

Dakota

CUSD 201

Respectful. Resilient. Remarkable.

2025 Strategic Plan



A dedicated team of stakeholders came together to participate in the strategic planning process for District 201. This team included school board members, district administrators, teachers, and community members, all working collaboratively to shape the future of education in the district.

Over the past several months, this group engaged in a thoughtful, data-driven process to identify the key priorities that will guide District 201 in the years ahead. Their collaborative efforts laid the foundation for a strategic plan that will support student success and community engagement.

Our Team

Cindy Hansen, Community Member
Curt Suttman, Parent
Mark Peiffer, Parent
Alicia Ottman, Parent
Erika Cline, Parent
Sarah Judd, Parent
Rachel Allcorn, Teacher
Brian Geiseman, Community Member
Brittney Kunz, Administration
Ginnie Cunningham, Administration
Jenny Keffer, Administration
HeiDee Meier, Board Member
Jeremy Bradt, Board Member

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Mission

- In partnership with families and the community, we provide a respectful and inclusive learning environment where every student is valued.
- We use aligned preK-12 standards based curriculum and research-based practices.
- We emphasize critical thinking and accountability in all aspects of student learning.
- We attract and retain highly qualified staff who implement creative approaches to support student success.

Vision

Dakota #201
develops respectful,
resilient, and
remarkable students
who contribute
positively to their
communities and
the world.

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Academic Readiness

Improve student outcomes in math and reading

School administrators will work closely with staff to develop a comprehensive school improvement plan focused on academic readiness, student growth, and overall achievement. Through collaboration, school improvement teams will establish clear, measurable goals that reflect the needs of each school community. These goals will be regularly reviewed and shared with families and community members on a quarterly basis to ensure transparency and collective accountability. By fostering strong relationships with families and maintaining open lines of communication, staff will create a supportive environment that empowers students and promotes meaningful academic progress.

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Student Attendance

Improve student attendance to ensure all students receive a quality education

To support student success, District 201 will implement a district-wide prevention and response system aimed at reducing chronic absenteeism. This comprehensive approach will focus on early identification, targeted interventions, and consistent follow-up to ensure students are attending school regularly. Alongside this effort, a district-wide communication plan will be launched to keep families informed and engaged. By partnering closely with families, we will promote the importance of daily attendance and work together to address barriers, ensuring all students have the opportunity to be present, supported, and ready to learn every day.

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Recruitment & Retention

Hire and maintain highly qualified staff

Building and department leaders will collaborate closely to recruit and retain high-quality staff who reflect the values and goals of District 201. Together, they will implement strategic hiring practices, enhance onboarding processes, and create supportive work environments that promote professional growth and long-term commitment. By fostering positive school cultures and offering ongoing development opportunities, this partnership will help attract talented educators and support staff while strengthening retention efforts across the district.

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District Finances

Prioritize funding for high quality staff development and provide teachers with the resources to improve student outcomes

District 201 is committed to prioritizing funding for high-quality staff development that provides educators with the tools and strategies needed to improve student outcomes. By investing in ongoing professional learning opportunities, we will support teachers in deepening their instructional practices, staying current with educational research, and meeting the diverse needs of their students. In addition, we will ensure that teachers have access to the resources, materials, and support necessary to create engaging, effective learning environments.

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Building & Grounds

Ensure safe, well-maintained facilities that promote our district image

As a district, we will ensure that our schools provide safe, well-maintained facilities that reflect and enhance our district's image. We will prioritize safety and essential maintenance projects to create welcoming, secure environments for students, staff, and visitors. In addition, we will develop a long-term facilities plan that supports future growth, addresses infrastructure needs, and aligns with our educational goals. Through thoughtful planning, we will create learning spaces that foster pride and promote student success.

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Our Goals

Dakota Junior and Senior High School

By 2029, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards in English Language Arts (ELA) will increase to 50%, up from 39%.

By 2029, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards in Mathematics will increase to 50%, up from the current baseline of 36%.

By 2029, the percentage of students who are chronically absent will remain below 10%.

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Our Goals

Dakota Elementary School

By 2029, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards in English Language Arts (ELA) will increase to 46%, up from 36%.

By 2029, the percentage of students meeting or exceeding standards in Mathematics will increase to 45%, up from the current baseline of 33%.

By 2029, the percentage of students who are chronically absent will remain below 10%.

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Our Goals

Department Goals

Human Resources:

Achieve an overall retention percentage of 90% for certified staff

Technology: 100% of staff will attend a technology training to strengthen their classroom practices.

100% of teachers will have the technology tools necessary to be effective.

Business Office:

Increase spending to support professional development by \$10,000

Operations: 90% of respondents on the District Building & Grounds Survey will respond “meets or exceeds” in the area of safe, well-maintained buildings and property.

