

Summit Public Schools
District Goals and Initiatives Summary
2019-2020

The Summit Public School District is committed to preparing students for academic excellence, advanced study, the 21st-century workforce, and interactive global citizenship. We achieve excellence through identifying and creating well-rounded student experiences that take place in an environment rich with innovation, optionality, opportunity, creativity and inspiration. Our four pillars, Academics, Athletics, Arts and Service, represent our core values and guide us towards enhancing experiential learning for all.

An important priority for the District this year is to further develop both individualized learning and experiential learning. The highlighted goals presented below will facilitate an even deeper commitment to these initiatives, providing student experiences that are aligned with our district focus areas. Achieving these goals will allow us to strengthen the base from which we continue to foster academic success for STEAM, Curriculum and Programming, Teaching Practices, Data, and Career and Social Readiness.

District Goals

Focus on academic success in mathematics and Language Arts

Over the past three years, the District has successfully monitored student growth targeted to standards-based skills. Additionally, students are self-identifying skills, giving them ownership over their learning and furthering differentiated learning in the classroom. Our next step is to broaden individualized learning experiences throughout the grades in both mathematics and Language Arts.

***Goal 1:** All students in grades 2-8 and grade 9 Algebra 1 will master each targeted math and ELA skills as outlined by their individualized learning plans from the IXL Continuous Diagnostic Assessment.*

Interdisciplinary themes to enhance opportunities for experiential learning

Over the past few years, we have refined curriculum in all content areas and grade levels, with an eye on standards alignment and self-directed (student-driven) learning opportunities. Our next step is to further enrich our curriculum with interdisciplinary units that integrate important 21st-century skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, problem-solving and informational literacies. This will directly impact students' opportunities for a well-rounded educational experience and will bolster innovative teaching practices.

***Goal 2:** The Summit Public Schools will evaluate current programming and create a revision plan, at all grade levels and across all disciplines, that identifies areas where interdisciplinary themes and/or units of study can be added to provide more opportunities for experiential learning.*

Cultivating a love of learning through a collaborative district culture

Education is a field that is constantly evolving and changing. This year, the District will pursue specific initiatives to continue to be at the forefront of providing the staff with training and professional development to meet these changes. In turn, the teachers will be equipped to offer a well-balanced academic experience, ensure the full development of students, and foster a love of learning for our students.

Goal 3: *The Summit Public Schools will further cultivate a love of learning and a collaborative culture of excellence and use cutting -edge educational practices to carry out three (3) initiatives in the areas of:*

1. *Social Emotional Learning with a focus on stress management and self-management (coping skills);*
 - Evaluate current practices, research new practices, and implement a district-wide social and emotional plan of action that allows all staff to meet the needs of our students-with a focus on stress management and self-management (coping skills).
2. *Strengthening culturally inclusive learning, and;*
 - Evaluate current practices, research new practices, and design a plan to implement to a more positive culturally inclusive learning experiences for staff and students.
3. *Effectively adapting to changing pedagogical research and remaining current with educational trends.*
 - The Administrative Council (District and School Leadership) will construct an action plan for their own professional development. Topics to explore are the following: technology/digital citizenship, STEAM, design learning, learning communities and social/emotional learning. The administrators will create a culture for professional learning that aligns with the targeted needs of their respective schools to improve student achievement.