Warren Township High School District 121

Strategic Plan 2021 ADDENDUM

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Mission

Maximize the growth and achievement of every student through rigor, support and innovation

Beliefs

We believe that student growth and achievement are maximized when:

- The school community focuses its collaborative efforts on continuous improvement
- Both rigor and support are infused throughout student programs and staff development
- Data and best practices drive decision-making throughout the school community
- Students and staff drive creative thinking and innovation
- Students demonstrate responsibility and take active ownership of their learning
- The school provides inviting learning environments that are both safe and secure
- We unleash the power of our inclusive and diverse culture

Formula for Success

- Education focused on excellence and equity
- Challenging, engaging, diverse curriculum
- Collaboration and innovation through Professional Learning Teams
- Wide variety of high quality extracurricular activities
- Dedicated, highly-skilled, supportive staff
- Committed, hard-working students
- Strong partnership with parents and the community
- Fiscal responsibility and quality facilities

Warren Township High School District 121

Strategic Plan—2021 Addendum



July 20, 2021

In the fall of 2015, Warren Township High School District 121 embarked on a strategic planning process to help guide the priorities and work for the school district moving forward. The strategic plan that was created by a representative committee was a very comprehensive plan, approved by the Board of Education on December 15, 2015.

As part of the process, the planning committee committed to annual subsequent meetings to review progress made on the achievement of goals, and review of our performance data relative to our indicators of success. We committed to using the strategic plan as a living document to be reviewed and modified annually.

Due to the pandemic and continued instructional obstacles lasting through the 2020-2021 school year, our strategic planning process this year was limited and some of the annual data collected by our committee was unable to be gathered. Additionally, we were not able to bring together an in-person strategic plan committee meeting, which is usually held at the end of the school year.

A review of our goals for the 2020-2021 school year has been completed, as well as an identification of goals that were still in need of work for completion. These goals, as well as a few other critical goals related to district finances and/or the return-to-school process still ahead of us for the 2021-2022 school year have also been identified in this document.

On behalf of Warren Township High School District 121, I would like to thank all members of the community who have contributed to this strategic planning process over the last seven years. Identifying and documenting our continuous improvement efforts are vitally important to ensure we can continue the tradition of excellence at WTHS.

Sincerely,

John P. Ahlgrim, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

WTHS Board of Education

Paul Schulz, President
John R. Anderson, Vice-President
Bency Beals, Secretary
Katherine Blair, Member
Thomas Drake, Member
Tony DeMonte, Member
Natalia Alvarez Martinez, Member

Strategic Plan—2021 Addendum



2020-2021 Goals and Timelines

Goals and Timelines

2020-2021 Completion

- 1. Bring curricular updates for Spanish Language Arts program to the Curriculum Committee for approval. Begin planning for full implementation beginning in the 2021-2022 school year. (Dec 2020)
- This goal is complete. Spanish Language Arts and Culture (SLAC) program will begin implementation of the new honors and college prep curriculum in the 2021-2022 school year.
- 2. Increase access to dual credit courses for WTHS students. Potential dual credit opportunities will be explored in Science, Business, and Industrial Technology. (Dec 2020)
- This goal was put on hold for the 2020-2021 school year. The District will continue work on science dual credit opportunities during the 2021-2022 school year.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- Provide professional development opportunities for WTHS teachers that focus on increasing capacity in effective Remote Learning Instructional Strategies. Professional development will focus on utilizing online platforms to provide real-time instruction as well as engaging and interactive asynchronous lessons for students that facilitate meaningful learning. (Aug 2020)
- 3. This goal is complete. Robust professional development focused on remote, hybrid, and concurrent instruction was implemented throughout the summer of 2020 and the 2020-2021 school year.
- 4. Implement the collection method for student college/career readiness indicators utilizing eForms in PowerSchool. (Dec 2020)
- 4. This goal is complete. Tracking service hours and student employment surveys are available to our students and parents/guardians through eForms in PowerSchool.
- 5. Develop a system for identifying career pathways for students and promoting opportunities for students to pursue Consumer and Technical Education opportunities while enrolled at Warren. Assist students in identifying post-secondary options that are aligned to their identified career interest areas. (May 2021)
- This goal was not started during the 2020-2021 school year. Continued work will be done during the 2021-2022 school year focusing on the utilization of career interest surveys administered to freshmen and sophomore students during the course selection process.
- 1. Finalize advisory model curriculum and implementation timeline. The curriculum will include the Active Learners Framework and Social-Emotional Learning Standards. (May 2021)
- This goal is on hold as it is funding dependent.
 We hope to continue this work in future years.
- 2. Identify and utilize interventions to increase the percentage of freshmen on track. (Dec 2020)
- 2. This goal is ongoing. Student Service teams invited struggling students into the building for supervised remote and support services. Interventionists worked 1:1 with students at risk of passing classes and remedial course opportunities were created in Canvas to help students earn course credit.

