

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The mission of the Rutherford Public Schools is to provide for the education of all children residing in the borough of Rutherford. The Board of Education accepts the responsibility for coordinating the available resources of home, school and community in a mutual effort to guide every pupil's growth towards becoming a self-respecting individual who can effectively function politically, economically and socially in a democratic society.

The board is dedicated to ensuring that all students in the district are provided with the necessary skills and competencies for achievement of the state-approved Core Curriculum Content Standards.

- A. The high school graduation rate shall be at least 90 percent.
 - 1. The district shall provide least restrictive, alternative programs for students with disabilities.
 - 2. The district shall provide dropout prevention programs for pupils at risk.
- B. Pupils will demonstrate competency in challenging subject matter including language arts/literacy, mathematics, science, social studies, health and physical education, visual and performing arts and world languages.
 - 1. The district shall implement the state-approved Core Curriculum Content Standards and appropriate assessments to enable pupils to succeed and to evaluate their performance.
 - 2. The district shall provide staff development opportunities to ensure that teachers are adequately equipped to teach challenging and up-to-date subject matter and to implement effective teaching techniques. It shall monitor teaching staff members progress toward achievement of the required 100 clock hours of continuing education to ensure that they are obtaining and maintaining the skills to help all students achieve the Core Curriculum Content Standards.
- C. Pupils shall learn to use their minds well, so that they may be prepared for responsible citizenship, ethical behavior further learning, and productive employment in our modern economy.
 - 1. The district shall provide students with experiences in higher level thinking, information processing, the responsibilities of citizenship, and employability skills.
 - 2. All pupils shall demonstrate competency in the skills identified in NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards for 21st Century Life and Careers.
 - 3. All pupils shall demonstrate respect for and tolerance of racial, cultural, ethnic and religious diversity.
 - 4. All students shall be instructed in and demonstrate an understanding of ethical conduct and be encouraged to engage in ethical behavior.

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- D. All pupils shall increase their achievement levels in science and mathematics to contribute to our country's ability to compete academically with all other countries of the world.
 - 1. The district shall maintain its curriculum offerings in science and mathematics according to state standards.
 - 2. The district shall provide staff training in the teaching of mathematics and science at grades K-12 to increase teachers' understanding of and ability to teach these subjects.
- E. District schools shall be free of drugs and violence and offer a safe, disciplined environment conducive to learning.
 - 1. The district shall develop partnerships with parents to establish the responsibilities of each to create and maintain safe and healthy educational environments for all pupils.
 - 2. The district shall provide programs and staffing to deal with pupils at risk.
 - 3. The school and community shall expand their cooperative efforts to create drug and violence-free environments.
 - 4. All students shall develop a positive view of self and learn to use effective interpersonal skills.

The board shall develop, in consultation with the chief school administrator and teaching staff members, educational plans for the district. These shall be reviewed and adopted annually and shall include:

- A. Written educational goals;
- B. An assessment of pupil needs;
- C. Specific annual objectives based on identified needs and action plans to implement them;
- D. Standards for assessing and evaluating the achievement of objectives;
- E. The establishment of reasonable pupil minimum proficiency levels in the areas addressed in the Core Curriculum Content Standards;
- F. An educational program consistent with these goals, objectives, standards and needs;
- G. Evaluation of pupil progress.

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Adopted: September 8, 2003
Revised: March 10, 2008
Revised: March 8, 2010
Revised: May 11, 2015

Legal References: N.J.S.A. 18A:7A-10 Evaluation of performance of each school
N.J.S.A. 18A:7C-2 Boards of education; establishment of standards
N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-43 School Funding Reform Act of 2008
through -63
N.J.S.A. 18A:33-1 District to furnish suitable facilities; adoption of
courses of study
N.J.S.A. 18A:35-1 et seq. Curriculum and Courses
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.1 et seq. Standards and Assessment
see particularly:
N.J.A.C. 6A:8-1.2
through -1.3, -2.1, -3.1, -4.1, -4.4
N.J.A.C. 6A:9-15.1 et seq. Required Professional Development for Teachers
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-1.1 et seq. Fiscal accountability, efficiency and budgeting
procedures
see particularly:
N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-19.1 et seq.
N.J.A.C. 6A:26-1.1 et seq. Educational Facilities
N.J.A.C. 6A:30-1.1 et seq. Evaluation of the Performance of School Districts
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-2.1 Definitions
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.1 Reporting requirements
N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.2 School-level planning

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Pub. L. 107-110, 20 U.S.C.A. 6301 et seq.