

SSFUSD Priorities for SY25-26

June 12, 2025 Board Meeting



2025-26 District-wide Priorities

**Engaged
Students:
Belonging &
Wellbeing**

**Exceptional
Instruction:
Academic
Discourse**

**Exceptional
Instruction:
Math**



Our Guidelines in Selecting Goals for SY25-26



Narrow focus: *Can we take on less to do more for students?*



Student-centered impact: *Is there a clear through-line from our work to more positive experiences or outcomes for students?*



Follow-through: *Can we deliver on what we've promised our community in our Strategic Plan (vs. taking on more new initiatives)?*



Coherence: *Can we align our teams' work (vs. working in silos) and the work of different constituents in order to create greater impact?*



Data: *What does our data (qualitative and quantitative) suggest are the biggest gaps or successes to build on?*



Our Process

We looked at the Strategic Priorities and metrics set by our community in our Strategic Plan, collaborated with district, site, and instructional leaders, and referred to data and research to draft our goals for next year

Strategic Plan Goals & Metrics

Collaboration with site, instructional, and district leaders

Data & Research

PRIORITIES AT A GLANCE

PRIORITY
1

Exceptional Instruction

Every student experiences
exceptional instruction that
is aligned with our Portrait
of a Graduate.

PRIORITY
2

Engaged Students

Every student is a
holistically-supported,
self-directed learner.

PRIORITY
3

Purposeful Partnerships

Every student benefits
from leading, high-impact
partnerships with families
and community in support
of realizing our Portrait
of a Graduate.

PRIORITY
4

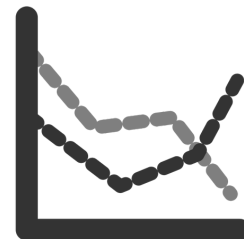
Empowered Educators

SSFUSD is the Bay Area's
leading organization for
mission-driven educators.

PRIORITY
5

Equity-Centered Systems

Our decisions, actions,
and resources reflect
SSFUSD's commitment
to equity.



Why Student Belonging & Wellbeing?

- **A priority around student belonging / wellness was proposed in every planning meeting we held this winter/spring** (Directors / Cabinet, Principals, EDS Team), and *everyone* can directly contribute to this effort (not just teachers!)
- **This aligns with Strategic Priority 2 - Engaged Students**, and metrics like:
 - 90% of middle & high school students report feeling welcome & part of their community
 - 90% of students report having a caring adult on campus
 - 10% annual increase in students' positive reporting on school climate & safety, pupil engagement, student supports, bullying, and substance abuse
 - 10% annual improvement in chronic absenteeism, school attendance, and suspension rates for focus student groups
- **Research tells us that belonging is a *prerequisite* for learning, and our baseline CA Healthy Kids data shows we are still far from our goals**
 - Students feeling seen and heard is essential to a learner-centered culture and strong school identity and a prerequisite for deeper engagement, which is, in turn, a requirement for learning
 - Baseline data on student belonging is still far from our Strategic Plan goals



Why Academic Discourse?

- Site and district leaders all advocated for an integrated instructional goal that spans all subject and grade levels.
- **This aligns with Strategic Priority 1 - Exceptional Instruction.** It builds on work our sites have done this year on academic discourse, learner progressions, and our Instructional Vision. It also is tightly aligned with the instructional approach in our new secondary math curriculum (IM).
- **Research suggests that students learn and perform better if they are given the chance to do most of the thinking in the lesson**
 - Quality academic discourse is a visible sign of students' critical thinking and an active tool to build understanding
 - Data from classroom observations this year suggest that the amount of student talk and quality academic discourse are still lower than what we'd like to see



Why Math?

- **What we heard:**
 - We need to train teachers on the new CA Math Framework
 - We've invested multiple years in piloting a new math curriculum and need to honor our pilot teachers' work by implementing / piloting well and with focus
- **This aligns with Strategic Plan Priority 1 - Exceptional Instruction**
 - Our Strategic Plan calls for us to “adopt high-quality, culturally- and linguistically-responsive curriculum with systematic support to implement”
 - IM's launch in Secondary is our first major curriculum adoption since we approved our Strategic Plan last year; it sets a precedent for future ELA curriculum adoptions
- **We have a clear need based on data**
 - Our math scores have been low for 10+ years (<45% mastery on CAASPP / SBAC) and are declining; research shows adopting high quality instructional materials and supporting teachers with effective and aligned instructional strategies are powerful levers to increase student mastery



A Unifying Theme: Elevating Student Voice



Shared Ownership

- These are **priorities for EVERYONE in SSFUSD - across all schools, departments, and roles**
- Sites & departments may have additional, specific priorities, but these will be **set in the context of and in support of these district-wide priorities**



Next Steps

- District & site leaders are refining the details for these priorities, including the data we will analyze throughout the year to track our progress, and key actions we will take at the site and district level
- We are aligning next year's professional learning plan and budget with these priorities
- We will share updates with site leaders at our admin retreat in July, with *all staff* during the August professional learning days

Any questions or comments?

