

Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools
Building Excellence and Success Together (BEST)
2019-20 Strategic Plan

GOAL: To fulfill the expectations of our Belief, Mission and Vision statements

Beliefs

We believe that each student can learn and achieve, has different needs that must be met, will graduate college and career ready, and will be prepared to be successful and contributing citizens.

We believe that parents and families must be supportive and involved by being actively engaged in the education of their children.

We believe that instructional and support staff must appreciate and understand the needs of each student while being masters of their fields of study.

We believe that district leadership must demonstrate the vision, guidance, and ability to overcome the challenges of successfully educating each student.

We believe that our schools are the heart and foundation of our communities: Brooklyn Heights, Cuyahoga Heights, and Valley View.

We believe that our tuition program students enhance and enrich our school communities.

We believe that we should increase our local business partnerships to mutually share insights, internships, and resources.

We believe that 21st century knowledge and use of technology is a necessary life skill in school, at home, and in the workplace.

Mission

The mission of the Cuyahoga Heights Local Schools is to provide a safe, secure, and nurturing learning environment that graduates students who are college and career ready, are critical thinkers, are culturally aware, and are prepared to be successful citizens of the 21st century.

Vision

Empowering students to reach new HEIGHTS

STRATEGIES: To form Task Forces to develop our strategic planning initiatives under the following six pillars:

Pillar #1 – Academics (preK-12)

- Continue to employ and retain the highest quality personnel
- Continue to provide aligned professional development opportunities and experiences for all employees and Board of Education members
- Continue to develop Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts and Math (STREAM) curriculum offerings
- Continue to implement and enhance Response to Intervention (RTI) and Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS) approaches
- Continue to respond to changes in Ohio's student assessment and accountability systems
- Continue to encourage student participation and growth in college entrance exams and career related assessments
- Continue to investigate and assess the relevancy of curriculum offerings

Pillar #2 – Safety, Security and Facilities

- Continue to increase student awareness and involvement in improving safety and security
- Continue to coordinate safety/security review with village officials
- Continue to keep all four communities informed
- Review and make recommendations for facility improvements within the five-year capital improvements plan (preK-12) that demonstrate the greatest gains from cost/benefit analysis (guaranteed payback or high maintenance risk)
- Include all funding sources in the five-year capital improvements plan

Pillar #3 – Communication and Community Outreach

Communication

- Continue to recognize and publicize student and school achievements
- Continue to improve radio, television, print coverage with news releases, and photo opportunities to media outlets including the three village newsletters
- Continue to enhance social media opportunities and maintain the district website
- Continue to use timely editions of Tom Talks, Chieftain, school newsletters, and the district's billboard to highlight student and school achievements
- Continue to investigate and make recommendations as to how to better inform the four communities of PTO and school events

Community Outreach

- Continue to collaborate with the PTO and other district organizations to expand Family Night opportunities and the Community Open House
- Continue to update the three village councils at council meetings at least twice a year
- Create and implement a process for the three village mayors to share economic developments with district leadership
- Develop multiple approaches for the treasurer to present the Five Year Forecast to community members
- Continue to strengthen relationships with parents/families, community leadership, and village residents
- Continue to increase local business partnerships to mutually share insights, internships, and resources

Pillar #4 – Advancement of Student Opportunities (preK-12)

- Continue to increase training in technology including basic computer skills/documents/slides; internet research; and the integration and application of technology in classrooms by teachers to aid students in college and career preparation
- Increase the number of technology classes to teach more complex computer functions; increase exposure to spreadsheets (Excel); increase opportunities for formal email composition; and increase exposure to the installation and understanding of new software
- Continue to increase student exposure to diverse populations and cultural awareness by broadening and personalizing multi-cultural volunteer opportunities; elective classes; and through classroom lessons and course content
- Continue to provide opportunities that create an environment that develops the full ability of each student
- Investigate and report findings on the possible implementation of an early bird or tenth period option for the earning of Physical Education credits by high school students
- Assess students' readiness for college and career level requirements and address gaps
- Emphasize the relationship between involvement in student activities (sports, music, art, clubs, etc.) and the broader life skills of responsibility, time management, work ethic, team work, communication skills, learning to fail/lose/win, social skills, relationship building, and sportsmanship
- Conduct regular surveys of current students and graduates regarding student-centric topics (curriculum, safety, social concerns)

- Review and make recommendations for improvements in shadowing experiences by prospective students and their families
- Continue the Principal's Advisory Committee

Pillar #5 – Enrollment

- Continue to monitor and publicize changes in school and village demographic data
- Continue to develop collaborative efforts with the three villages to encourage village-based student enrollment
- Continue to develop print, advertising, and social media approaches to emphasize the value of a preK-12 Cuyahoga Heights Schools education
- Continue to improve all aspects of the Community Open House including the involvement of village leadership and recent graduates

Pillar #6 – Finances

- Continue to evaluate and report on the district's finances in order to provide:
 1. necessary capital improvements
 2. maintenance of facilities
 3. necessary financial resources
 4. grant writing opportunities
- Investigate and make recommendations regarding the establishment of a Cuyahoga Heights Foundation (business community, alumni, etc.)
- Continue to provide transparency and on-going communications on the status of district finances
- Continue to improve financial processes that produce accurate and timely financial reporting
- Continue to implement automated systems to enhance recurring district operations