Student Advocacy

- 3. Facilitate the potential implementation of a College of Lake County Navigator position at the Almond Campus. (Dec 2020)
- This goal is complete. College of Lake County Navigator is in place at the Almond Campus.
 The Navigator is working closely with our guidance department, College of Lake County and our families.

Strategic Plan—2021 Addendum



2020-2021 Goals and Timelines

Goals and Timelines

2020-2021 Completion

- Finalize the development of a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion master plan and share this plan with our WTHS community. (Dec 2020)
- This goal is complete. The master plan is currently published on our District website. Continued work on equity initiatives should occur in the 2021-2022 school year.
- Share our current Portrait of a Graduate to 2. highlight essential areas of development for success of our WTHS students at WTHS and beyond. (Dec 2020)
- 2. This goal is complete. Portrait of a Graduate (now called "The Warren Way") was finalized and will be formally rolled out to staff at the start of the 2021-2022 school year.

- Utilize a Pandemic Preparedness Advisory Committee to help investigate and identify most appropriate return to school conditions and processes. (Aug 2020)
- 3. This goal is complete. We will continue to monitor enhanced health requirements from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Complete the move for our transition program from Gurnee Mills to the O'Plaine campus. (Aug 2020)
- 1. This goal is complete. The transition occurred during the summer of 2020 and was completed in the fall of the 2020-2021 school year.
- 2. Continue to develop and implement strategies that support SB100 mandates including professional practices development for staff. (May 2021)
- 2. This goal is ongoing. Due to remote status during most of the 2020-2021 year, we did not provide professional development to staff. We will resume this training in the 2021-2022 school year.

Student Life

Shared

Leadership

- Complete the O'Plaine campus student courtyard 3. This goal is on hold due to funding. improvement project. (Dec 2020)



2020-2021 Completion

2020-2021 Goals and Timelines

Goals and Timelines

Explore multilingual platforms for improved 1. This goal is ongoing. We currently utilize communication with all families. (Dec 2020) clerical support staff and the Donovan Group to translate many communications into the Spanish language, but not all. Our website has the capability translate information into multiple languages. Additional support and/or technologies would need additional funding. Continue to work with the Foundation and 2. This goal is on hold for now. An alumni association provide support for establishing an Alumni would need structure from the WTHS Foundation, Association. (May 2021) resources and time. Community and Communication Explore and develop alternate avenues to 3. This goal is complete. The transition to video communicate daily announcements to students production of student weekly announcement and the and/or parents. (May 2021) posting of announcements on the website occurred during the 2020-2021 school year. Continued efforts will be made with our student groups to continue producing announcements in video format. Explore and develop a plan for increasing 4. This goal is ongoing. We have better utilized the district presence on social media platforms. Donovan Group to help us with Facebook posts to (Dec 2020) better reach parents, and increase our Facebook presence and other media platforms for students. 1. Continue to implement green initiatives, 1. This goal is ongoing. The solar project is complete.

Securing the 3. Future

Continue to facilitate the dialogue regarding tax rates and the potential need for a referendum in April 2021 to help increase local revenues. (May 2021)

staffing and benefits. (May 2021)

including additional LED lighting and the

completion of the Almond Campus solar

Regularly review the current and future year

budget worksheets to analyze changes in

revenue sources and expenditures, and make

adjustments accordingly for current and future year planning including but not limited to

project. (Dec 2020)

- 4. Continue to identify potential funding sources to support the construction of new locker rooms at the O'Plaine campus. (May 2021)
- 5. Complete the roof repair projects at both campuses. (Dec 2020)
- 3. This goal is ongoing. We will continue to discuss a potential referendum question for the 2022 primary election.

