

ML MLBOE Summer Retreat

July 14, 2025

Brad Siegel, Superintendent

2025-26 District Goals: Proposed



District Priorities	Focus Areas
Instructional Design and Implementation	Expand students' active learning in PreK-12 classrooms through effective use of small group instruction, questioning strategies, and problem-solving activities.
Articulation	Increase horizontal and vertical articulation practices and outcomes among staff members in the Mountain Lakes School District and between staff members of the district and Rockaway Valley School through structured professional collaboration opportunities.
STEM	Identify, develop, and implement plans to enrich STEM learning in all four schools by enhancing facilities, resources, curricula, and experiences outside of the classroom aligned to a clearly-defined district vision.
Wellness	Review and analyze programs, models, and research related to "social-emotional learning" for the classroom, and make a formal recommendation to the Board of Education for the 2026-27 school year.



Goal #1: Expand students' active learning in PreK-12 classrooms through effective use of small group instruction, questioning strategies, and problem-solving activities.

Rationale/Factors	Progress Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="189 437 788 563">❑ Instructional design and implementation of the Stronge Evaluation Framework<li data-bbox="189 618 832 699">❑ Development of skills, habits, and dispositions<li data-bbox="189 754 770 836">❑ Student ownership/formative assessment<li data-bbox="189 891 880 972">❑ Connects to literacy initiatives (K-5), STEM goals, and use of technology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="962 574 1460 607">1. Stronge Evaluation Model<li data-bbox="962 618 1653 650">2. Informal Observations/Walkthroughs<li data-bbox="962 661 1634 743">3. Professional Development (surveys, interviews)



Goal #2: Increase **horizontal and **vertical articulation** practices and outcomes **among** staff members in the Mountain Lakes School District and **between** staff members of the district and **Rockaway Valley School** through **structured professional collaboration** opportunities.**

Rationale/Factors	Progress Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="189 437 894 476">❑ Expand articulation with RVS<li data-bbox="189 525 894 607">❑ Curriculum articulation, K-12 (e.g. STEM)<li data-bbox="189 661 894 743">❑ General and special education (including Lake Drive Program)<li data-bbox="189 798 894 880">❑ Educational alignment, development, and collaboration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="962 481 1638 607">1. Evidence of curricular development from articulation (e.g. scope/sequence, units)<li data-bbox="962 618 1638 699">2. Evidence of program development (e.g. STEM-Aviation)<li data-bbox="962 710 1638 836">3. Feedback on in-service articulation and faculty/department meeting articulation



Goal #3: Identify, develop, and implement plans to enrich **STEM learning in all four schools by enhancing **facilities, resources, curricula**, and experiences **outside of the classroom** aligned to a clearly-defined district vision.**

Rationale/Factors	Progress Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="189 437 894 478">❑ STEM for ALL; Beyond STEM<li data-bbox="189 525 894 609">❑ Development of skills, habits, and dispositions<li data-bbox="189 656 894 740">❑ Student ownership/formative assessment<li data-bbox="189 787 894 882">❑ Educational alignment, development, and collaboration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="962 568 1657 653">1. Visible and substantive development in all 4 schools<li data-bbox="962 656 1657 740">2. Increased student participation in STEM-related courses and activities



Goal #4: Review and analyze programs, models, and research related to “social-emotional learning” for the classroom, and make a formal recommendation to the Board of Education for the 2026-27 school year.

Rationale/Factors	Progress Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="189 440 795 521">❑ No existing systematic or programmatic approach to SEL<li data-bbox="189 574 880 656">❑ Prevalence of SEL-related initiatives in the strategic plan<li data-bbox="189 708 852 838">❑ Increasing challenges and complexities with mental health, behavior, and emotional regulation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="962 528 1638 610">1. Coordination of SEL & Mental Health competencies across the district<li data-bbox="962 619 1653 701">2. Completion of needs assessments and evaluation of systems of support<li data-bbox="962 709 1464 791">3. BOE committee & district presentations

Kahoot Icebreaker: How well
do you know your colleagues?

2024-24 BOE Goals: Reflections



Committees	BOARD GOAL
Personnel	Support the development and improvement of district personnel systems to retain high quality staff members and promote fair, consistent, and effective supervision across the district.
Full Board Negotiations	Endeavor to reach a long-term agreement with Boonton Township School District extending the send-receive relationship for Rockaway Valley School students to attend Mountain Lakes High School.
Full Board	Develop a positive and collaborative relationship between the Board of Education and new superintendent to ensure a broad vision and governance plan for the district result in clear, appropriate, and effective decisions.
Full Board	Enhance communication and relationships between the Board of Education and Mountain Lakes staff by expanding BOE member attendance at key school programs and events and increasing staff and school highlights at regular BOE meetings.
Finance Facilities	Secure and successfully transition a full time Business Administrator/Board Secretary with essential skills, dispositions, and knowledge to meet the diverse fiscal and operational needs of the district.
Facilities Security	Promote a safe and positive learning environment for all students by supporting the administration and staff with resources related to upgrades in school security and various wellness initiatives.



Small Group Discussion #1: Reflect on the progress made toward achieving the 2024-25 BOE Goals. What goal(s) are you most confident about the progress made? What goal(s) would you consider carrying over into the 2025-26 school year?

Group A: Dr. Hirschfeld, Dr. Don, Mr. Johnson

Group B: Mrs. Parker, Dr. McIntyre, Mrs. Kulkarni

Group C: Mrs. Barkauskas, Dr. Sheth, Mr. Chiang

****Jot notes on large sticky posters.***



Small Group Discussion #2: NJSBA identifies broad focus areas for goal development, including: governance policy and procedures, operations and management oversight, communications, working as a team, professional development. What broad focus areas do you recommend for consideration of a 25-26 Board Goal(s), and provide supporting explanations?

Group A: Dr. Hirschfeld, Dr. Don, Mr. Johnson

Group B: Mrs. Parker, Dr. McIntyre, Mrs. Kulkarni

Group C: Mrs. Barkauskas, Dr. Sheth, Mr. Chiang

****Review the last group's notes from the previous discussion; add comments or suggestions.***

****Flip over the chart, and jot notes on large sticky posters.***



Small Group Discussion #3: Reviewing progress from last year (#1) and broad focus areas (#2), draft three potential BOE goals for 2025-26.

Group A: Dr. Hirschfeld, Dr. Don, Mr. Johnson

Group B: Mrs. Parker, Dr. McIntyre, Mrs. Kulkarni

Group C: Mrs. Barkauskas, Dr. Sheth, Mr. Chiang

****Review the last group's notes from the previous discussion; add comments or suggestions.***

****Flip over the chart, and jot notes on large sticky posters.***