

2017-2018 Goals and Priorities

Nine Graduation Competencies and 21st Century Skills

Ballston Spa graduates will demonstrate the following competencies:

1. Effective communicators
2. Academically skilled
3. Productive and versatile thinkers
4. Skilled information managers
5. Productive workers
6. Personally and interpersonally skilled
7. Responsible citizens of their community, nation and world
8. Self-directed learners
9. Physically and mentally healthy

Our Mission:

The Ballston Spa Central School District is committed to providing an excellent education that maximizes the potential of each student. In partnership with the family and community, our students will become responsible and well-rounded adults.

Our Vision:

The Ballston Spa Central School District will be a place where excellent education is provided for all students, supported by a community that is active in the educational process, both at home and in the schools. As a result of high expectations and rigorous programs, students will be challenged to work hard and learn well. We will be known as a district that serves our community well. We will stand out among neighboring schools for our unique ability to meet the diverse educational needs of our students.

“Educating Everyone Takes Everyone” is what the Ballston Spa Central School District stands for. An excellent education driven by high expectations for each and every student is at the heart of the BSCSD mission. We strongly encourage and support a community that is active in the educational process, and we will be known as a district that stands out among its peers and serves its community well – that’s **“Educating Everyone Takes Everyone.”**

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Nine Graduation Competencies and 21st Century Skills:

Effective Communicators:

- Students will...
- use and respond to a variety of methods and mediums (written, oral, and electronic).
 - express knowledge, thoughts, feelings, and perceptions.
 - recognize and respond appropriately to an array of purposes and audiences.

Academically Skilled:

- Students will...
- interpret learning outcomes.
 - acquire and sustain a general knowledge of and express appreciation for varied disciplines.
 - use a variety of resources to investigate, acquire, and apply information.

Critical Thinkers:

- Students will...
- employ effective decision-making processes to evaluate, interpret, and apply information from multiple perspectives and sources.

Skilled Information Managers:

- Students will...
- identify, extract, manipulate, and evaluate information.
 - use a variety of technological and informational resources.

Productive Workers:

- Students will...
- contribute individually or as a member of a team for a positive outcome.
 - take responsibility for behavior in relation to “workplace” expectations.
 - demonstrate the skills needed to succeed professionally.

Personally and Interpersonally Skilled:

- Students will...
- recognize, value, and appreciate the perspectives and strengths of self and others.
 - work cooperatively, independently, and effectively.

Responsible Citizens:

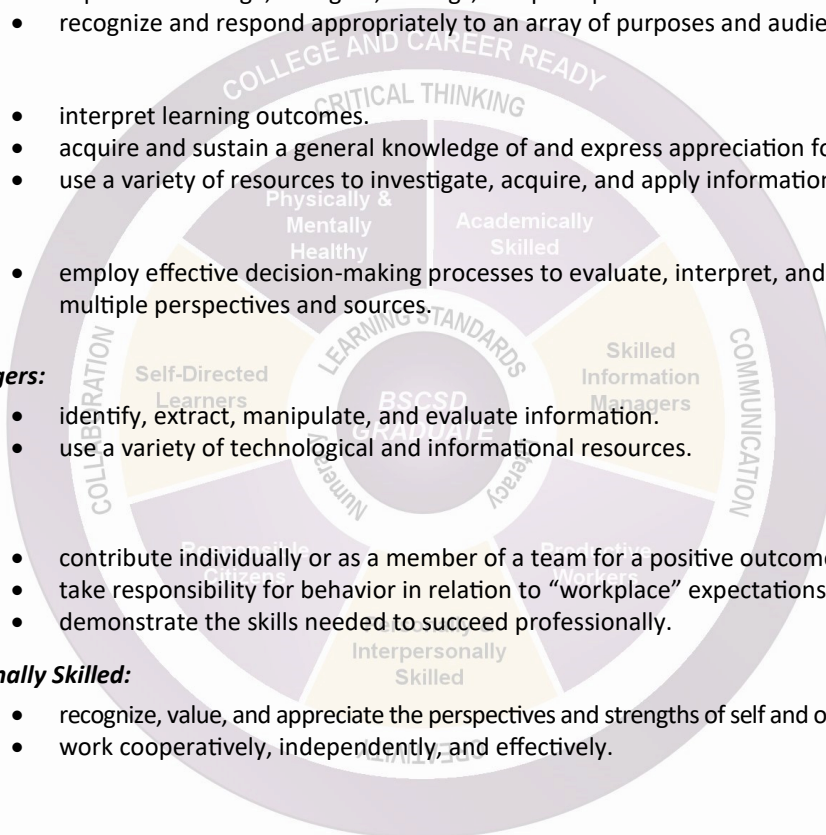
- Students will...
- demonstrate ongoing civic involvement in global and local communities.
 - understand and respect the worth and dignity of all individuals and cultures.

