

# UPDATE ON THE CHARLOTTE CENTRAL STRATEGIC PLAN

June 6, 2008

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## CURRICULUM

*GOAL 1 Continue implementation of the CSSU Curriculum Frameworks across all subject areas, so that students will be prepared for high school.*

### Indicators of Progress:

- Local assessment plans are in place for literacy and math
- Teachers are taking advantage of professional development opportunities and implementing new learnings in the classrooms
- Collaboration between classroom teams takes place on a regular basis
- Students demonstrate progress as measured by a variety of assessment tools
- Action plans for literacy, math are current
- Action plans for science and social studies were developed for 07-08.

## GOAL 2

*Clarify and enhance systems of communication regarding the curriculum among teachers, administrators, parents/guardians and the school board*

### Indicators of Progress:

- Curriculum meetings take place annually for each team
- Learning team guidelines, expectations and curriculum maps are available to families
- A visual representation for the Chain of Communication to be followed when a parent has questions or concerns about his/her child's progress or development was developed and printed on the cover of the Parent/Family Handbook and on the cover of the Newsletter

### Next Steps:

- Publish communication guidelines in the CCS Student/Family Handbook, in the Newsletter and on the Web
- Enhance the two-way communication so that all parties felt heard and understood (and so that issues are resolved)

*Goal 3 Introduce World Language instruction in the primary grades so that students are proficient in a second language by eighth grade*

*Indicators of Progress*

- *A State Board of Education committee is in place to create a plan to initiate world languages in the primary grades*
- *A CSSU committee researched best practices in the teaching of world languages. The committee reported to the CSSU board in the fall. The CSSU Board approved money to hire two consultants to work during the summer of 08 and report back to the Board in the fall of 08*
- *The CCS Board:*
  - *Budgeted a full time World Language teacher to teach K-4*
  - *Charged a committee to bring back recommendations*
  - *Accepted the recommendations of the committee to have Spanish taught in grades K-4*
  - *Hired a full time World Language teacher to begin in fall of 08*

Goal 4 *Develop cross-cultural awareness so that students can interact effectively in a culturally diverse world*

Indicators of Progress:

- Opportunities for students to experience other cultures are provided
- Outside resources are utilized by CCS to enhance cultural awareness
- The focus of the Enrichment Coordinator's work with teams will focus on integrating a global perspective into the curricular themes for the 08-09 school year

Next steps:

- Explore scheduling options that will allow for more students to study geography as part of the school's involvement in the VPA Geo Bee and the National Geographic Geography Bee

Goal 5 *The option of all-day Kindergarten will be offered as part of the CCS educational program*

### Indicators of Progress

- Kindergarten will be extended to a full day for the second half of the 2008-09 school year and for the second half of subsequent years.

# EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION LITERACY

Goal 1 *Establish CCS as a learning community that utilizes the power of educational technology and information literacy to facilitate and improve students' academic performance, broaden learning opportunities, and prepare children for a dynamic future*

## *Indicators of Progress*

- *Students utilize technology to develop critical thinking skills by accessing, analyzing and communicating information*
  - *Primary*
    - *Encarta for Kids*
    - *Age-appropriate web sites*
    - *Excel*
    - *Tinkerplots*
    - *Kidspiration*
    - *PowerPoint*
    - *United Video Streaming*
  - *Intermediate*
    - *Email*
    - *Teacher-created web sites*
    - *Search engines*
    - *Encarta*
    - *Excel*
    - *Tinkerplots*
    - *Inspiration*
    - *PowerPoint*
    - *United Video Streaming*
    - *Movie Maker for Digital Storytelling*
    - *Document Camera*
    - *Interactive White Board*
    - *Moodle*

– *Middle Level*

- *Encarda*
  - *Search engines*
  - *Teacher created websites*
  - *PowerPoint*
  - *United Video Streaming*
  - *Interactive White Board*
  - *Document Camera*
- *CSSU replacement formula for workstations has been fully funded*
  - *Decrease in technology support response time*

