

Newton Public Schools USD 373 2008-2009 Mission and District Goals

Mission:

The mission of the Newton school community is to prepare our students to be capable, contributing participants in a changing world.

Student Achievement

- Reading, writing and mathematics skills acquisition remains the primary academic focus.
- District resources will target student progress in all curricular areas.
- Appropriate learning climates will promote continued academic success.
- Appropriate proficiency levels will be measured by assessments consistent with benchmarks established by *No Child Left Behind* and the State of Kansas.
- Sub-group achievement gaps will continue to narrow.
- Healthy lifestyle choices will be encouraged for all students.
- Research-based curriculum delivery models will support increased student learning.
- A priority will be placed on acquiring skills for success in the 21st century, including science, citizenship, ethical character development, problem solving, collaboration and creativity.

Community Relationships

- Parent and community collaboration and communication will continue to increase.
- Additional partnerships will be forged to increase educational opportunities for students.
- The school district will continue to be perceived as a vital link in economic development through its connections throughout the community and county.

Technology Utilization

- Technology skills will continue to be recognized as essential tools for students and staff .
- The infusion of appropriate technologies into the total school program will remain a priority.
- Technology applications which enhance learning and effectively manage data will be sought.

Funding

- USD 373 will continue to advocate for adequacy and equity in school funding in Kansas.
- The district budget will be aligned with district goals to ensure that resources target identified priorities.
- The district will pursue alternative funding sources to increase support for district programs.

Human Resources

- Proactive efforts will focus on recruitment, selection and retention of highly qualified and diverse staff.
- Continued staff growth will be supported through effective mentoring programs, opportunities to participate in appropriate professional growth opportunities and staff wellness initiatives.
- District staff will work collaboratively with other staff to enhance both working conditions and work climate.