

# International Falls School District

## MISSION STATEMENT

In partnership with parents and the community, the International Falls School District will prepare every student to become a productive citizen by developing their maximum potential within a safe climate of mutual respect and trust.

## VISION

The vision of the International Falls Schools is to be a model of excellence in academics, student activities, technology, and efficient school district operations.

## BELIEFS AND VALUES

The International Falls School District believes that:

- All students can learn and each student will be given the tools to be successful;
- All students have the right to a quality education;
- Successful teaching and learning requires collaboration between the home, school, and the community;
- All parties should be accountable for their contribution toward successful learning;
- Community and school partnerships are critical to the success of each other;
- All students and staff deserve to learn and work in a safe and respectful environment;
- A positive learning environment is one that provides opportunities for creativity and innovation designed to promote continuous improvement in student achievement, relationship building, and school district operations; and
- The development of a rigorous school curriculum will lead to increased student achievement and promote both student and staff pride in the school system.

Focus Area	Goal	Objective	Note
Student Achievement	<p>While closing existing achievement gaps between identified subgroups and the “all students” group, the school district will experience an increase in student achievement for all students as measured by the MCA test scores.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By September 2015, develop and implement a plan to involve community volunteers in increasing academic achievement through tutoring, mentoring, and guest speaker programs.</li> <li>• Annually develop and implement a plan so that at least 65 % of the students who did not meet or exceed standards on the MCA’s make positive growth.</li> <li>• By December 2015, develop and implement a plan designed to ensure that all identified subgroups close the gap by 5 percent annually between the sub-group and the “all students” group on Minnesota’s required assessments.</li> <li>• By June 2016, ensure all grade level curricula are aligned to state standards and the per cycle trails the state standard revisions by 1 year.</li> <li>• By June 2016, develop and implement a plan that will design staff development programs to identify opportunities for growth and address these needs.</li> <li>• By the 2017-2018 school year, all students in grades 9 through 12 will have a personal learning plan designed to ensure that they will become career, college, and life ready by the time they successfully graduate from International Falls schools.</li> <li>• Annually work to increase concurrent enrollment offering with a goal of having an in-house AA degree and 40 Minnesota Transfer Curricula credits.</li> </ul>	

Focus Area	School District Goal	Objectives	
Student Support	Each school building/site will have a sustainable, well-defined support system in place that enables all learners to achieve at high levels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By June 2015, develop and implement a plan to provide more speech therapy services in house.</li> <li>• By October 2015, create a task force charged with studying the school lunch program to determine what, if any, changes can be made to address the issues raised in the student surveys.</li> <li>• By December 2015, develop and implement a plan to improve social climate for all students and staff in all buildings.</li> <li>• By January 2016, maintain and promote a class for senior high credit that utilizes high school students to tutor elementary students.</li> <li>• By June 2016, identify and promote partnerships with local services to ensure students receive needed assistance to remove any barriers to learning and individual growth and development.</li> <li>• By September 2016, develop and implement a plan to increase high school student time with guidance and/or counseling services.</li> </ul>	

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Communication / Community Relations	<p>Create a reliable, consistent, and broad communication network (or system) to build partnerships between all users — students, staff, families, and the broader community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By September 2015, create a task force to study the existing district communications and prepare a report for the school board by November 2015 that describes all methods of efficient communication that currently exist between the school district and the community. Suggest that additional methods of communication be implemented if a school building does not currently have a minimum of two consistent ways to communicate important information about the school to the students, staff, and the community.</li> <li>• By January 2016, develop and implement a plan to upgrade the current school district website and maintain the website consistently so it serves as a reliable first resource for users.</li> <li>• By March 2016, assign adequate staff in each school building to implement any changes recommended by the task force.</li> <li>• By January 2015 develop a plan and assign responsibilities to promote and market the various aspects of our district. (classroom activities, extracurricular activities, special events, etc.)</li> </ul>	

<b>Buildings and Grounds</b>	The school district will budget for school buildings upgrades and/or enhancements through funding, grants, and/or levy increases.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The school district will immediately set a time to meet with state government representatives and with officials from other government units to allow administration, school board, and community personnel to lobby for increased funding in this area.</li> </ul>	
	The school district will assure adequate space for learning and activities (preschool, elementary, band, gymnasiums, arena, etc.) exists for all students and staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By August 2015, meet with community officials to develop a plan for coordinating with the community to share facilities and space.</li> <li>By August 2015, develop and implement a 3 year facility plan designed to assure existing facilities are well maintained and “Bronco Pride” implemented in any feasible update. *combined 2 statements</li> </ul>	
<b>Focus Area</b>	<b>School District Goal</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	
<b>Technology</b>	The school district will keep pace with changes in technology, reaching all students and ensuring all students are technology-ready.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By September 2015, develop and implement a plan that will ensure all students have access to technology within the school building(s) and outside the school day to aid in completing their homework.</li> <li>By September 2015, create and implement a staff development plan that provides staff the capability of integrating technology into their curriculum in a meaningful manner.</li> <li>By December 2015, develop and implement a three-year plan designed to ensure adequate funding to pay for technology changes.</li> <li>By August 2016, develop and implement a plan designed to start teaching technology use to younger students, making it challenging, meaningful, and exciting.</li> </ul>	

<b>Finances</b>	Develop a three-year, financial plan with respect to: revenue and expenses — that incorporates a comprehensive facility plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By June 2015, develop a three-year projection for student enrollment.</li> <li>• By June 2015, create a three-year, long-range financial plan identifying current and anticipated revenues, expenditures, and fund balances.</li> <li>• By June 2015 (and thereafter), set an unassigned fund balance (operating cash flow) goal of 90 days of operational costs.</li> <li>• Operating Levies expire in 2019</li> </ul>	
<b>Focus Area</b>	<b>School District Goal</b>	<b>Objectives</b>	
<b>Personnel</b>	All school district staff, in order to be accountable for their role in the learning process, will receive support through evaluation and training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By June 2015, develop and implement a plan to ensure all non-teaching staff will receive a meaningful evaluation annually.</li> <li>• By June 2016, all non-teaching staff will have received one formal evaluation and be actively involved in a district-approved staff development plan. These plans will be updated annually and address individual goals.</li> <li>• By June 2017, all licensed personnel will have received a minimum of one summative evaluation and will have established an individual growth and development plan based the results of the evaluation process.</li> </ul>	