WILLIAMSVILLE
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Est. 1893

2025-2030

Special Education
STRATEGIC PLAN

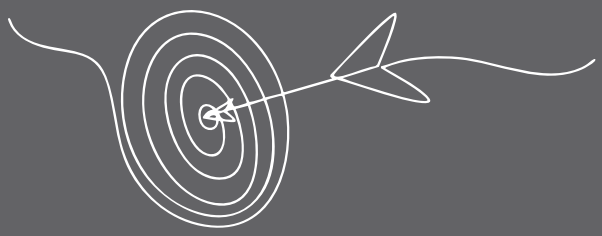
District Special Education

Vision

The Vision of the Williamsville Central School District Special Education program is to ensure a District-wide model of excellence that fosters individual student success, well-being, and meets the unique needs of all students in the least restrictive environment.

District Special Education

Mission



The Mission of the Williamsville Central School District Special Education program is to ensure access to fair, equitable and high quality special education and effective communication with all stakeholders.

STRATEGIC GOAL AREA #1	COMMUNICATION The Williamsville CSD and schools will have open and transparent communication with students, families and staff
Goal Statement #1A	**Common Vocabulary to be developed and used when communicating/discussing/planning.**
Goal Activities for Goal Statement #1A	1. Develop District Special Education Guide with key vocabulary terms and program descriptors. 2. Create Survey to assess understanding by all stakeholders.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #1A	• An increasing number of stakeholders responding to an annual survey indicate understanding of the Special Education key terms and programming descriptors.
Goal Statement #1B	**The Williamsville CSD will increase effective communication with parents.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #1B	1. Create a parent satisfaction survey (include survey prompt on the level of understanding of the District Vocabulary Guide). 2. Create a WITS District App-website housing the varied information sources (District/Building newsletters, parent-teacher conferences, special events). 3. Create opportunities for parent participation.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #1B	• Increase in the number of venues for disseminating information to parents. • Increase Special Education parent involvement as noted on the state survey from 87% to the SED recommended rate of 94% or higher.
Goal Statement #1C	**Stakeholders will be informed of the availability of services.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #1C	1. Build and maintain the District website. 2. Develop a parent handbook with a FAQ or if/then document. Include description of the use of student buddies (during and after the school day) at all buildings. 3. Create an organized hierarchal chain of command chart for Elementary/Middle/High school (Case Manager-School Psychologist-Director).
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #1C	• The Special Education Handbook/FAQ guide is embedded into the Special Education landing page at the WITS site. • Parents report understanding of who/how to access and receive specific information on Special Education at each building.
Goal Statement #1D	**Teachers/staff will have regular opportunities for two-way communication with the Special Education Leadership team.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #1D	1. Provide agendas for departmental meetings with Special Education building teams to encourage two-way communication. 2. Create a Google Doc to provide a mechanism for offering on-going thoughts and feedback.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #1D	• Special Education staff will be able to offer feedback on departmental strengths/areas for growth at least once per year. • Building principals will report more access and communication with District leaders.

STRATEGIC GOAL AREA #2	WELLNESS, COMMUNITY AND SUSTAINABILITY The Williamsville CSD and schools will implement common procedures and protocols that build shared understanding between students, parents and staff.
Goal Statement #2A	**Maintain and build shared stakeholder understanding of the District's local continuum of service for K-12 students.**
Goal Activities for Goal Statement #2A	1. Establish the instructional services/settings to be offered for students in District schools K-12. 2. Establish a team to review identified students' needs and feasibility for revisions to the local continuum. 3. Study/plan/implement a pilot program to appropriately identify and meet the needs of identified gap areas (i.e. High School 15:1 services).
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #2A	• The District annually reviews, modifies (as necessary) and communicates a consistent K-12 continuum of services that it will provide locally for students in varied educational settings. • A document outlining appropriate Present Levels of Performance (PLP) statements and IEP Goals for students placed in the District's local continuum is established and used in District meetings.
Goal Statement #2B	**The Williamsville CSD will establish consistent procedures and protocols that include student achievement and progress data to ensure appropriate placement in special education programs.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #2B	1. Establish standard protocols for bringing initial referrals and recommendations for more restrictive placements that include the use of rate of improvement data. 2. Provide training on intervention and intervention strategies (Behavior, Academic, SEL/Mental Health). 3. Provide training/development in establishing appropriate IEP goals, rate of improvement/progress monitoring and data collection. 4. Review and develop action plans for unmet state targets.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #2B	• CSE minutes reflect the consistent use of benchmark and progress data collection to appropriately refer students for special education services and place them in the least restrictive environment for student growth. • Showing progress towards or meeting the state targets for Indicator 5 (School Age Least Restrictive Environment) on the NYS report card.
Goal Statement #2C	**The Williamsville CSD will implement an ongoing cycle of review of the Special Education Action Plan.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #2C	1. Develop a review committee (possible SEAC members) with all stakeholder groups. 2. Utilize multiple data points to identify review topics (indicators, surveys, SED data, etc.). 3. Develop a meeting/topic cycle for review protocols and procedures. 4. Share updates yearly to the District within handbooks and shared drives.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #2C	• Regular meetings of the review committee take place. • Yearly updates to the Special Education process/procedure/handbooks are made.

