

Westhill Central School District Strategic Priorities

This document outlines the strategic priorities for the Westhill Central School District, focusing on fostering a sense of belonging, aligning K-12 curriculum, supporting mental health, providing student opportunities, and enhancing special education.

SENSE OF BELONGING:

Foster an affirming, welcoming, and supportive school community that promotes belonging and elevates the unique voices of students, families, and staff.

1 Unified Welcome Process

Create a unified welcome process for all new students, staff, and families within each building and across the district.

2 Professional Learning

Provide ongoing professional learning for all stakeholders on diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging aligned with the NYSED CR-SE Framework that clearly illustrates the role each stakeholder group plays in supporting the district's implementation of the four guiding principles.

3 Community Involvement

Expand involvement and strengthen relationships with local businesses, community organizations, and families to increase student success and improve experiences.

PK-12 VERTICAL ALIGNMENT:

Implement a comprehensive, PK-12 guaranteed and viable standards-aligned curriculum.

1 Document Alignment

Document the current horizontal alignment as living documents. This will be occurring at each grade level and in each content area, PK through 12.

2 Essential Standards

Identify and prioritize the essential standards across each content area.

3 Curriculum Review Cycle

Implement and articulate a continuous four year curriculum review cycle.

MENTAL HEALTH:

Create a culture and environment of understanding, support and belonging for mental health and wellness across the school community.

1 Tiered Supports

Identify, analyze and communicate the ongoing tiered supports, resources, and programs across the K-12 continuum to all stakeholders.

2 Professional Learning

Prioritize professional learning opportunities to build mental health literacy and knowledge in order to equip classrooms and school buildings with mental health-related resources, accommodations, and supports.

3 Community Partnerships

Strengthen community partnerships to support students, families and staff/faculty members.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS:

Increase equitable opportunities and engagement to meet the unique needs of all students.

1 Flexible Scheduling

Investigate the feasibility to implement research-based flexible scheduling opportunities.

2 Program Review

Undergo a K-12 program review with specific focus on CTE and Electives/ Exploratory Courses to transform the learning experiences for our students.

3 Activities & Participation

Determine if current offerings in activities, clubs, and sports are meeting the needs and interests of our students and identify areas to improve participation.

SPECIAL EDUCATION:

All students with disabilities will have opportunities to engage in all aspects of their school (academic, social, athletic, and artistic) to facilitate their inclusion as a valued member of the school community.

1 Inclusive Practices

Plan and deliver consistent professional learning opportunities for ALL Westhill staff and faculty members to build capacity and understanding of inclusive practices.

2 Communication & Agency

Strengthen communication practices to encourage student, family and faculty/ staff involvement and develop agency in educational programming.

3 Extracurricular Opportunities

Explore extracurricular opportunities where barriers to participation are not dependent on a student's ability or disability.