

Our District Vision IN FOCUS

2024-2025



District Goals Update

Presented to the Board of Education

By Dr. Lizzette Ruiz-Giovinazzi

January 21, 2025



RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.

We, the students, parents, community and staff of the Nyack School District VALUE: *the pursuit of scholastic excellence; the richness of our diverse community; harmonious relationships among individuals and groups; partnerships among students, staff, parents, and community; respect for self, and others; responsible ethical behavior that engenders trust; individuals who think critically and creatively; ongoing involvement in local and global issues; development of essential skills and attitudes for a productive life; a safe and nurturing environment.*

Our Mission Statement



RedHawk Ready!
Remember. Refresh. Reunify.



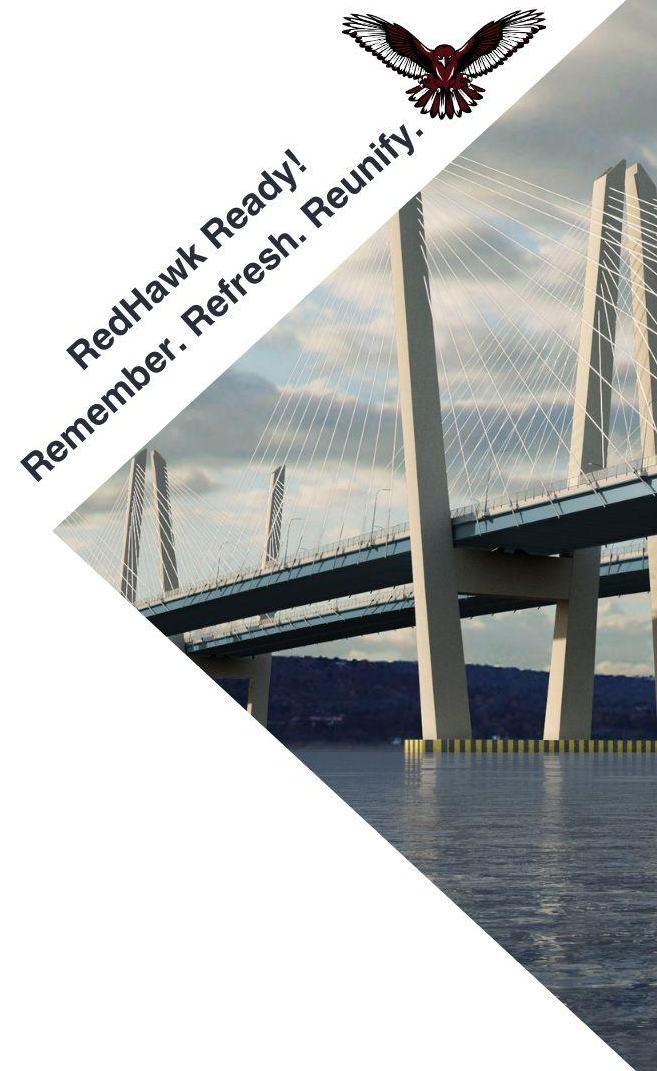
We are building bridges for today's students to cross into tomorrow's world with equity, innovation and optimism.

Embedded into the Profile of a Graduate of Nyack Public Schools are seven core competencies - Critical Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, Compassion, Content Mastery and Cultural Awareness.

Nurturing these competencies in each student begins at birth, extends into each classroom, and prepares students for success and wellness beyond graduation onto a global platform.



Our Vision





2024-25 Goals & Objectives



Implement Districtwide MTSS



Expand District Racial Equity Plan



Strengthen Elementary Curriculum

What is accountability and to whom are we accountable?

HOW WILL WE REACH OUR GOALS FOR THIS YEAR AND FOR THE FUTURE OF NYACK?



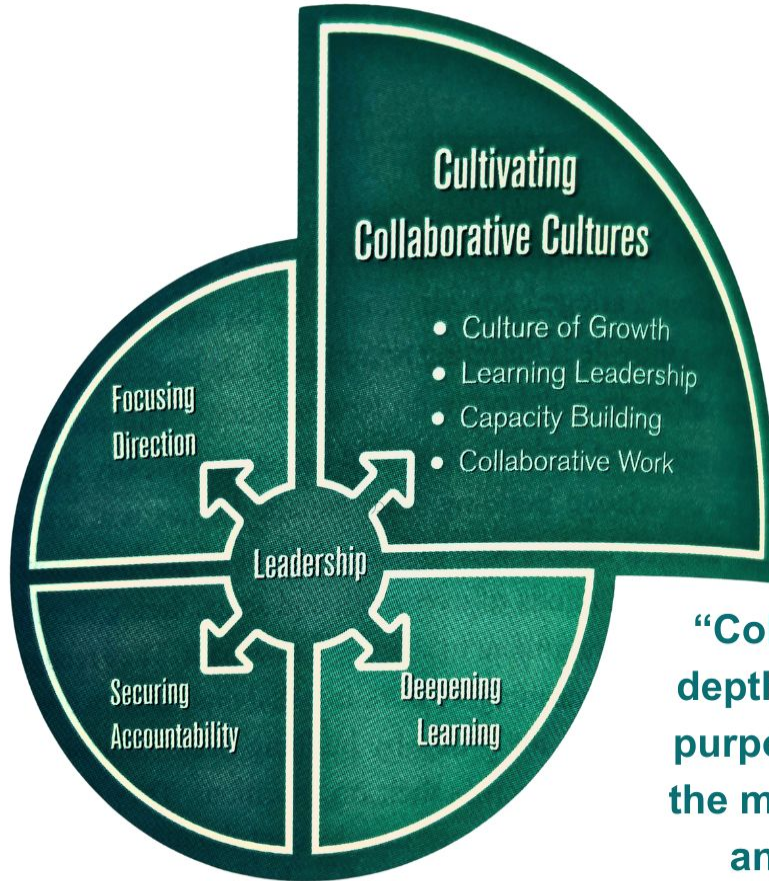
Performance Measures for Results-based Accountability:

