

TREDYFFRIN/EASTTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

# DISTRICT LEVEL GOALS

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2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

**Mission Statement for the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District**

*To inspire a passion for learning, personal integrity, the pursuit of excellence  
and social responsibility in each student.*

# 2013-2014 DISTRICT GOALS

District Level Goals are carefully considered and established each year. The process of establishing Goals in itself serves as a planning and communication device for the Board and administration. It ensures everyone is familiar with the direction being set and has participated in setting that direction for the benefit of our students. Finally, a statement of Goals enables the Board and staff to look back at the end of the year to see if the plans have indeed been accomplished. Depending on an evaluation of the outcomes, it may be appropriate to either revisit a particular Goal or to move on to new areas of priority.

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## CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND ASSESSMENT

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**Context:** The District continues to prepare for the required implementation of the Pennsylvania Common Core standards in 2015. Toward this end, in 2011-2012 the District selected and the Board approved a new elementary math program aligned with these standards. This program was implemented in grades K-1 in 2012-2013 and will be implemented in grade 2 in 2013-2014 and in grades 3 and 4 in 2014-2015. Additionally, the graduation requirements for the class of 2015 and beyond require the development of a Government and Economics course which will be implemented in 2013-2014. As the State-mandated graduation requirements for the classes of 2017 and beyond will require proficiency on Keystone Exams in Algebra 1, Literature and Biology, the District will continue alignment of these courses with these testing requirements, including the development of supplemental instruction for students who do not pass the tests. A new teacher evaluation system, required by the State, will be implemented in 2013-14. The District will begin to convert existing curriculum documents to a web-based tool in 2013-14.

**Goal 1:** To continue the alignment of current educational programming with the state-mandated Pennsylvania Common Core Standards and Keystone Exams, and to implement State-required modifications to the teacher evaluation system.

Objective 1.1 To implement the *Math in Focus* program in grade 2.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: Ongoing  
Primary Responsibility: Nancy Adams  
Support: Elementary Principals

Objective 1.2 To prepare for the 2014-2015 implementation of the *Math in Focus* program in grades 3 and 4.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: Ongoing  
Primary Responsibility: Nancy Adams  
Support: Elementary Principals

Objective 1.3	To implement a full-year Government and Economics course appropriate for all levels in grade 11 to satisfy graduation requirements for the classes of 2015 and beyond.
	Start: July 2013
	Complete: June 2014
	Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick
	Support: High School Administrators
Objective 1.4	To review and modify as necessary the instructional delivery of Algebra 1, American Literature, and Biology courses to align content with Keystone Exams.
	Start: July 2013
	Complete: June 2014
	Primary Responsibility: Nancy Adams, Wendy Towle
	Support: Richard Gusick
Objective 1.5	To develop supplemental instruction courses for students who do not demonstrate proficiency on the Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology Keystone Exams.
	Start: July 2013
	Complete: June 2014
	Primary Responsibility: Nancy Adams, Wendy Towle
	Support: Richard Gusick
Objective 1.6	To implement the State-required modifications to the teacher evaluation system
	Start: July 2013
	Complete: June 2014
	Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick
	Support: All Administrators

Objective 1.7

To adapt existing curriculum documents to a web-based platform.

Start: July 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick

Support: Curriculum Supervisors

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## FINANCE

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**Context:** The District’s budget development process is directed by the following three major objectives: (1) to continue to provide students with exceptional educational opportunities; (2) to maximize the use of all available resources to optimize student achievement in a manner that is fiscally responsible; and (3) to comply with applicable law. The Tax Payer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006) requires local tax increases to remain at or below the annual state index unless granted exceptions by the state to raise rates above the index. Budget strategies will be monitored and additional strategies examined.

**Goal 2:** To develop a budget consistent with the provisions of the Tax Payer Relief Act (Act 1) and to continue financial reporting practices to reflect the results of District business operations while enhancing efficiencies within District financial practices.

