

*Grant Park School District #6*

421 Esson Farm Road  
Grant Park, Illinois 60940

Dear Grant Park School District Resident:

The following information is a result of the work and dedication from community members, parents, administrators, and board members of District #6. Our Strategic Plan outlines a direct path for the future of our fine district, with a continued focus on student learning. With the efforts, determination, and cooperation from our stakeholders, we will establish a culture of excellence at Grant Park School District. If you should have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [jpalan@grantpark.k12.il.us](mailto:jpalan@grantpark.k12.il.us).

Educationally yours,

Dr. John Palan  
Superintendent



Home of the  
Dragons

# Grant Park Community Unit School District #6

## *Vision Statement*

Grant Park CUSD #6 is committed to inspiring a culture of excellence for all stakeholders of the Grant Park Community. The district believes that all students can reach their fullest potential as life-long learners by providing progressive academic goals, a safe and nurturing learning environment while inspiring achievement and instilling pride of self and community in a globally competitive society.

## *Mission Statement*

The mission of the Grant Park Schools is to provide a respectful learning environment to empower students to achieve academic excellence and personal success as life-long learners and productive citizens.

# District #6 values and expects to . . .

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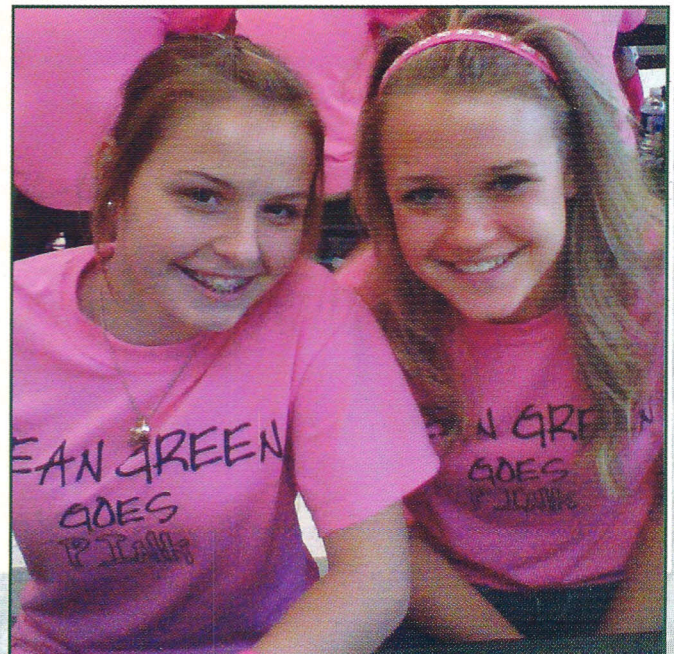
- set clear, concise and progressive academic goals measured by student achievement,
- provide opportunities for all students to reach their full potential in all areas of individual growth,
- assure a safe, secure, and nurturing learning environment,
- promote respectful, open communication among all stakeholders to assure accountability in the educational process of all students, and
- apply fiscal responsibility throughout the district.

## Strategic Priority 1: Culture of Excellence

**Goal:** Promote and facilitate a culture of excellence in all facets of District 6.

### Action Steps:

- Present non-negotiable academic target goals (ISAT and PSAE) that will be shared with the Board of Education, teaching staff, students, parents and community members.
- Deploy a laser-like focus to increase student achievement, with an emphasis on utilizing student data and quality instruction.
- Place students at the center of every decision and ensure that adults actively and consciously model everything they expect of students.
- Promote the expectation of excellence among the entire community.



