Tewksbury Township School District

Strategic Planning 2024-2029



A Vision for our School District





Superintendent, Dr. Jennifer Shouffler

Three Goals

Goal 1 (Student Learning): To develop an environment that promotes creative and independent thinking with a focus on academic excellence and the arts; that is also adaptable to each student.

Goal 2 (Finance and Facilities): To create a financial framework so that the school district is fiscally responsible while supporting learning environments.

Goal 3 (Student Environment): To create a welcoming and supportive learning environment to foster a lifelong love of learning for all students; This includes robust connections to their school and wider community.



- 1a. Create an environment of teacher excellence through effective professional development
 - Create and sustain partnerships with educational experts to support best practices for teaching and learning in the area of literacy
 - Improve strategies for teaching in inclusion classrooms
 - Support teachers in effective Professional Learning Communities to improve learning through targeted learning goals

1b. Maintain small class sizes throughout the district

1c. Encourage supportive parent-teacher communication



Support content area and grade-level articulation to encourage consistency and coherence implementation of curriculum and pedagogical strategies between and among grades

- Develop Teacher Leaders
- Articulation Meetings (Increase amount of time and improve the quality)
- Support a shared vision for teacher teams to implement a coherent and cohesive curriculum across the grades and through the grades



Develop robust experiential learning programs that expose students to applied skills, encourage artistic development, and civic awareness.

- Create opportunities for students to learn applied skills through programs, field trips, and assemblies
- Provide Field Trips, Assemblies, and partnerships that expose students to the arts
- Offer opportunities for students to expand their civic awareness through classroom experiences and programs



Ensure that the child study team has the necessary staffing and resources to create the best environment possible for this community of learners.

- Review staff and student data for special education programs and address areas of need
- Implement a coaching model to support educators as they improve inclusion practices across the district
- Improve and expand the Community-Based Instruction Program at OTS

Support the academic and social emotional needs of gifted students through identification and Resources to ensure that these students are learning in an environment and at a pace that encourages them, understands their unique neurological profile, and aligns with their cognitive abilities per NJ law.

- Provide teachers with professional learning and resources to support gifted education and neurodevelopmental teaching strategies
- Strengthen opportunities for students seeking challenges in the area of mathematics
- Strengthen opportunities for students seeking challenges in the area of English Language Arts



Develop capstone programs and extra experiences (i.e., science fairs) at every grade-level.

- Provide students in Grade K-4 with capstone experiences that demonstrate learning in various content areas, align with curriculum, and allow for opportunities to share learning with others
- Provide students in Grades 5-8 with culminating experiences that demonstrate learning in various content areas, align with curriculum, and allow for opportunities to share learning with others
- Improve student experiences in the arts





Create outdoor learning spaces to enrich the physical learning environment and promote student learning.

- Refine inner courtyard space at OTS to encourage increased learning use
- Update and expand outdoor "Discovery Den" at TES
- Research and construct additional outdoor spaces at both schools

Upgrade our Art, Science, and Technology classrooms at OTS to support engaged learning and interdisciplinary connections.

- Make upgrades to OTS Art Room and Technology Room
- Upgrade the 5th and 6th grade science classrooms
- Revise Art and Technology Curriculum to reflect increased interdisciplinary connections



Goal 2- Objectives 3 & 4

3. Modernize facilities with solar panels and coverage structures.

- Install solar panels and parking coverage
- 4. Upgrade the OTS Stage, including the structure, audio, and lighting.
 - Renovate the OTS All Purpose Room



Expand enrichment and co-curricular programs (ex/ science fairs, spelling bees, model UN, debate) to provide engagement with other districts.

- Enhance extracurricular experiences for all students
- Enhance enrichment experiences for students within our current courses and programs



Goal 3 – Objective 2

Expand flexible learning environments to include seating, visual aids, and upgrades to educational Technology.

- Create sensory environments at both schools
- Create flexible seating and student/staff workspaces at TES and OTS
- Improve classroom with Visual Aids (board space) and Technology at TES and OTS



Prioritize group and interpersonal interaction among students and teachers while reducing reliance on screens for school work/projects whenever possible.

- Meet with Teachers to discuss the need for engaging, hands-on lessons and student discourse
- Offer Professional Learning for Teachers to support student engagement and reduce the use of technology
- Observe teaching and learning and offer feedback/instructional tools on ways to increase engagement while reducing dependency on technology



Create more opportunities for community service projects and family/community involvement.

- Create opportunities for students to connect with the community through various events
- Provide opportunities for families and community members to support our outdoor learning spaces
- To connect students with people in and outside our Tewksbury community to learn about various careers and jobs
- Create additional opportunities for students to participate in community service projects

Goal 3- Objectives 5a and 5b

5a. Cultivate an inclusive climate where student differences are celebrated to promote a sense of belonging including kindness initiatives and more exposure to diverse cultures and backgrounds.

- Educate staff and create more inclusive opportunities for Special Education students.
- Expand inclusive opportunities for special education students in clubs and afterschool activities
- Expand character-education opportunities for OTS students through the Advisory Program, supporting kindness and belonging for all
- Expand character-education opportunities for TES students, supporting kindness and belonging for all

5b. Expand opportunities for students to learn world languages.

- Expand student experiences with the Spanish Language
- Create opportunities for students to explore other world language





Increase collaboration within and between the schools. (i.e., students move up day for all grades)

- Enhance opportunities to support students as they transition between schools
- Create opportunities for greater student engagement between TES and OTS
- Increase teachers' articulation meeting time between grade levels to study the curriculum
- Support students as they transition to next grade level within their school

Thank you to **Board of Education** members, parents, staff members, school administrators, and community members who help to create this 5-year plan.