STRATEGIC GOAL AREA #3	TEACHING, LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP The Williamsville CSD and schools will increase student learning and improve outcomes for students with disabilities.
Goal Statement #3A	**Increase the effective implementation of Specially Designed Instruction for students with IEP's.**
Goal Activities for Goal Statement #3A	1. Training/feedback to teachers on appropriate IEP goal development. 2. Establish/adopt a District framework for Specially Designed Instruction (SDI) 3. Workshop/Embedded Professional Development for Special Education, General Education (working in inclusion settings) staff, and building administrators on principles of SDI instruction. 4. Adoption of an SDI lesson design template. 5. Establish resource bank of exemplars of SDI lesson/unit designs and classroom videos.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #3A	• Increase in percentage of student IEP goals marked as "achieved" in annual review meetings. • Increase in evidence of SDI via informal and formal observations of classrooms and lesson plans. • Increased retention of students included in general education classrooms.
Goal Statement #3B	**The Rate of Improvement (ROI) in literacy and mathematics is established and monitored for each special education student instructed in a standards-based placement.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #3B	1. Generate/communicate/train special education staff in the concept of rate of improvement. 2. Facilitate the identification of existing Math/Literacy assessments at each grade level to serve as ROI monitors. 3. Define ROI for each identified benchmark/ROI assessment. 4. Include the use of ROI data in drafting initial referrals and writing Present Levels of Performance (PLP) statements for existing students.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #3B	• Teachers consistently report on students' rate of improvement in literacy/math in annual review meetings. • Increase in standards-based student achievement above level one on all NYS/ District Math/Literacy Assessments. • Initial referrals/recommendations for changes in placement include ROI data. • Increase in Regents proficiency rate for Algebra and ELA.
Goal Statement #3C	**Improve the effectiveness of co-teaching in the delivery of specialized instruction in K-12 inclusion classrooms.**
Goal Activities for Goals Statement #3C	1. Establish/adopt a District framework for effective co-teaching. 2. Workshop/embedded professional development for special education staff, building administrators and general education co-teachers in the principles of effective co-teaching. 3. Adoption of an SDI lesson design template for co-taught classrooms. 4. Establish resource bank of exemplars of co-teaching lesson/unit designs and classroom videos.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #3C	• Increase in student IEP goal achievement. • Increase in evidence of SDI via observations of classrooms and lesson plans. • Increased retention of students included in general education classrooms. • Increase in graduation rate (local and Regents diploma).