Objective 2.1 To establish budget development calendar(s) and budget guidelines consistent with Act 1 of 2006.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: September 2013  
Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell  
Support: Jeff Curtis

Objective 2.2 To provide the Board with financial analysis that supports the development of a budget that addresses District educational goals and informs the Board with information to assist Board members in decision making; such as whether to remain at or below the Act 1 index and/or apply for available exceptions. In addition, to provide the Board with options to use fund balance, reduce expenditures and/or increase taxes to adopt a balanced budget.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: June 2014  
Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell  
Support: Jeff Curtis

Objective 2.3 To present, implement and monitor Board approved budget cost containment strategies and revenue enhancements.

Start: July 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell

Support: Jeff Curtis

Objective 2.4 To develop, examine and present budget impact items as part of the 2013-2014 budget development process. An example would be the impact of the Federal Healthcare changes on the budget process.

Start: July 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell

Support: All Administrators

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## TECHNOLOGY

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**Context:** As technology applications become increasingly available to schools and in society, the District continues to evaluate its technology needs and to engage in ongoing evaluation of the use of technology by students and staff. In 2009-2010, an outside consultant provided information regarding the District's network infrastructure needs in relationship to the evolving technology advancements. This report has been helpful in planning for future network projects including the redesign of T/E's educational network to meet the growing technology education needs of the students. During the 2013-2014 school year, the District will implement a wireless learning environment. As in the past, meeting the technology needs of students and teachers will remain a primary District objective.

**Goal 3:** To analyze the proposed technology architectural design for the network infrastructure including the hardware and software necessary to enable the integration of wireless technology with instructional delivery.

Objective 3.1 To analyze with the District's Network Consultant the cost, scope of work, and timeline for the implementation of all network infrastructure improvements and to present this information to the Facilities Committee for possible action.

Start: September 2013

Complete: December 2013

Primary Responsibility: Robin McConnell

Support: Art McDonnell

Objective 3.2 To assist the District Technology Committee in developing a transition plan that supports a "Bring Your Own Device" initiative for students and staff.

Start: October 2013

Complete: May 2014

Primary Responsibility: Robin McConnell

Support: District Technology Committee

Objective 3.3

To direct the District Network Consultant's development of a proposed timeline for the implementation of a wireless network that meets the educational needs of students and teachers at each instructional level. This timeline will include the cost, the scope of work and additional personnel required to support the initiative and will be presented to the Facilities Committee of the Board for its action.

Start: September 2013

Complete: May 2014

Primary Responsibility: Robin McConnell

Support: Art McDonnell

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## STUDENT SERVICES

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**Context:** The Office of Individualized Student Services is focusing on two areas of evolving needs: post-secondary transition and social skills programming. As the District continues its implementation of programming for students with low-incidence disabilities and/or higher levels of need, students are within the age range during which post-secondary transition becomes a significant component of their educational programming. As part of PDE's ongoing initiative related to post-secondary transition, during the 2013-2014 school year the District is obligated to participate in a year-long review of post-secondary transition practices and conduct professional development activities. To address evolving student needs, representative K-12 special education teachers, counselors and mental health specialist collaborated during 2012-13 to align programming across the District for students in grades K-12. The current focus of this planning group is on a K-12 social skills scope and sequence.

**Goal 4:** To align District efforts in post-secondary transition with identified effective practices and to develop a Districtwide K-12 social skills curriculum.

Objective 4.1 To review current practices in preparing T/E students for post-secondary transition.

Start: September 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipego

Support: Chris Groppe

Objective 4.2 To participate in the PDE professional development activities relating to post-secondary transition.

Start: September 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipego

Support: Chris Groppe, Lisa Snyder

Objective 4.3 To design/develop program enhancements for post-secondary transition to implement during the 2014-2015 school year.