Other LED efficiencies will be looked into in the

2. This goal is ongoing. The financial budget projections

will be continually updated every few months to

future as they become available.

reflect actual financial activity.

- 4. This goal is ongoing. The District will continue to look for additional potential funding sources for the locker room project at the O'Plaine campus.
- 5. This goal is complete. Roof repairs were completed at both campuses. Water leaks will be repaired as they become apparent.

Warren Township High School District 121 Strategic Plan—2021 Addendum



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Greatness Indicators with Metrics – Page 1 of 2												
	Data Source	2018 Results	2019 Results	2020 Results	Needs Improvement	Solid Performance	Exemplary Results	2021 Results				
Enrollment	ISBE Fall Housing Report	4,137	4,032	3,951				3,931				
Superior Performance												
Student Academic Achievement												
Maintain a High Graduation Rate	Summer ISBE Cohort Report (Current School Year—CSY— 1)	93.7%	92.9%	93%	<92%	92-96%	>96%	94%				
Increase Freshman On Track Rate	Annual Illinois School Report Card (CSY – 1)	90%	90%	86.8%	<86.9%	87%-94.9%	>95%	88.9%				
Increase our SAT Evidence-Based Reading/ Writing Score Average (College Board Report)	Spring Junior testing; Results from College Board in June	534	523	*NA	<450	450-539.9	>540	517				
Increase our SAT Mathematics Score Average (College Board Report)	Spring Junior testing; Results from College Board in June	521	521	*NA	<500	500-539.9	>540	504				
Maintain high percentages of students meeting expected growth targets for Evidence-Based Reading/Writing from PSAT9 to PSAT10	CADCA SAT Student Growth Data Report (CSY – 1)	N/A	89%	89%	<59.99%	60% - 89.9%	>90%	*NA				
Maintain high percentages of students meeting expected growth targets for Mathematics from PSAT9 to PSAT10	CADCA SAT Student Growth Data Report (CSY – 1)	N/A	85%	66%	<59.99%	60% - 89.9%	>90%	*NA				
Maintain high percentages of students meeting expected growth targets for Evidence-Based Reading/Writing from PSAT10 to SAT	CADCA SAT Student Growth Data Report (CSY – 1)	N/A	70%	70%	<59.99%	60% - 89.9%	>90%	*NA				
Maintain high percentages of students meeting expected growth targets for Mathematics from PSAT10 to SAT	CADCA SAT Student Growth Data Report (CSY – 1)	N/A	84%	84%	<59.99%	60% - 89.9%	>90%	*NA				
Maintain High Percentages of Enrollments in Honors and AP Classes	Data Warehouse	25%	25%	23%	<23%	23-25%	>25%	24%				
Maintain High AP Successful Participation Rate	College Board AP Report— Equity and Excellence (CSY – 1)	47.8%	47.8%	42.2%	<40%	40-50%	>50%	42.3%				
Maintain High AP Success Rate	College Board AP Report (CSY – 1)	85.9%	85.9%	85.0%	<70%	70-89%	>89%	87%				
Increase MAP Growth Targets Met for Students Behind in Reading	Annual Summer Report	52%	61%	*NA	<50%	50-65%	>65%	*NA				
Increase Summer School Enrichment Enrollments	Annual Summer School Report	696	11.9%	11.7%	<5%	5% - 15%	>15%	10.5%				
High Levels of Satisfaction			T									
Maintain High Attendance Rates	School Report Card Data Collection (CSY – 1)	93.7%	94.6%	93.5	<93%	93-95%	>95%	*NA				
Maintain Low Suspension for Misconduct Rate	June Out-of-School Suspension Report	.94/day	.96/day	.89/day	>3/day	2-3/day	<2/day	*NA				
Maintain High Participation Numbers in Athletics per student enrollment	Annual Summer Report	39%	38.9%	*NA	<.35%	35%—40%	>40%	30.5%				
Maintain High Numbers of Unique Participants in Clubs and Activities per student enrollment	Annual Summer Report	47.3%	52%	*NA	<40%	40%—50%	>50%	*NA				