- Quantity - How much did we do?
- Quality - How well did we do it?
- Impact - Is anyone better off?

The Coherence Framework



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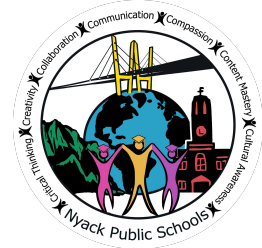


“Coherence is about the shared depth of understanding about the purpose and nature of the work in the minds and actions individually and especially collectively.”

-Michael Fullan



UPDATE Goal 1: **Implement** District-wide MTSS Plan



Multi-Tiered Systems of Support: Meeting the needs of all students



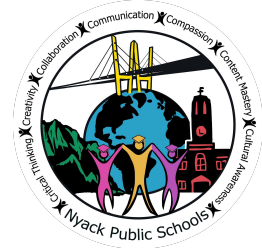
LinkIt!

Capturing student data and
turning insights into action.

Action STEPS to include:

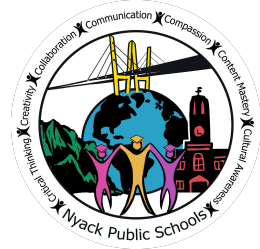
- **Create and Finalize** the MTSS District Plan
- **Establish** MTSS Teams in each school
- **Strengthen** ongoing MTSS Team development and role clarity
- **Regulate** MTSS Meetings with functional teams
- **Encourage** parent communications and engagement

UPDATE Goal 1: Implement District-wide MTSS Plan

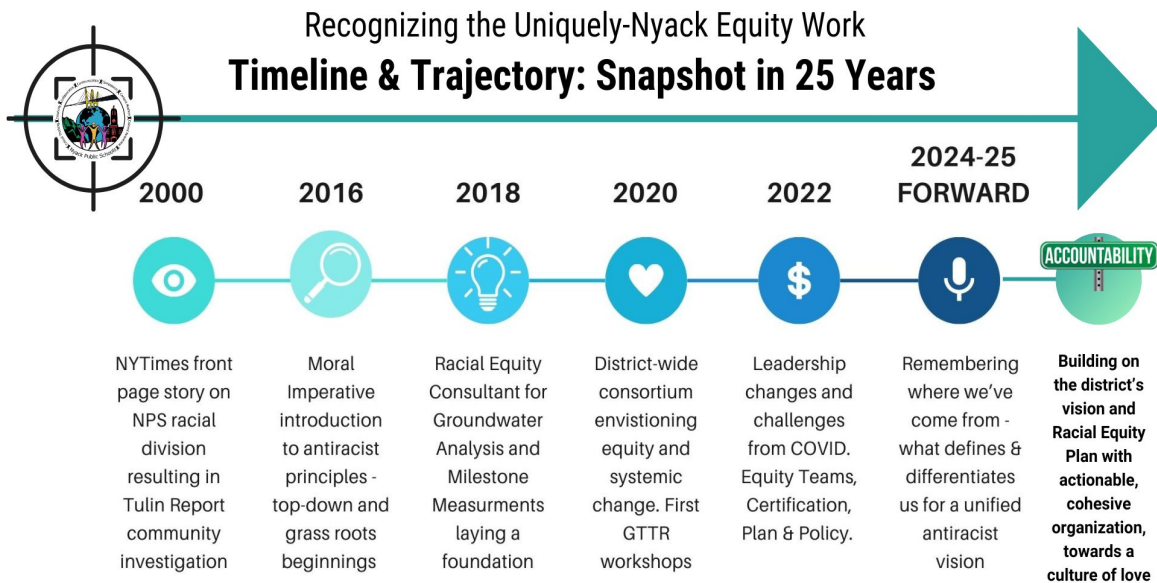


MTSS Implementation

- Building-level MTSS Training
 - Academic and Behavioral (SEL) Systems
- Intervention Manager Adoption
 - Training with MTSS Teams
 - Updating District documents for MTSS referral process
- MTSS Planbook
 - First Draft completed by end of January 2025