*Next steps:*

- *New Professional Development plans will include technology integration as into curriculum as one goal.*

Goal 2 *Streamline administration, faculty and staff administrative operations at CCS through the use of technology including student information databases, telecommunications systems, application sharing and internet usage*

### Indicators of Progress

- The DRP (Degrees of Reading Power) is the first local assessment being entered into the state data warehouse
- Gates-McIntire is also being entered at this time.
- Exploration of merging voicemail and email to decrease the response time to parents is taking place
- Implementation of the Alert Now communication system
- Board approval of a new phone system
- Exploration, professional development and initial use of Rubicon Curriculum Mapping software
  
- Next steps
  - Develop the hardware/software resource inventory and utilize it
  - Create an assessment report to assist teachers in placement and planning for their students using our local assessment data.

### Goal 3 *Strengthen the partnership among CCS, families, and the Charlotte community through the use of technology*

#### Indicators of Progress

- Increase in the number of community members utilizing CCS technology resources
- Much more information is now available through the website
  - School Board minutes
  - Reports to the Board
  - Student Performance data
  - Budget materials
  - Webcasts of number of school functions and/or field trips
  - Team websites
    - Moodle web course development software
  - Expectations for professional staff relative to response time to parent communications has been articulated

# FACILITIES

Goal 1 Create and maintain a healthy and safe physical environment to optimize learning for students, staff and community

## Indicators of Progress

- The head of Operations and Maintenance and the Principal complete an annual safety inspection using the Vermont Building Safety Inspection Checklist
- HOM inspects playground area monthly and responds immediately to any reported safety concerns
- Replaced locks to occupied rooms so that doors could be locked from inside.
- Installed outside electronic keycard locks on the exterior doors
- Installed audio-video camera at the main entrance
- Conduct all water testing required by the State of Vermont and then some
- Completed air quality testing of the '69 and basement of the '49 buildings
- Annual monitoring of the mound system
- Funds have been allocated for the Multipurpose Room ventilation project to be done
- A Facilities Committee has been charged
- Architects are being interviewed to develop a comprehensive facilities plan to address the goal of the Strategic Plan
- The MPR ventilation project is to be worked on this summer

## *Goal 2 Allocate and manage space (site and building) in accordance with changing occupancy levels, requirements and community needs*

### *Indicators of Progress*

- *Space was allocated for 2007-2008 taking into consideration staff input, student need, and federal and state regulations*
- *Dore and Whittier prepared and presented a Facilities Study to the Board outlining deficits in the infrastructure of the buildings, as well as proposals for the more efficient and effective use of space*

### *Next Steps*

- The Board will consider the Dore and Whittier report and proposals and other information available about the current state of the school buildings and will develop a plan to address code issues and long term goals of the Facilities section of the CCS Strategic Plan (2006-20012).

Goal 3 *Manage building operations and systems to have a positive environmental impact through energy and water efficient practices and waste reduction efforts.*

### Indicators of Progress

- Recycle paper, plastics, cans, glass bottles, and cardboard

### Next Steps

- The Board will consider the Dore and Whittier report and proposals and other information available about the current state of the school buildings and will develop a plan to address code issues and long term goals of the Facilities section of the CCS Strategic Plan (2006-20012).

# POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Goal 1 *Nurture a positive learning environment within the school community based on the values of respect, integrity, honesty, and kindness*

## Indicators of Progress

- Increased number of staff continue to train in the Responsive Classroom and Responsive Design models
- The Monthly Message developed by each team continued this year
- School Families expanded from one to nine
- Relevant CCS Traditions are being maintained
- Positive Behavior Support system is being explored and learned about through professional develop.

