

**Dalton Local Schools  
District Strategic Plan  
2018-2021**



**Bulldog Pride, District Wide**

### **Vision Statement:**

**To collectively strive for excellence by inspiring and challenging each student to be their best**

### **Mission Statement:**

**Whatever it takes to attain our vision, we will continue to improve student achievement while striving to meet the needs of each student by nurturing the strong partnership among parents, community, and schools while maintaining our traditional community values; preparing our Students to be capable of adjusting to the ever-changing needs and dynamics of the 21st Century.**

### **Core Values:**

- \* All Students can learn**
- \* Build positive trusting relationships**
- \* Meet the needs of each Student**
- \* Have open and honest communication**
- \* Collaborate for the benefit of each Student**
- \* Provide all Students with access to a challenging curriculum**

*Adopted by the Dalton Local Schools' Board of Education, September 25, 2017*

**Dalton Local Schools would like to thank the following individuals for being a part of the District and Community Collaboration to develop the 2018-2021 District Strategic Plan:**

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Susan Schumacher	.	.	.	Community Member
Stef Stevanus	.	.	.	High School Teacher
Sherri Stewart .	.	.	.	Treasurer
Tiffany Witmer .	.	.	.	Board of Education Member
Chad Wyckoff .	.	.	.	Community Member
Lisa Zona	.	.	.	Director of Student Services

# **Academic Opportunity, Growth, and Achievement**

Provide all Students rigorous and aligned curriculum and assessments, while ensuring Students grow and achieve each year

## ➤ **ACT Preparation Class**

\* Research has shown a correlation between a student's ACT score and their High School GPA to their success at a post-secondary institution. Dalton Local Schools will provide an ACT preparation course to help Students be better prepared for the ACT exam.

- o Investigate developing a course for all junior (and interested senior) Students to prepare them for the ACT Exam. Our goal will be for Students to achieve a minimum Composite Score of 21 or increase their retake Composite Score by at least 3 points



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

## ➤ **Extend Online Course Offerings**

\* Providing personalized and flexible course opportunities is vital for student Success.

- o Utilize Apex Learning

\* Support each student along their education journey and promote online courses which support and challenge student learning.

- *Individualized student learning*

\* Support each student along their education journey and promote online courses which support and challenge student learning.



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

- *Resources for teachers*

\* Apex Learning provides resources for teachers to support their classroom instruction. Investigate these resources and share them with Staff.



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

## **Academic Opportunity, Growth, and Achievement**

Provide all Students rigorous and aligned curriculum and assessments, while ensuring Students grow and achieve each year

### ➤ **Gifted Services**

\* Instruction must be individualized to meet the needs of each student. Students who are identified as gifted and talented must be challenged with instruction which stretches the Students to extend the curriculum.

o Provide support to the gifted and talented program in the following manner:

- Provide College classes both on and off our campus
- Provide opportunities for Students to learn at their own pace
- Promote Trade schools/ tech classes for Students identified as gifted and talented
- Develop student's critical thinking skills



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

### ➤ **Support Student Learning at Home**

\* For Students to be successful in school, communication between the school and home must consistent and clear so they parents/guardians are able to support their child's learning.

o Investigate methods families are able to support student learning at home



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

## **Fiscal Responsibility and Transparency**

It is essential to be fiscally responsible and transparent with our spending, ensuring the effective and efficient use of our resources, allowing all Students to receive a quality education

### ➤ **Share Easy to Read Financial Information with Graphics**

\* Financial information can sometimes seem convoluted. Our goal will be to share financial information in a clear and concise manner.

- o Clear explanation of what our operating expenses are and how funding impacts those expenditures



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

### ➤ **Communicate Financial Information with Updates**

- o Use the District newsletter and website to simply share information and highlighting key areas



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

### ➤ **Research Grants and Alternative Funding Sources**



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

## **Staff/Student Support Services**

In order for Staff and Students to be successful, it is vital they are mentally and physically healthy so they are able to perform their duties and learn

### ➤ **Staff/Student Wellness (Professional Development)**

o In order for our Staff to effectively support student mental health, as well as they own, they must receive training

- Support Staff mental health, so they are able to effectively perform their duties and be aware of Staff or Student needs, identifying areas of concern
- Staff will be able to address Staff or Student mental health needs by making appropriate referrals.
- Become a trauma-sensitive District understanding its impact on Students, families, and staff and their success

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

o Students will become advocates for their own mental health, as well as support the mental health of their peers

- Successful Students learn coping skills to help minimize pressure and are able to identify needs
- Students will learn the importance of reporting their own mental health concerns to a trusted adult, as well as the mental health concerns they have of their peers

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

o Support the mental health needs of the Staff

- Partnerships will be created with local agencies to support staff and their mental health

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

o Increased counseling services which are relevant to the needs of Students

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

### ➤ **Utilize Response to Intervention (RTI) across the District**

\* Promote multi-tiered systems of support across the District.