Start: September 2013

Complete: May 2014

Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipego

Objective 4.4	Support: Chris Groppe
	To complete the development of the social skills curriculum.
	Start: September 2013
	Complete: December 2013
	Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipego
	Support: Nicole Roy, Lisa Snyder
Objective 4.5	To implement and review the efficacy of the social skills curriculum using both quantitative and qualitative data.
	Start: September 2013
	Complete: June 2014
	Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipego
	Support: Nicole Roy, Lisa Snyder

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## SCHOOL SAFETY

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**Context:** To maintain an ongoing dialogue among students, parents, community members, teachers, counselors, and administrators about the needs of students, the District Safety Committee annually reviews current practices and emerging safety data. During the 2013-2014 school year, a variety of physical enhancements will be made at each school to limit the risk of building intruders and improve emergency response times. These improvements will occur in conjunction with a complete review of crisis response exercises and preparedness plans. The District will continue to partner with local police departments to learn “best practices” related to school safety breaches and how to improve our collaborative responses to emergency incidents. As recommended by governmental agencies including the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Pennsylvania Office of Safe Schools, the District will work toward implementing guidelines for staff to follow during incidents involving an active intruder. The implementation plan will involve training students and staff members to be alert and more adaptive during emergency drills. The District will also administer the 2013 Pennsylvania Youth Survey in the fall in order to continue gauging students’ behaviors, decision-making and mental health. This information is valuable in influencing our programming for students.

**Goal 5:** To evaluate existing emergency exercises and preparedness plans, and implement changes in conjunction with new federal guidelines and local law enforcement recommendations.

Objective 5.1 To utilize new building physical enhancements to limit the risk of school intruders, improve emergency response times and institutionalize practices that ensure building security.

Start:	August 2013
Complete:	June 2014
Primary Responsibility:	Mark Cataldi
Support:	Building Principals

- Objective 5.2 To evaluate the District’s emergency response exercises and implement changes that comply with guidelines from governmental agencies for an “all hazards response” perspective and take into account current best practices related to active intruders.
- Start: August 2013  
 Complete: January 2014  
 Primary Responsibility: Mark Cataldi  
 Support: Building Principals
- Objective 5.3 To implement and practice a system of dynamic emergency drills with staff and students that emphasizes the importance of remaining alert, following instructions and adapting to emergency situations.
- Start: September 2013  
 Complete: June 2014  
 Primary Responsibility: Mark Cataldi  
 Support: Building Principals
- Objective 5.4 To administer the 2013 Pennsylvania Youth Survey as a tool for measuring the anonymous self-reporting of unsafe and at-risk behaviors in T/ESD students.
- Start: August 2013  
 Complete: October 2013  
 Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipego  
 Support: Building Administrators

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## STRATEGIC PLANNING

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**Context:** During the 2013-2014 school year, the District will revise the current strategic plan to meet the needs of students through 2020. The District will prepare State-required strategic planning reports in all mandated departments.

**Goal 6:** To prepare for implementation an essential skills model, and to develop an updated strategic plan in accord with State requirements and local student needs.

Objective 6.1 To revise the District strategic plan to address student needs through 2020.

Start: September 2013

Complete: Ongoing

Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick

Support: Nancy Adams, Oscar Torres, Wendy Towle

Objective 6.2 To develop and submit a revised Chapter 4 Academic Standards and Assessment plan consistent with current strategic planning regulations.

Start: September 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick

Support: Nancy Adams, Oscar Torres, Wendy Towle

Objective 6.3 To develop and submit a revised Act 48 Professional Education plan consistent with current strategic planning regulations.

Start: September 2013

Complete: June 2014

Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick

Support: Nancy Adams, Oscar Torres, Wendy Towle

- Objective 6.4 To develop and submit a revised Act 49 Teacher Induction plan consistent with current strategic planning regulations.
- Start: September 2013
- Complete: June 2014
- Primary Responsibility: Wendy Towle
- Support: Nancy Adams, Oscar Torres
- Objective 6.5 To develop and submit a revised Chapter 14 Special Education plan consistent with current strategic planning regulations.
- Start: September 2013
- Complete: June 2014
- Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipeco
- Support: Chris Groppe, Nicole Roy, Lisa Snyder
- Objective 6.6 To develop and submit a revised Chapter 12 Student Services plan consistent with current strategic planning regulations.
- Start: September 2013
- Complete: June 2014
- Primary Responsibility: Andrea Chipeco
- Support: Chris Groppe, Nicole Roy, Lisa Snyder
- Objective 6.7 To develop and submit a revised District Technology plan consistent with current strategic planning regulations.
- Start: September 2013
- Complete: June 2014
- Primary Responsibility: Robin McConnell
- Support: Richard Gusick

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## COMMUNICATION

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**Context:** The District maintains an integrated communications network that includes the District web site, e-newsletters, e-publications, phone notification system, TV programming, media outreach and print communications. Through these channels, the District is able to communicate with the public in a quick, efficient and cost-effective manner. The District will continue to keep the community engaged and informed of important policies, programs, student achievement, school safety, contract negotiations, facilities use, legislation affecting schools and economic factors facing the T/E School District budget.