## Strategic Priority 2: Student Achievement

**Goal:** Students will meet or exceed on Illinois Standardized tests.

### Action Steps:

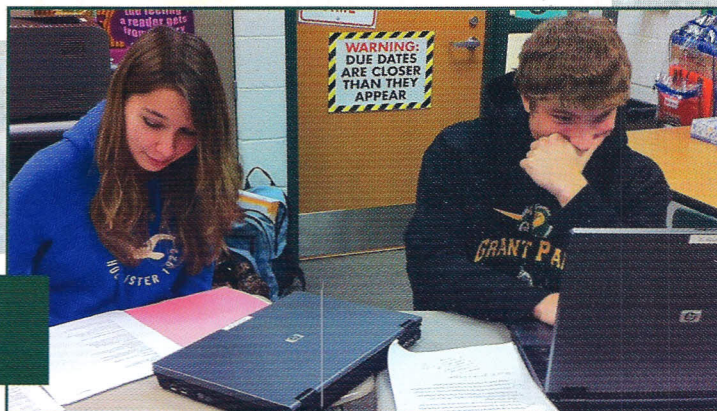
- Use data driven decisions which will lead to appropriate interventions (RtI).
- Utilize benchmark assessment to address areas of student strengths and weaknesses.
- Assess the taught curriculum (aligned with Illinois State Standards – Common Core Standards).
- Implement curriculum expectations and mapping which will help ensure that standards based instruction is taking place.
- Promote professional development of staff to guarantee high student achievement.

## Strategic Priority 3: Curriculum

**Goal:** Constantly implement a viable curriculum process.

### Action Steps:

- Assess curriculum strengths and weaknesses as they relate to the Common Core using external (state) and internal (local) data.
- Plan for continuous improvement through professional development and timelines.
- Implement effective researched based classroom practices including enrichment and interventions.
- Monitor student progress by analyzing student data and conducting walk-throughs to ensure best instructional practices.
- Revise curriculum and systems of instruction indicated by data.



## Strategic Priority 4: Fiscal Responsibility

**Goal:** The district office will maintain fiscal responsibility and restraint.

### Actions Steps:

- Employ fiscal restraints in an effort to reduce deficit spending.
- Utilize financial software to input budgetary line items and provide monthly updates regarding projected revenues and expenditures.
- Develop and provide a recommended deficit reduction plan, reducing expenditures with the lowest impact on student achievement.
- Budget expenditures to estimated revenues.
- Review all commodity contracts for length and terms.
- Review peer group collective bargaining agreements for teacher and administrative contracts.

## Grant Park Community Unit School District #6

David Dickson  
Tim Markland  
Mardale Ekhoﬀ  
Shari Ohm  
David Douglas  
David Wheeler  
Dale Hansen  
Dr. John Palan,  
Superintendent

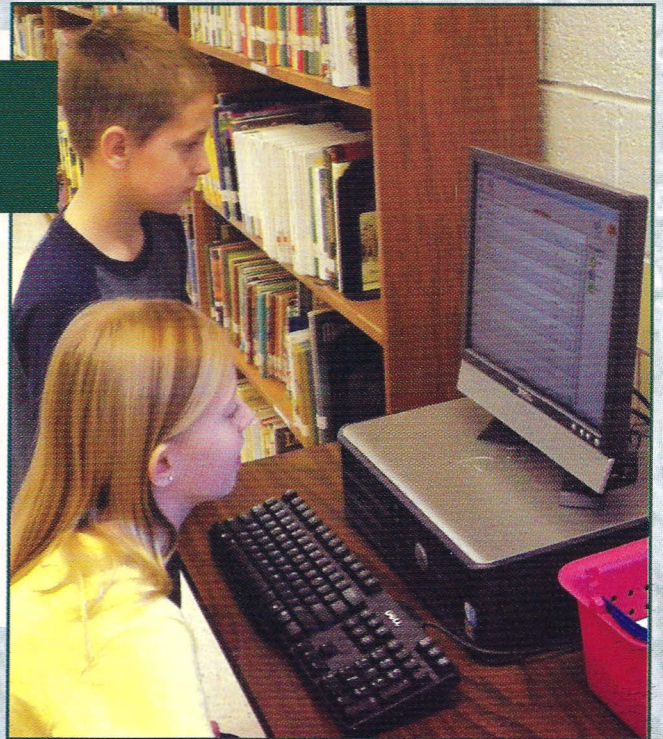
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## Strategic Priority 5: Technology

Goal: Utilize technology to  
increase student engagement  
and enhance learning.

### Action Steps:

- Promote technology as a high priority in the budget.
- Provide staff development in the use of technology to improve student learning.
- Incorporate varied technological tools in the implementation and delivery of the curriculum.
- Provide basic instruction in the use of technology beginning at the earliest possible grade.



## Strategic Priority 6: Communication

Goal: Provide opportunities for community engagement.

### Action Steps:

- Increase communication with all stakeholders through signage, electronic media, district newsletter, traditional media outlets, and positive dialogue.
- Promote the culture of excellence by collaboration, openness, and traditions.