I believe we create our own futures with responsible, thoughtful action aimed at common goals with a healthy dose of accountability. Embrace this plan as the first step. Let us be your partners in the next steps toward creating schools where every student achieves their own personal and academic success.

What We Believe In: Our Core Values

- Students first
- Results matter
- Flexible continuous improvement
- Data-driven decision making
- Effective leadership
- Parent/community partnership
- Cultural understanding
- Equity
- Quality instruction for everyone
- Rigor and relevance
- Accountability
- Transparency

What We Want to Be: Our Vision

We will be an outstanding school district in which all students exhibit high standards of achievement and critical thinking skills, and are socially responsible, contributing members of their community.

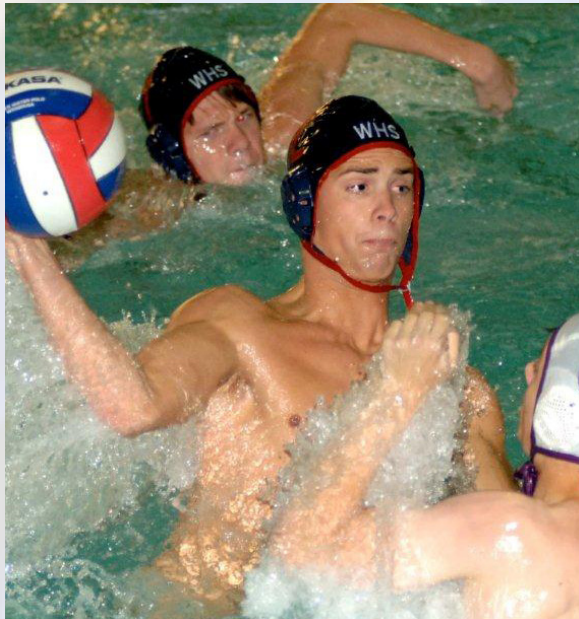
What We Do: Our Mission & Why We Do It

In partnership with parents and community, we will provide a comprehensive educational experience that is rigorous, individualized and enables students to contribute to a changing and diverse world.

How We Will Check Our Progress: Measurable Outcomes

We will measure, and report in a timely manner,

1. Grade-level benchmarks by groups
2. Achievement gaps among ethnic and economic groups
3. Graduation rates
4. Dropout rates
5. Enrollment in advanced coursework
6. Parent/community participation
7. Effectiveness of academic programs



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