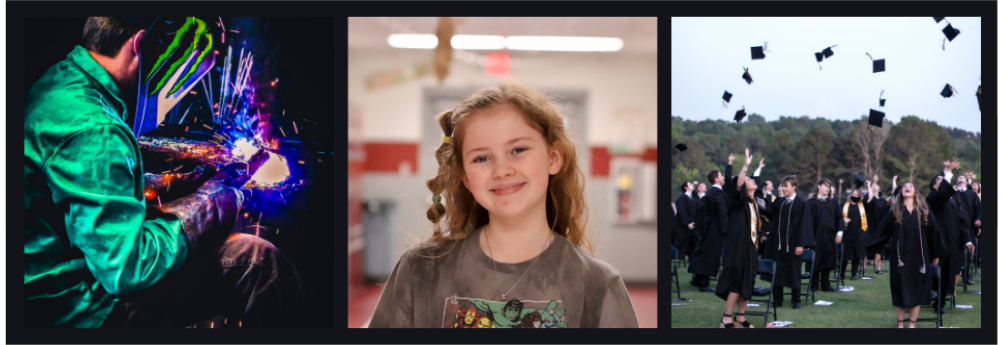




# Blount County Schools Strategic Plan



**2023-2028**

*A Strategic Plan was developed by a cross-functional team under the following Mission, Vision, and Beliefs:*

## **MISSION**

**Build. Create. Succeed.**

## **VISION**

Our vision is to **Build** partnerships, **Create** opportunities, and prepare students to **Succeed** in life.

## **BELIEFS**

Blount County Schools' students, faculty, and staff believe that:

- Education is a partnership among schools, families, and communities.
- Our schools should be safe and positive learning environments.
- Quality instruction provides students the opportunity to learn.
- Students should be actively engaged in the learning process. Education should lead students to set goals, develop a vision for their future, and become productive citizens.
- We must respond to identified needs for improvement.

**Measures to determine quality of education provided to learners:**

- Assessment scores, state rankings, student data
- Graduation rates
- College and career readiness indicators
- Student satisfaction surveys

**Successful BCS graduates will demonstrate:**

- Critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Communication skills such as reading, writing, and speaking
- Life skills such as goal setting, teamwork, responsibility and financial literacy

*The following is a sample of the strengths, challenges and opportunities identified for Blount County Schools through surveys with over 5000 participants and unmet challenges from the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan:*

## **STRENGTHS**

- Our schools as safe, welcoming, and respectful
- Employees strive to build relationships with learners
- Our goal is to keep learners safe
- We provide resources needed for learning
- The Blount County Education Foundation helps our schools with community connections providing grants, growing partnerships, and supporting summer learning for all students
- Our schools are genuine, personable, and trusting

## **CHALLENGES**

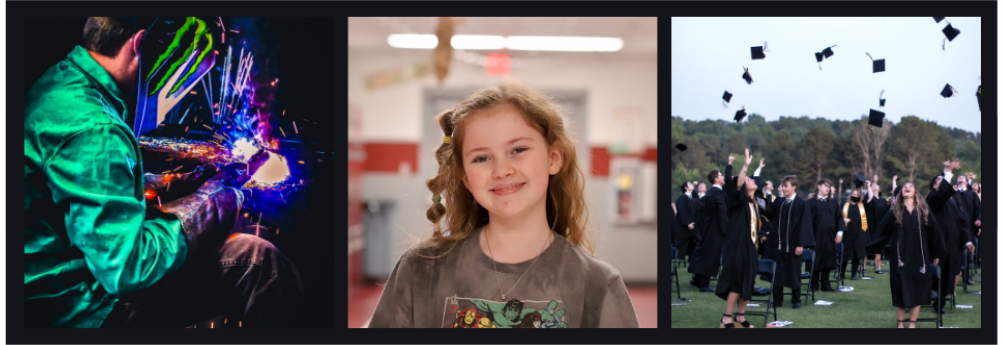
- Unfunded State Legislative mandates
- Lack of rubrics and exemplars for student learning
- Teaching to the level of the academic standard
- Problem solving with practical implications
- Academic and social goal setting for learners
- Attendance
- Parent involvement in decision making for their school and for their learner

## **OPPORTUNITIES**

- Strengthen the security of our schools
- Expand the number of Nurses, School Resource Officers and Mental Health providers
- Celebrating student academic accomplishments
- Additional business and community partnerships



# Blount County Schools Strategic Plan



**2023-2028**

## STRATEGIC THEMES

- I. **ACADEMICS** that Engage, Challenge, and Support every student individually
  - A. Strengthen Instruction through professional learning for effective teaching, data-based interventions, and coaching partnerships
    1. Implementation of MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) - 8 year roll-out
    2. English Learner Guidance Pilot through the State Department of Education
    3. Co-Teaching for Special Education Students
    4. Professional Learning Communities, Peer Visits and Site Visits
    5. Coaching for EL support, Literacy (ARI), Technology, Math and Science (AMSTI)
  - B. Grow student mastery of academic standards using standards-based report cards in grades K-3 and standards-referenced instruction and reporting in grades 4-12
    1. Orton-Gillingham Based Instruction K-3 and Morphology Grades 3-5
    2. Common Assessments and Units of Instruction 7-12
    3. Proficiency Scale use K-12
    4. Improved community information on Standards-Based and Referenced Grading

**Key Performance Indicators:** Academic Data, College and Career Readiness Data, Graduation Rate, Observational Data
- II. **SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS** by Addressing the Needs of every learner every day
  - A. Update infrastructure and unify district-wide practices to continuously strengthen safety processes
    1. Secure vestibules and improved Wayfinding in schools
    2. Actively solicit legislation for School Resource Officer funding in all schools
  - B. Focus on student well-being through nutrition, counseling and appropriate healthcare
    1. Free Breakfast and Lunch for all learners through the Community Eligibility Provision
    2. Continue upgrades for child nutrition facilities
    3. Actively solicit legislation for nurse funding in all schools
    4. Mental Health Support for learners in all schools

**Key Performance Indicators:** Completed projects in schools, safety data, student Behavioral Data, Child Nutrition data, Counseling Support data, and Healthcare data
- III. **COMMUNITY AND DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS** to Foster Collaboration in the District and with the Community
  - A. Grow partnerships through enhanced communication
    1. Improved communication about resources and grading practices
    2. Increased scheduled announcements and printed information
  - B. Enhance efficiency of district partnerships and administrative practices
    1. Aspiring Administrator cohorts and Principal mentors
    2. Round Table Conversations to exchange ideas and best practices
    3. Annual review of Internal Controls for improved processes and procedures

**Key Performance Indicators:** Web Traffic Data, Community Feedback, Communication Data, BCEF Contributions, Accreditation feedback, Financial and Departmental Audit feedback