



GROSSMONT UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWSLETTER

From the office of Superintendent Robert Collins

Building Upon a Strong Vision and Well-Defined Goals

A Strong Foundation Exists

Every school district and organization needs both a vision and clear goals to have an opportunity to improve student achievement. Last year, our District developed with staff, teachers, parents and community both a vision and goals. While we are visiting schools and talking to stakeholders, we are cognizant of those goals and how any strategic plan has to recognize and build upon this prior work. It's important that we continually use both the vision and goals as the signpost for all of our work. At the same time, it's important that all stakeholders carefully review and understand our goals.

A Clear Vision

The Grossmont Union High School District is dedicated to providing **a safe and collaborative learning environment which supports academic achievement and social development of all students.** The Grossmont Union High School District operates on the premise that **success for every student is dependent upon all groups in the organization** including teachers, administrators, parents, staff, students and the community working together to support all students in their development as life-long learners, thinkers and successful contributors to the community.

Student-Centered Goals Set the Stage for a Strategic Plan

Last year, the work of committees resulted in a clear statement of goals, and a framework for a strategic plan that will provide specific strategies, programs and activities to accomplish those goals. We will also implement specific measurements to chart our progress over time.

1. **Curriculum Instruction and Assessment** – High quality learning for all students is the guiding principle for all decisions

This goal identifies the State content standards as the guide for instruction and regular assessments to monitor progress. It also identifies the importance of enrichment programs, effective supplemental support and high expectations for student behavior.

2. **Equity and Access for all Students** – All students will have access to a high quality, supportive, educational experience.

This goal identifies the importance of a safe and supportive environment, strong student counseling services to help students achieve their personal and career goals, and systematic support for each student. The goal requires that students will have access to an array of curricular as well as extra-curricular activities.

3. **Collaborative Learning Environment** – All staff will contribute to collaborative teams in a mutually supportive and trusting environment.

This goal asks staff to set goals for student achievement that are specific, measurable, attainable, challenging, results-oriented and time-bound. There is an expectation that teachers will collaborate and reflect upon classroom policies, practices, curriculum and instructional strategies to ensure equity for all students. Teachers are to dialogue and reflect on student assessment data. There will be significant recognition and celebration of individual and collective achievements. Finally, parents are expected to take an active role in the education of their children.

4. **Community Engagement** – Grossmont Union High School District values the importance of collaborative relationships with its extended community.

This goal requires strong communication with the greater community regarding the vision, goals and messages of the District. It includes articulation with partner districts, community colleges and universities but also includes civic organizations, legislators and the business community.

I believe that the entire Grossmont community can take pride in both the District vision and goals. They are focused on student achievement. I look forward to working with teachers, staff and parents in building a new strategic plan that is grounded in a clear vision and strong goals.