Self-Directed Learners:

- Students will...
- take responsibility for lifelong learning by pursuing knowledge independently and persistently.

Physically and Mentally Healthy:

- Students will...
- develop an awareness of self and practice habits necessary for a healthy lifestyle.



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Core Value: Academic Achievement

Long Range Goal:

All students will graduate college and career ready, and will demonstrate mastery in the Nine Graduation Competencies.

Priority:

All students will be on track to reach proficiency in ELA and math within three years or by grade 8.

Action Steps: Sustainability and Fidelity from 2016-2017

1. We will track the academic progress of each individual student and support interventions for success.
2. We will monitor standards aligned instruction, K-12, providing support and enriching the current foundation of instructional practice.
3. We will support critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and creativity throughout instructional practice.
4. We will sustain our development of STEM enrichment and transdisciplinary learning opportunities.
5. We will support the use of data throughout the District to drive academic and professional growth.
6. We will support our school based mental health and behavior support programs.
7. We will articulate Pathways to College coursework, so all students can receive college credit and avoid remediation in post-secondary study.

Action Steps: 2017-2018

1. We will continue to review the scope, sequence and alignment of the K-8 Science program.
2. Upon SED adoption, we will begin the transition to the new K-8 ELA and math standards.
3. We will explore opportunities to offer coursework leading to certifications in the building trades.
4. We will build capacity to add AP Micro/Macro Economics and/or Human Geography coursework for 2017-2018.
5. We will continue alignment of High School programs with higher education opportunities and career pathways.
6. We will implement trauma informed schools strategies across our District and building-level systems and classrooms.
7. We will support the use of embedded instructional technology, including the i-Ready toolbox, e-Doctrina, Google Suite, and Chromebooks.

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Core Value: Commitment

Long-Range Goal:

Employees who are committed to the exemplary delivery of instruction and services.

Priority:

We will create and support excellence in all aspects of workforce development.

Action Steps: Sustainability and Fidelity from 2016-2017

1. We will support the implementation of The Framework for Teaching.
2. We will sustain the leadership roles of all related building and District level teams and committees.
3. We will support targeted professional development regarding all aspects of integrating instructional technology and in diverse instructional strategies, supporting exceptional practice throughout the workforce.
4. We will support our employee recognition program by highlighting employees from throughout the District and affording parents and community members easy access to recognize and thank staff members via the District website.
5. We will support the health and wellness of our staff by assessing current needs and implementing a diverse range of wellness activities.

Action Steps: 2017-2018

1. We will increase our professional development offerings for support staff in all roles across the district.
2. We will evaluate our current professional development offerings, formats, and structures, and develop new opportunities with a focus on personalized learning pathways.

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Core Value: Value

Long-Range Goal:

To provide a prudently funded educational program that recognizes the fiscal constraints of our community.

Priority:

We will ensure that the District's systems and facilities support and enhance student achievement based on 21st Century Skills and learning opportunities.

Action Steps: Sustainability and Fidelity from 2016-2017

1. We will remain committed to creating new partnerships with business, industry, higher education, and non-profit organizations.
2. We will sustain the process for digital conversion, including enterprise, infrastructure, and educational resources.
3. We will support the Bring Your Own Device framework at the secondary level.

Action Steps: 2017-2018

1. We will define the scope and financing model for facilities renovation projects for voter approval in October 2018.

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Core Value: Involvement

Long Range Goal:

A community actively engaged in the educational process.

Priority:

We will continue to develop and implement strategies for engaging the entire school community in the educational process.

Action Steps: Sustainability and Fidelity from 2016-2017

1. We will continue to expand our social network and social networking presence.

Action Steps: 2017-2018

1. We will sustain our development and access to instructional and academic resources for students and parents.
2. We will implement a new website design to enhance communication with our school community.
3. We will complete the search process for a new Superintendent and have the successful candidate in place for the 2018-2019 school year.

We must constantly strive for:

Delivering Superior Performance:

- Defined by results and efficiency in delivering on our mission.

Having a Distinctive Impact on our Students and Community:

- We strive to make a unique contribution to our students, families, and community with unadulterated excellence.

Lasting Endurance:

- We can deliver exceptional results over a long period of time, beyond any person, great idea, funding opportunity... We focus on creating long term success in all aspects of our business.