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

### ➤ **Utilize Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) across the District incorporating Character Education**

\* Encourage and promote positive behavior through modeling and positive reinforcement.

o Investigate the use of character education through extra-curricular activities, in addition to the classroom

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

## Instructional/Career-Based Technology

It is critical for Students to be successful in the 21st Century to understand how to effectively utilize available technologies. Technology will enhance student learning, improve the efficiency and productivity of staff members and facilitate communication among Students, Staff, and Parents

### ➤ **District Technology Plan**

- o Through collaboration with the Technology Department, develop a District-wide Technology Plan



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

### ➤ **High School Instructional / Career-Technology**

- o Investigate instructional technologies which will support Student learning



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

### ➤ **Investigate One-to-One Computer Technology Policy**



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3

### ➤ **High School STEM Program**

- o Integrate Industrial Arts and Technology resources



Year 1



Year 2



Year 3



## **Community Engagement**

It is vitally important to proactively and with transparency, communicate with all Community Stakeholders to develop, build, and sustain positive trusting and collaborative relationships

### ➤ **Build Relationships Between District and Local Businesses**

- o Connect with local businesses in creative ways to build a relationship which will help ensure we graduate Students who are prepared for college or career*  
 Year 1                       Year 2                       Year 3
- o Encourage local businesses to let their employees know of volunteer opportunities in the schools – connect this to needs of the buildings/staff*  
 Year 1                       Year 2                       Year 3
- o Develop a Teacher for the Day Program to share with the Community Members the quality education Dalton Local Schools provides Students*  
 Year 1                       Year 2                       Year 3

### ➤ **Integrate Career Exploration Across all Grade Levels**

\* Students must have opportunities to explore different career options through inquiry-based learning experiences at all levels of education

- o Integrated career exploration vertically into ELA classes*  
 Year 1                       Year 2                       Year 3
- o Provide Students with opportunities to explore different career options with on-the-job experiences*  
 Year 1                       Year 2                       Year 3
- o Provide Students with opportunities to explore different career options with career week at the school*  
 Year 1                       Year 2                       Year 3

## **Communication**

It is important to foster open and honest dialogue with all stakeholders, which effectively promotes collaboration among all Students, Staff, Families, and Community Members

➤ **Place all District Forms in an online format**

- o Transition to online forms to reduce costs and increase efficiency, and accuracy

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Electronic Communication Integration**

- o To ensure effective and efficient communication, utilize a common application

- Elementary - Email
- Middle School - Remind101
- High School - Remind101

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Obtain All Community Member's Email**

- o To increase our efforts to effectively communicate with our Community Members, seek to acquire at least one email address from each household.

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Improve Digital Literacy For All Staff and Students**

- o Provide professional development opportunities to Staff and Students to ensure all communication between Staff and Students is professional and ethical

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

- o Educate Staff and Students the ethical use of social media

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3



## **Facilities**

We aspire to be good stewards of the facilities in which our Students learn and Staff work. Therefore, we are dedicated to being proactive to ensure all our buildings and grounds are kept in excellent condition

➤ **Develop a Short and Long-Term Maintenance Plan**

\* Through collaboration with the Custodial/Maintenance Department, develop a District-wide Maintenance Plan.

- o Communicate with our Communities the components of the District Maintenance Plan, routine maintenance plans, dollars spent

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Explore adding Air Conditioning at Dalton High School**

\* It is imperative the learning environment and conditions within the classrooms are acceptable and appropriate to ensure Students are able to learn.

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Updated Women's Locker Room**

\* All Students are entitled to equitable locker room space.

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Provide a Safe and Secure High School Entrance**

- o To ensure all visitors to the High School enter the Office before gaining entrance to the school

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3

➤ **Update High School Staff Desks and Chairs**

- o Maintain furniture which is safe and in good condition

Year 1                                       Year 2                                       Year 3