**Goal 7:** To maintain a strong, effective and proactive communication program that reaches all stakeholders.

Objective 7.1 To maintain the District's paperless communications vehicles and review older communications methods for effectiveness.

Start: August 2013  
Complete: Ongoing  
Primary Responsibility: Chris Connolly  
Support: All Administrators

Objective 7.2 To monitor new tools and services offered by Schoolwires that could enhance the T/E School District web site.

Start: August 2013  
Complete: June 2014  
Primary Responsibility: Chris Connolly  
Support: Robin McConnell

Objective 7.3 To update the emergency communication plan and District safety brochure as needed.

Start: August 2013  
Complete: June 2014  
Primary Responsibility: Chris Connolly  
Support: Andrew Phillips

Objective 7.4

To continue supporting school personnel in efforts to communicate electronically with parents.

Start:	August 2013
Complete:	Ongoing
Primary Responsibility:	Chris Connolly
Support:	Building Principals

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## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

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**Context:** In June 2012, the State announced that a new evaluation system will be implemented for classroom teachers in 2013-2014 and for educational specialists and administrators in 2014-2015. The new system will use observation data as well as student achievement data to evaluate teachers, educational specialists, and administrators. The District will monitor developments with the new evaluation system and share information with teachers and administrators to support implementation. In addition, the District will support the implementation of T/E Essential Skills initiative in K-12 classrooms.

**Goal 8:** To monitor information from the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) regarding the new professional evaluation system and to implement the required elements of the new system.

Objective 8.1 To implement the State requirements related to teacher evaluation for all District classroom teachers.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: Ongoing  
Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick  
Support: Nancy Adams, Wendy Towle

Objective 8.2 To inform educational specialists and administrators about the evaluation system that will be developed for these professionals for 2014-15 implementation.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: Ongoing  
Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick  
Support: Nancy Adams, Wendy Towle

Objective 8.3 To implement the District Essential Skills initiative in K-12 classrooms.

Start: September 2013  
Complete: Ongoing  
Primary Responsibility: Richard Gusick  
Support: Nancy Adams, Oscar Torres, Wendy Towle

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## FACILITIES

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**Context:** During the 2013-2014 school year, the administration will continue to review enrollment patterns and programming needs to ensure that facilities are available to deliver approved programs. The long-range capital improvement plan will be prioritized and implemented with Board approval. The renovations to the technology infrastructure and the possible need for a Maintenance and Storage Facility will be evaluated.

**Goal 9:** To ensure that District facilities are adequate to deliver both current programs and forecasted new programs for District students.

Objective 9.1 To review building capacity in order to ensure the availability of adequate space for the instructional program based on student enrollment patterns and projections.

Start: September 2013

Complete: December 2013

Primary Responsibility: Susan Tiede

Objective 9.2 To develop and present to the Board Facilities Committee a priority list of District facilities needs derived from the District infrastructure report for alignment with District budget development.

Start: September 2013

Complete: November 2013

Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell

Objective 9.3 To complete Board-approved projects designated in the Capital Plan for the 2013-2014 school year and an analysis of the field needs for the opening of the schools in September 2014.

Start: July 2013

Complete: June 30, 2014 with carry-over into summer 2014

Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell

Support: Colm Kelly

Objective 9.4

To review the recommendations from the Network Design Services Request for Proposal in determining the capacity of District schools to support electronic learning, including wireless capabilities, and to recommend and implement upgrades as needed.

Start: July 2013  
Complete: September 2014  
Primary Responsibility: Art McDonnell  
Support: Robin McConnell, Greg Malandrucchio,