

APPROVED

JUL 21 2026

By the Taylor County
School Board



**Five-Year District Strategic Plan
2026-2031**

**Superintendent
William Reggie Wentworth, Jr.**

Role of the School Board in Strategic Planning

The Taylor County School Board is instrumental in shaping the five-year District Strategic Plan. Board members are actively involved in both the development and ongoing revision of the plan, ensuring it remains relevant and effective in guiding district initiatives.

Continuous Improvement and Oversight

As part of a commitment to continuous improvement, the School Board regularly receives updates throughout the year. These updates include mid-year and annual reports detailing the progress of plan implementation and the achievement of desired outcomes.

Maintaining Vision, Mission, and Core Values

Ongoing reviews of the strategic plan by the School Board help ensure that the district remains faithful to its vision, mission, and core values. This process guarantees that all actions and decisions align with the foundational principles that guide the district's work.



Bonnie Sue Agner



Brenda Carlton



Jeannie Mathis



Danny Lundy



Deidra Dunnell

Guiding Principles

The guiding principles of the Taylor County School Board serve as the foundation for strategic planning and district operations. These principles ensure that all actions and decisions are aligned with the district's vision, mission, and core values. By adhering to these principles, the School Board maintains a commitment to continuous improvement, effective oversight, and the achievement of meaningful outcomes for students and the community.

Core Values

- Integrity: We act with honesty, fairness, and transparency in all interactions and decisions.
- Collaboration: We value teamwork and partnerships with students, families, staff, and the community.
- Respect: We treat everyone with dignity and embrace diversity, fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment.
- Excellence: We strive for high standards in academics, leadership, and service, encouraging continuous improvement.
- Accountability: We take responsibility for our actions, results, and the well-being of our students and community.
- Compassion: We care deeply for our students, staff, and families, promoting empathy and support in all we do.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to communicate with clarity, connect with purpose, and care with compassion in everything we do.

Vision Statement

Students in Taylor County Schools will receive a comprehensive and meaningful education designed to prepare them for college, future careers, and responsible citizenship.

Goal 1: Student Achievement

Objective

The primary objective is to increase student growth and achievement across all academic disciplines.

Critical Initiatives

- Attain the “High Performing School District” designation, as determined by the state of Florida, by 2031.
- Increase overall performance on state standardized tests in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies, with the aim of improving Taylor County Schools' annual ranking among Florida school districts.
- Strengthen the use of progress monitoring and data analysis to guide instructional practices.
- Expand and improve access to Early Learning opportunities.

Annual Strategic Goal: For the 2026-2027 school year, Taylor County School District will raise achievement by 2% in all academic and career-tested areas, as measured by both district and state progress monitoring tools.

Action Steps

- Establish a review process to track academics, behavior, and attendance for every student.
- Align districtwide resources to support student achievement.
- Ongoing data review meetings to analyze school/grade level progress monitoring data, within grades levels and across grade level cohorts.

Framework

Rigor: Teachers and students are expected to consistently uphold and meet the high expectations of the B.E.S.T. standards.

Resiliency: Teachers will utilize instructional resources to foster academic flexibility and strength among students.

Relevance: Maintain ongoing data review and analysis to focus on specific standards and ensure student mastery.

Key Measures

- Student growth data
- Classroom observations

Goal 2: Culture and Climate

Critical Initiatives

- Increase the percentage of parents using the Focus Parent Portal.
- Expand staff knowledge and utilization of the FOCUS communication tool.
- Increase participation in SAC meetings.

Annual Strategic Goal

By 2026-2027, Taylor County School District will increase the percentage of parents utilizing the FOCUS Parent Portal from 89% to 92%. In addition, participation in SAC meetings will increase by 10%.

Action Steps

- Highlight FOCUS parent accounts and SAC meetings during parent-teacher conferences, schoolwide events, and through social media.
- Ensure all communication is sent through FOCUS and posted on social media when applicable.
- Improve school-level support for the FOCUS Parent Portal and SAC meetings in various ways throughout the year.

Framework

Rigor: Set clear and concise expectations for communication goals. Hold stakeholders accountable for acknowledgement of communication.

Resiliency: Use communication platforms to connect with all stakeholders.

Relevance: Communication improves students' educational outcomes.