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Greatness Indicators with Metrics – Page 2 of 2											
	Data Source	2018 Results	2019 Results	2020 Results	Needs Improvement	Solid Performance	Exemplary Results	2021 Results			
Distinctive Impact											
External Recognition of Stude	ents, Staff, School and t	he District									
Increase Recognition for the School Community	Board of Educ Recognized Events	25	28	12	<27	27-40	>40	17			
Maintain High North Suburban Conf Success in Athletics	Annual Summer Report	3	3	*NA	#5-8	#3-4	#1-2	*NA			
Community Partnerships and Connections											
Increase Community Partnerships and Intergovernmental Agreements	Communications report to BOE	29	30	30	<20	20-30	>30	35			
Leaders in the Field											
Increase Number and Visibility of Innovative, Exemplary Programs	WTHS Innovative Program Report	9	9	9	<7	7-11	>11	11			
Lasting Endurance											
Success Beyond High School											
Maintain High Attendance in Post- Secondary Institutions (prior yr. grad class)	National Student Clearinghouse (CSY – 1)	75%	76%	Still waiting on report from National Student Clearinghouse. This data may be delayed due to COVID19	<75%	75-90%	>90%	*NA			
Maintain High Retention in Post- Secondary Institutions (grad class 2 yrs ago)	National Student Clearinghouse (CSY – 2)	91%	91%	Still waiting on report from National Student Clearinghouse. This data may be delayed due to COVID-19	<80%	80-95%	>95%	*NA			
Maintain High Numbers of Technical Certificates Earned	Annual Summer Report	1,081	23.7%	*NA	<20%	20% - 30%	>30%	*NA			
Fiscal Responsibility/Securing	the Future										
Increase Food Service Satisfaction Rating	Satisfaction survey (bi-annual Illinois Youth Survey)	2.8	NA	*NA	<2.66	2.67-3.25	>3.25	*NA			
Maintain a Balanced Annual Operating Budget	End of FY financials *unaudited	-\$2M **	** -\$900K	** -\$2.5M	<-\$2M to -\$750K	-\$750K to \$ 750 K	\$750K to \$2M	*NA			
Maintain Funds in Reserves of at least 40% of annual budget	End of FY financials *unaudited	32% **	** 64% (35% after \$19M allocated expendi- tures)	** 32% (22% after \$5.5M allocated expendi- tures)	<35%	35-40%	>40%	*NA			

^{*}NA = Data not available or valid due to COVID-19.

Strategic Plan—2021 Addendum



2021-2022 Goals and Timelines

1. Increase access to dual credit courses for WTHS students. Potential dual credit opportunities will be explored in Science, Business, and Industrial Technology.

Instruction and Assessment

- Curriculum, 2. Develop a system for identifying career pathways for students and promoting opportunities for students to pursue Consumer and Technical Education opportunities while enrolled at Warren. Assist students in identifying post-secondary options that are aligned to their identified career interest areas.
 - 3. Examine current grading practices with staff to ensure that grades are a true reflection of student learning and academic growth.

Advocacy

- 1. Implement Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds for the Academic Intervention and Mentoring (AIM) program for the 2021-2022 school year (credit recovery).
- Student 2. Implement Recover, Educate, Achieve, Coach and Honor (REACH) program designed for freshmen students to provide academic support and executive functioning skills.
 - 3. Utilize Interventionists for at-risk students.
 - 4. Identify and utilize interventions to increase the percentage of freshmen on track.

Shared Leadership

- 1. Investigate additional equity initiatives, including the development of Board policy, Administrative procedures, staff teams and accountability related to equity for students.
- 2. Share our current Portrait of a Graduate (now called "The Warren Way") to highlight essential areas of development for success of our students at WTHS and beyond.
- 3. Continue to monitor enhanced health requirements from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and implement them accordingly.

- 1. Continue to develop and implement strategies that support SB100 mandates including restorative practices and professional development for staff.
- Student Life 2. Audit current student groups and recommend potential restructuring of responsibilities as these pertain to equity initiatives.
 - 3. Utilize the Seamless Summer food service program for students for this school year.

Community

- 1. Continue to investigate the multilingual capacity of the District website and/or the District notification system.
- **Communication** 2. Explore and develop a plan for increasing district presence on social media platforms.

1. Continue to identify potential funding sources to support the construction of new locker rooms at the O'Plaine campus.

Securina the Future

- 2. Regularly review the current and future year budget worksheets to analyze changes in revenue sources and expenditures, and make adjustments accordingly for current and future year planning
- 3. Continue to discuss with the community the potential of a referendum question in the 2022 primary election.