## Next Steps

- Review and revise the current Culture Action Plan, integrating it with the Wellness Plan (which addresses nutrition and physical activity)
- “Launch” Year 1 of PBS for 2008-2009 school year

## *Goal 2 Continue to develop a discipline system that allows for educational growth and nurturing around student behavior*

### *Indicators of Progress*

- Each year, presentations are made to all classes by the Behavior Specialist, School Counselors, and Administrators about respect, kindness, support, bullying and harassment*
- The Behavior Specialist uses the processing time with a student to help them learn about self awareness, choices, and positive strategies they can employ in future similar situations*
- Professional Development for paraeducators*

### *Next Steps*

- Send a team to the BEST Institute to study the Positive Behavior Support system and develop an 3-5 year implementation plan*
- Implement Year 1 of PBS (Positive Behavior Supports) in 2008-2009, a system that will enhance our current approach to educating and nurturing students in their personal development*
- Provide training in the many dimensions of behavioral expectations to constituents ( students, teachers, staff, administrators, board, parents)*

*Goal 3 Create a comprehensive wellness and health plan, including nutrition, physical activity and other school based activities, which promotes the physical and emotional health and safety of students and staff*

### Indicators of Progress

- CSSU Wellness Committee completing its second year
- Wellness Policy adopted by CCS Board
- CCS P.E. classes increased by 10 mins. 3-8
- Focused individual attention given to students with special physical needs by CCS P. E. teacher
- Purell hand washing dispensers are in place in the cafeteria
- Elimination of high-sugar, high-fat products from the Ala Carte line
- Partnerships established with local farmers to bring locally grown produce into the food service program
- A new Food Service Director has been hired who is aligned with the philosophy of good nutrition and local products
- I Safe program is being implemented in each looping cluster annually
- School Counseling classes continue in grades 1-8
- Middle Level counselor and special educator have piloted a study skills program

### Next Steps

- Reinvigorating the CCS Wellness Committee
- Integrate the Wellness initiatives into the Culture Action Plan

## Goal 4 *Establish a comprehensive, accessible and effective communication system between the school and parents*

### *Indicators of Progress*

- *Increased mailings of important materials*
- *Increased amounts of information is posted to our website*
- *High percentage of parent teacher conferences*
- *High percentage of parent attendance at Open Houses, Showcases, and team events*
- *PACS are vehicle used at the 6-8 level*

### *Next Steps*

- **Explore ways to revitalize PACs K-8 to improve participation/communication and effectiveness of PACs**

*Goal 5 Expand the relationship between CCS and Charlotte households without school age children, in order to increase reciprocal understanding.*

*Indicators of Progress*

- *The Charlotte Wisdom Keepers work with middle level students, sharing life stories*
- *The Mentoring Program continues to grow*
- *Community Service projects with the Senior Center*
- *Literacy projects with the Senior Center*

# SUPPORT SERVICES

*Goal 1 Provide a comprehensive system of timely support services for all students, whether below, at, or exceeding grade level standards*

## *Indicators of Progress*

- Support services for every student are based on multiple data sources, state and federal regulations, and/or available personnel, time and other resources.*
- EST process has been revised to align with the Response to Instruction model; forms have been redesigned*
- Some professional development has been done with teachers*

## *Next Steps*

- Further refinement of the process and continued professional development so that teachers may access the system with facility*
- Education of parents so that they will understand the system and contribute to its effectiveness in meeting the needs of their children*
- Define more clearly middle level support services and the integration*

with the classroom curriculum

- Explore having ECST meetings at predictable, regular, and frequent intervals to increase efficiency and hasten the decision making process. This will reduce the time between the original referral and services that are deemed appropriate

*Goal 2 Clearly communicate to parents, students and staff the support services system and how to access it.*

*Indicators of Success*

- *A graphic representation of the continuum of educational support services is under development.*

*Next Steps*

- *Share the graphic with staff during pre service 08*
- *Share with parents during fall open houses (08)*
- *Develop clear protocols of how to access the system*

## Goal 3 *Better meet the enrichment needs of all students*

### *Indicators of Progress*

- *See Enrichment presentation to School Board, May, 2008*

### *Next Steps*