Area #3 Continued

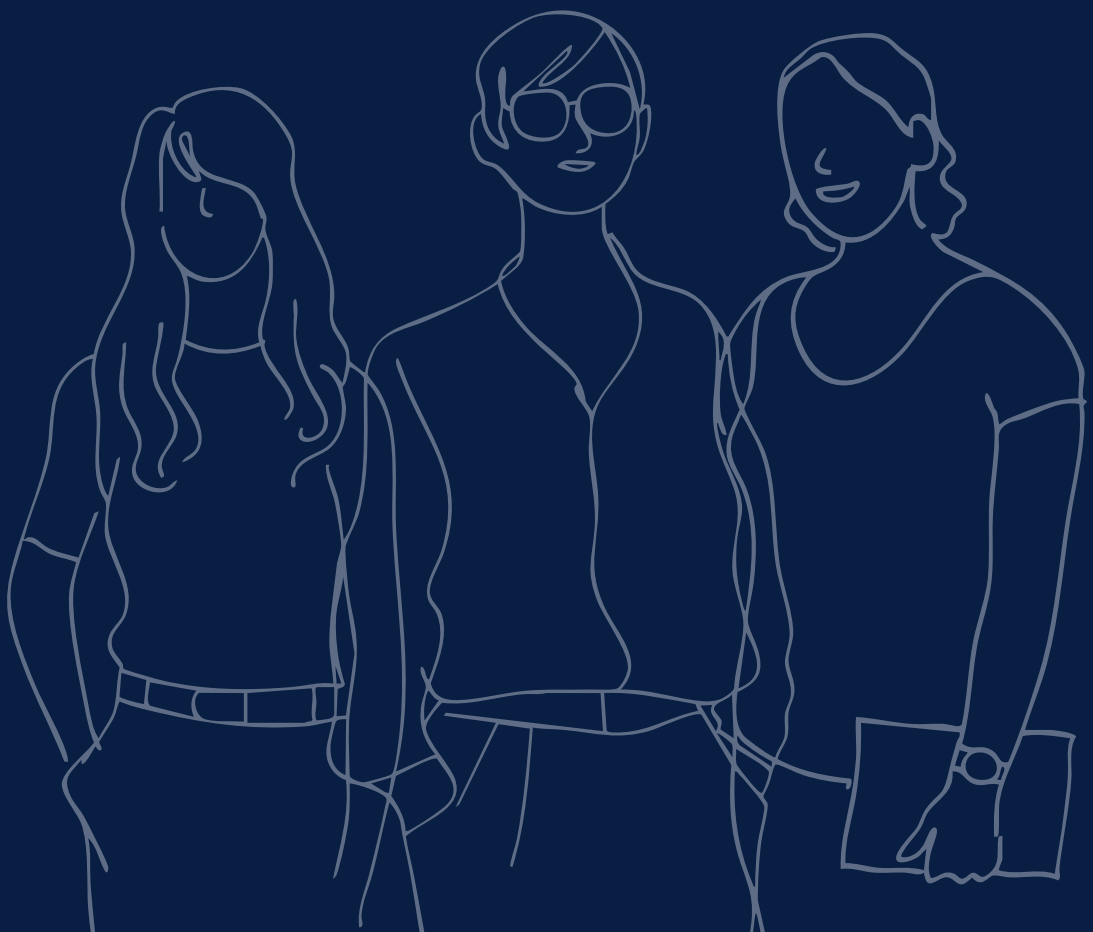
STRATEGIC GOAL AREA #3	TEACHING, LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP The Williamsville CSD and schools will increase student learning and improve outcomes for students with disabilities.
Goal Statement #3D	**Identify consistent rich, core curriculum in all settings servicing alternatively assessed students.**
Goal Activities for Goal Statement #3D	1. Deconstruct NYS Alternative Assessments to identify key literacy mathematics outcomes. 2. Provide opportunities to access a variety of electives as an inclusionary experience. 3. Establish IEP goals to support post-secondary goals/executive functioning/ independent daily living skills. 4. Map backwards from key outcomes to establish content/skill pathways K-12. 5. Identify potential curricular resources to support the pathways at primary/ intermediate/middle and high school levels.
Indicators of Progress for Goal Statement #3D	• Increase in student IEP goal achievement. • Increase in evidence of SDI via observations of classrooms and lesson plans.

STRATEGIC GOAL
AREA #4

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Embedded in each major goal area.

	Communication	Wellness, Community and Sustainability	Teaching, Learning and Leading
Diversity	• Create versions of all survey/parent handbooks in multiple languages to facilitate access by all families	• Build robust local continuum of services to meet diverse needs	• IEP Goal Development/SDI framework and training • Goal setting based on ROI
Equity	• Build Common Vocabulary	• Standard protocols and procedures for identifying SWD's • Regularly study/review student needs and revise local continuum as needed	• Individual IEP goal achievement increase • Increase elective access for alternatively assessed students
Inclusion	• Seek stakeholder (Parent/Staff) input on a consistent basis • Increase opportunities for parent involvement	• Improve placement of students in Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) • Seek feedback on strategic plan implementation	• Improve co-teaching to improve SDI in general education settings • IEP goals to target post-secondary skills for independent learning



District Special Education Strategic Plan

Committee

Stuart Bulan
Board of Education Member

Deborah Ciocca
Special Education Teacher, Dodge ES

John D'Angelo
Director of Special Education

Carolyn Gorzynski
Parent

Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner
Board of Education, President

Cheryl Lazzaro
Director of Special Education

Christopher McDuffie
Principal, Mill MS

Kerri Miller
Teacher/ Department Chair, Heim MS

Katy Oehler
Teacher, North HS

Cathy Ratzel
Director of Special Education

Kristen Rizzo
Assistant Principal, North HS

Anthony Scanzuso
Assistant Superintendent for Exceptional Education

Keith Wing
Principal, Forest ES

WILLIAMSVILLE
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Est. 1893

Dr. Darren J. Brown-Hall, Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education

Crystal Kaczmarek-Bogner, *President*

Maureen Poulin, *Vice President*

Christina Bleckinger, *Parliamentarian*

Stuart Bulan

Michael Buscaglia

Dawn Fletch

Mark Manna

Dr. Swaroop Singh

Dr. Kerry Spicer

Phone: (716) 626-8000
Fax: (716) 626-8089

105 Casey Road,
P.O. Box 5000, East Amherst, NY
14051-5000

www.williamsvillek12.org
@WCSD_K12
@WCSDK12