



Creating a Strategic Plan for the Hunterdon Central Regional High School District

Mission Statement

Hunterdon Central is an innovative educational community dedicated to the intellectual, social, and emotional safety and growth of all students.

While fostering curiosity and promoting wellness, we aspire to create powerful learning experiences, establish strong partnerships, and serve as contributing members of society.

Session 3

Developing Strategic Planning Goals for the Hunterdon Central Regional High School District

On April 14, 2026, Hunterdon Central Regional High School District administrators, Board of Education members, staff, parents, students, and community members, fifty (50) in all, came together for the third strategic planning meeting. The meeting began with a welcome and introduction by the Board Vice-President, Ms. Sandra Gong and Ms. Jessica Cangelosi-Hade, Superintendent. Mary Ann Friedman and Cathy Pouria from New Jersey School Boards Association (NJSBA) were introduced and explained the strategic planning process.

We reviewed the consensus process utilized in strategic planning. The topic for the third evening focused on developing goal statements and objectives for each of the four goal areas identified at the second meeting. Participants gathered in self-selected groups, four in all, to work on the goal area of their choice.

Each group reviewed the outcomes from meeting 1, strengths & challenges, and meeting 2, essentials and initiatives, to identify and develop objectives, and then develop an overarching goal statement for the goal areas. The four goal areas identified at the conclusion of the second meeting were: Student Learning Experience, Future-Ready, Engagement, and Health & Wellness.

The information that follows is a summary of the work of the small groups. As discussed with the meeting participants, all consensus points are recorded and posted on the district website to share the group work during the course of the strategic planning process.

Development of Goal Statements and Objectives

Four goal areas emerged from the common themes identified by the group at large at the end of the second meeting and are listed below:

1. Student Learning Experience
2. Future-Ready
3. Engagement
4. Health & Wellness

Goal 1: Student Learning Experience

Goal Statement: Increase student access to and ownership over learning, empowering students to maximize learning, achievements and skills.

Objectives:

1. Implement consistent grading practices and clearly defined cell phone expectations to support instructional time and academic integrity.
2. Increase awareness of course offerings.
3. Evaluate marking period structure to determine impact on student learning and progress monitoring.
4. Develop and enhance tutoring and peer mentorship.
5. Strengthen culturally responsive instructional practices, assessments, and appropriate accommodations to ensure academic rigor and access for all learners.
6. Spiral/infuse executive functioning skills into grade-level courses to support academic success.
7. Apply higher-order thinking skills across all courses.
8. Promote professional development for staff.

Goal 2: Future-Ready

Goal Statement: Create a “Future Ready” environment that empowers students with the skills necessary to thrive in an evolving global landscape.

Objectives:

1. Create opportunities for students to develop collaboration, communication, resiliency and other “soft skills”.
2. Create opportunities for professional development that allows creativity and discovery in teachers and students.
3. Enhance and build programs that provide authentic learning experiences with intentional and direct teaching.
4. Evaluate campus technology needs.

Goal 3: Engagement

Goal Statement: To increase engagement of students and families from K-12 through school activities, peer support and community outreach so that students are fully committed and participating members of the school community and beyond.

Objectives:

1. To actively engage all families, future, present and past as a Pre-K-12 learning community.
2. To ensure opportunities of engagement within the 9-12 grade level experience.
3. To create peer engagement throughout the year, providing opportunities for upperclassman to mentor underclassman.
4. To provide positive/service-oriented engagement as part of restorative practices for behavioral and learning challenges.
5. To continue the support for and growth of active engagement as part of all students' learning experiences in all courses.

Goal 4: Health and Wellness

Goal Statement: Increase communication with students to encourage consistent open-communication and improve/maintain their well-being.

Objectives:

1. Foster healthy habits and review cafeteria offerings.
2. Continue to encourage a safe and inclusive school environment by modeling and expecting empathy and resilience.
3. Provide tiered support services. Ensure each student is able to identify and have access to a trusted adult.
4. Increase opportunities for feedback/check-ins. Encourage self-awareness skill building and utilization.
5. Balanced learning strategies that support varied learning and communication styles.

Next Steps:

The next step in the process is the development of action plans. The Superintendent and the Administrative team will develop the action plans for the strategic plan. The timelines will be developed for a 3-5 year plan.

The action plans will include:

- Major activities for each objective
- Who is responsible for the activity
- The resources to be deployed
- Due dates for completion
- Indicators of Success (how we will know the activity has been accomplished)

Thank you to everyone who has contributed their time, talent, and perspectives during any or all the Strategic Planning meetings. We appreciate your participation!

The final plan will be presented to the Board of Education and community on June 8th. Please check the district website for further information. We hope you will attend and be recognized for your participation.

Thank you again for your contributions in developing the plan that will guide the board and district in moving forward over the next 3 – 5 years.