Key Measures

- Spreadsheet for SAC attendance
- Climate survey results
- FOCUS parent portal

Goal 3: Staff Development

Critical Initiatives

- Increase the utilization of school and teacher-level data to enhance Professional Learning Communities (PLCs).
- Provide professional learning opportunities that emphasize best practices, high expectations, and student engagement.
- Deliver relevant and ongoing training focused on the effective implementation of district-required curriculum.

Annual Strategic Goal

By the 2026-2027 school year, 100% of teachers will utilize teacher-level data to set and pursue a professional learning improvement goal. This will be supported through individual development and participation in PLCs.

Action Steps

- Conduct observations to support and provide feedback on the implementation of instructional strategies that are incorporated through PLCs.
- Provide monthly professional learning communities focused on supporting teacher learning, instructional strategies, and/or student data.

Framework

- **Rigor:** Teachers will identify both student and teacher needs and provide opportunities for enrichment and remediation.
- **Resiliency:** Teachers will use data to reflect on teaching practices to increase student performance.
- **Relevance:** Teachers will focus on specific standards to ensure mastery.

Key Measures

- Results from the annual professional learning needs survey
- Student performance data
- Teacher observations and evaluations
- Documentation from Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)

Goal 4: Employee Retention and Recruitment

The Taylor County School District is committed to recruiting and retaining highly qualified employees. This goal focuses on ensuring the district attracts professionals who meet high standards and supports them throughout their careers to maintain a stable and effective workforce.

Critical Initiatives

- Reduce the percentage of Out of Field Teachers annually.
- Increase the teacher retention rate annually.
- Incorporate strategies to support current teachers and staff in obtaining necessary certifications and endorsements.
- Enhance communication about the Taylor County Grow Your Own program to all high school students (Policy 3120-01).

Annual Strategic Goal

By the 2026-2027 school year, Taylor County School District will decrease the number of out-of-field teachers by 1% each year.

Action Steps

- Pair out-of-field teachers with in-field teachers to provide mentorship and support.
- Conduct quarterly check-ins with out-of-field teachers to monitor progress and address challenges.
- Highlight teachers and staff to acknowledge their years of service in the district.

Framework

- **Rigor:** The Department of Education certificate requirements are systematically tracked and promptly communicated to staff members.
- **Resiliency:** Teacher participants are supported by school-based mentors, Human Resource Director, and PAEC.
- **Relevance:** Supports alternative certification candidates in becoming a certified educator.

Key Measures

- Participation in New Teacher Next Steps program
- Participation in professional learning opportunities
- Years of service in the district spreadsheet

Goal 5: Resource Management

Critical Initiatives

- The district is committed to optimizing the use of its resources to enhance learning and maintain financial stability.
- Ongoing monitoring of compliance with safety requirements is a key initiative.
- A comprehensive needs assessment is utilized to measure the return on investment for district programs and resources.

Annual Strategic Goal

The district will maintain effective financial management and accountability through the completion of annual financial audits and continuous monitoring of the district fund balance. There will be an annual review of staffing plans, as well as ongoing evaluation of expenditures to ensure compliance, efficiency, and alignment with district strategic goals. The finance department and the Safety Specialist will present bi-annual reports at District Advisory Council meetings.

Action Steps

- The finance department and Safety Specialist will provide bi-annual reports at District Advisory Council meetings.
- Submit a usage report on technology and software programs.
- The Safety Office will conduct at least one walk-through per year.
- Hold risk and safety meetings with each school monthly.
- Provide support and training protocols for each department.

Framework

Rigor: Thinking through formalizing protocols in a thorough and exhaustive manner to create expectations of excellence.

Resiliency: Creation of formalized protocols and use of educational programs ensures continuity across the district.

Relevance: Implement protocols and educational programs that directly address district needs.

Key Measures

- Completed department protocols
- Staffing plans
- Usage reports on technology and software programs
- State Audit reports
- Fund Balance

Taylor County Public Schools

A Tradition of Excellence

Expectations

Each school in Taylor County Public Schools is dedicated to fostering academic excellence, maintaining rigorous protocols, and preparing students for lifelong success. Our staff, students, and families work together to ensure continuity, relevance, and achievement across the district.



