

Bolinas-Stinson Beach Union School District Board of Trustees

2006 District Vision, Mission and Goal Statements

2006 Vision Statement

We educate students to be inspired critical thinkers, confident of their creativity and motivated to achieve academic excellence. Essential learning, grounded in sustainable community and environmental stewardship, prepares each student to successfully pursue the opportunities of life.

2006 Mission Statement

Our mission is to engage students' native intelligence and creativity in learning processes, instilling in them self-confidence, poise, and an inquisitive, life-long love of learning. To achieve this mission we will provide:

- A broad, comprehensive curriculum, integrated across disciplines and designed to enrich the learning experience. Our curriculum includes language arts, mathematics, science, social sciences, performing and visual arts, Spanish language, physical education, health, environmental studies and technology;
- A challenging academic program that will prepare each student to excel in high school and life experiences;
- Exceptional teachers who effectively employ innovative, high-quality instructional strategies;
- An educational community of small classes and trusting, collaborative relationships between staff, students and parents;
- An educational program tailored to the needs of each individual student;
- A beautiful and inspiring learning environment that emphasizes place: the unique features of our natural environment and local communities;
- A school that models sustainable practices, compassion and individual responsibility.

2006-2011 Goal Statements

Our vision and mission for the school is further defined by the following goal statements. These statements are long-range objectives. Specific annual District goals are derived from these goal statements and are detailed in the Annual District Goals document.

1 Curriculum and Instruction:

- ⇒ *Fully integrated* – Wherever possible, no subject is taught in isolation. The teaching of each subject will be conducted with the intent of connecting and supporting the teaching and learning of other grade levels and subjects. A particular focus of curriculum integration is between core classroom subjects and subjects taught by specialists. This will require staff to work closely to develop coordinated lesson plans.
- ⇒ *Fully articulated* - All subjects, beginning with Language Arts, Math and Science, will be articulated vertically from Kindergarten through 8th grade. The articulated curriculum will be published as it is developed and implemented by all teaching staff. A plan for articulating the school curriculum will be created and reviewed for progress annually by the Board.
- ⇒ *Standards based* - curriculum will focus on the Board-adopted state standards. Essential standards will be identified at each grade level and student progress will be measured against these essential standards. This information will be communicated to parents. Essential standards will be published each year for parents and, if appropriate, students.
- ⇒ *Differentiated instruction for each student* – Teachers will utilize differentiated instruction to tailor delivery of curriculum to each student. Staff and administration will create a student learning profile that is integrated with each student's report card. The learning profile will contain information about learning styles, strengths and weaknesses of the student as a learner, and successful instructional strategies used by teachers.
- ⇒ High school performance of graduated students will be monitored closely by administrative and classroom staff. High school performance will be a significant factor in the development and revision of curriculum.

2 Subject Area Prioritization and focus:

- ⇒ Language Arts, Math, Science, History and Social Studies will be given priority for academic instruction.
- ⇒ The school's strong and ongoing commitment to the arts will continue. Emphasis will be placed on balancing visual and performing arts and integrating all arts with classroom curriculum.
- ⇒ Health and Physical Education will be an important and regular part of each student's education program.
- ⇒ Evaluation of a second language program will be undertaken and a decision to offer a second language will be made.
- ⇒ Computer Literacy and appropriate use of technology will provide students with tools and opportunities to improve their learning.

3 Support Services for Students:

- ⇒ Teachers and support staff will work collaboratively to ensure that students with special needs, from special education to gifted, are identified and intervention strategies implemented in the early primary grades and preschool.
- ⇒ As the number of students decreases, the special needs of individual students become more apparent and significant. The district will refine how Special Education services are delivered to such a small student body.
- ⇒ Whenever possible, students should be educated with their peers in the regular classroom. An identified “Intervention Specialist” will provide instructional strategies and modified materials to classroom teachers for all students with special needs.

4 Classroom Configuration:

- ⇒ Due to declining enrollment, the number of classrooms will be reduced with a nominal classroom size of 15-20 students. Minimum classroom size should be 10-12 students to allow for the critical mass needed for effective teaching and learning strategies and social integration.
- ⇒ Criteria will be established through an inclusive community process that utilizes sound, up-to-date education research to determine if and under what conditions all K-8 classes will be consolidated on one campus.
- ⇒ Classroom configuration will be published in early June for the coming school year.

5 Professional Development:

- ⇒ Increased incentives will be provided for teacher education (specialized training and advanced degrees) in recognition that high quality professional development is the most important tool for improving instruction.
- ⇒ Professional development will be provided and is required for classroom teachers transitioning to multiage classrooms, different grade levels, new subjects, and/or as identified by the Principal/Superintendent.
- ⇒ Professional development will be required for all classroom teachers for tools/programs selected by the district in support of curriculum objectives, classroom configuration and differentiated instruction.
- ⇒ The teacher mentoring program, as defined in district policy, will be strictly adhered to.
- ⇒ A professional learning environment will be defined by the Board and administration which includes respectful behavior and demeanor, and is modeled by all members of the staff, administration and Board.

6 Facilities:

- ⇒ Adequate facilities will be identified for ALL programs offered at the school. No new programs will be offered without first identifying adequate teaching and storage space, and appropriate materials. School classrooms will not be consolidated onto one campus until adequate teaching, storage and playground space has been identified and developed.

- ⇒ The district will study and consider construction of an enclosed multipurpose gym to improve our Physical Education program, provide adequate facilities for performing arts, and make available a multipurpose athletic and performance space for the local communities.

7 Sustainable Practices:

- ⇒ The school will focus on reduction of environmental footprint. This will be accomplished by implementing a Sustainable School Program that includes the following features:
 - Reducing the consumption of non-renewable resources;
 - Aggressively recycling waste materials;
 - Offsetting carbon-based energy sources with renewable energy sources where possible.
- ⇒ The organic Food Program will be supplemented by integration of farming and gardening into the curriculum.
- ⇒ Environmental science curriculum will utilize local habitats and agencies/resources.

8 District Performance and Compliance with Federal and State Education Mandates:

- ⇒ The district should strive to achieve compliance with NCLB, as long as that compliance does not distract from the district's vision and mission.
- ⇒ The minimum API for the district should be 800.