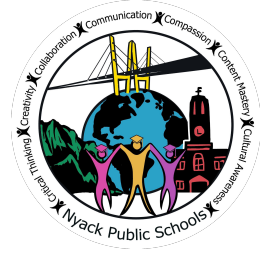


UPDATE Goal 2: **Advance** The District Racial Equity Plan



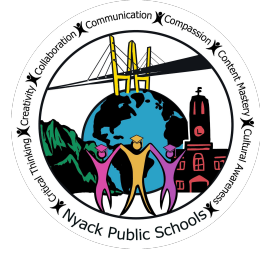
Action STEPS to include:

- ➔ **Hire** a Director of Equity & K-12 Curriculum
- ➔ **Deepen Understanding** of the District's existing and trajectory of equity work
- ➔ **Support and Expand** Building-level Equity Teams
- ➔ **Build and Lead** a District Equity Team
- ➔ **Sustain and Support** the District's Equity Certification Program



UPDATE Goal 2: **Advance** The District Racial Equity Plan

- **Racial Equity Plan** - as district's foundation to Remember, Refresh, Reunify (**seeds are planted**)
- **Created NEW Director of Equity and K-12 Curriculum** position
 - Organized Interview Committee
 - Conducted rounds of interviews, included administrators, staff, community members, cabinet members
 - Upcoming recommendation to the BOE for finalist(s)
- **Building Leadership Capacity and Coherence with anti-racist principles**
 - Revitalizing monthly Roundtable Conversations with the Leadership Team
 - Identify additional facilitators for monthly building-level conversations in each school
 - Building leadership capacity for facilitation
 - Reset for continuing conversations per building
- **Collaborating for regional GTTR** with BOCES for educators - Feb. 5&6 in-house/onsite
- **Building Racial Literacy** with all staff via consultants and professional development plan
 - Building-level work and principals - assemblies, faculty meetings
 - Building Equity Teams - identifying racial equity liaisons in each school
- **Big Picture 2025** - **Cultivating the seeds** for developing a District Strategic Plan with the Racial Equity Pillars and Plan



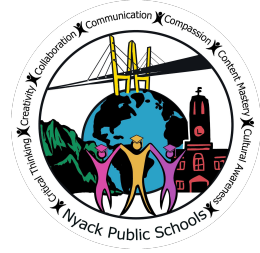
UPDATE Goal 3: **Strengthen** Elementary ELA/ENL/Math Curriculum

95
PERCENT OF STUDENTS
READING AT GRADE LEVEL...
**AN ACHIEVABLE
GOAL**



Action STEPS to include

- **Work closely with Family Resource Coordinators** to develop workshops, provide translation services, and distribute resources that assist ENL families in navigating the school system
- **Attendance logs** at family workshops and resource events.
- **Frequency and effectiveness of communication** with ENL families, tracked through family engagement records.
- **Engage ENL consultants** to provide ongoing professional development that equips teachers with strategies for language acquisition, differentiation, and culturally responsive teaching.
- **Create small, specialized groups for newcomers**, providing more individualized attention to help them adjust both academically and socially. (IN MS and HS)



UPDATE Goal 3: Strengthen Elementary ELA/ENL/Math Curriculum

- **95% Group Evidence-based Literacy Solutions**
 - Implementation Timeline:
 - K-2 - continue from 2023-24
 - Grade 3 - 2024-25
 - Grade 4 - 2025-26
 - Grade 5 - 2026-27
 - CHANGE in Practice: Unit assessments are uploaded into Link-It for analysis by staff
- **Eureka Math Squared Exponentially Greater Curriculum (1-21-25 Presentation to the BOE)**
- **ENL Professional Development**
 - SCD NOV- partnership with Rockland and PNW Boces for professional development opportunities K-12
 - Support for ENL students K-12 -beforeand after school academic support
 - Hiring Interim Director



The work is ongoing...
Thank you.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & ACCOUNTABILITY

Board of Education:

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Benny Vasquez, Vice President
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Bryan Burrell, Trustee
Michael Mark, Trustee
Elaine Philhower, Trustee
Matthew Watson, Trustee

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Lorraine Longing, Director of Guidance K-12
Leo Macias, Director of Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services
Darleen Nicolosi, Director of Technology & Innovation
Joe Sigillo, Director of PE, Health, Wellness & Athletics
Lisa Miner Retallack, District PR & Community Outreach Specialist

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George Teasdale, Nyack High School Asst. Principal
Julio Ceden, Nyack High School Asst. Principal
Dave Johnson, Nyack Middle School Principal
Karissa Sullivan, Nyack Middle School Asst. Principal
Lucia Pichardo, Liberty Elementary School Acting Principal
Tom DiLeo, Upper Nyack Elementary School Principal
Lucrisha Addison Harris, Valley Cottage Elementary School Principal



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Slide Deck and Design for
Strategic Communications
in Nyack Public Schools
by Lisa Miner Retallack, PRCO
www.nyackschools.org

