

Sturgis Williams Middle School

2017-2022

School Improvement Plan

(Year One 2017-2018)

Mission Statement

“To Build Knowledge and Skills for Success Today and Tomorrow”

Developed by the members of the School Improvement Plan Team:

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Sturgis Williams Middle School

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Mission, Vision and Belief Statements

Our Mission:

"To Build Knowledge and Skills for Success Today and Tomorrow"

Our Vision:

"Meade School District will work in conjunction with its community to provide excellent academics and co-curricular activities that develop life-long learners and productive citizens."

Our Belief Statements:

We believe that...

- Every individual is a lifelong learner.
- Learning requires a commitment from students, teachers, administration, support staff, parents and the community.
- The cornerstones of learning are integrity, empathy, responsibility, honesty, respect and accountability
- Every student has the right to a quality education and the responsibility to achieve it.
- All students have the potential to be productive members of society.
- The needs of students should be our first priority.
- Diversity among people is to be valued.
- People are our greatest resource.
- Schools must provide a safe environment for teaching and learning.
- Effective schools must have high expectations for students and staff.
- Learning is enhanced by a positive and supportive environment that fosters creativity, self-confidence and success.
- Students are capable of making decisions, with proper guidance, and are responsible for their own actions.
- Our school system is accountable to our community.
- Change is essential for growth and improvement.

The District strives to embed the statements above into all extracurricular, co-curricular and learning environments. It is important to model what the District values working closely with stakeholders to create empathetic and cooperative schools. A question kept at the forefront is, "What is best for the student".

Needs Assessment

Data retreats are held annually in the fall of each school year. Data was analyzed by the administrators and the assessment coordinator. Based on the information, the desired outcomes of the retreat were determined.

During the August and September In-services the Sturgis Williams Middle School staff met. The principal and district assessment coordinator led the staff through the data analysis.

The Performance Data Evaluations for math and reading indicates the performance level of each subgroup within the school. The examination of the results from various assessment sources such as the district-wide standards-based assessments and informal assessments that specific math and reading areas need to be addressed. This information is collated in data spreadsheets and is available electronically from the school's shared server.

Throughout the school year there is ongoing monitoring of students' progress with the use of the tri-annual assessments. Students identified as needing additional support receive interventions through our After School Tutorial program and special education programs.

The overall umbrella goal is for a continued increase in student achievement which is assessed by the use of the Student Achievement rating on the SD DOE report card.

School Profile

The Sturgis Williams Middle School serves the communities of Whitewood, Piedmont, Summerset, Sturgis, and a number of communities in Meade County.

Sturgis Williams Middle School currently has 6th grade, 7th grade and 8th grade students. All staff members at Sturgis Williams Middle School are highly qualified in their areas of instruction. In addition, we also publish a monthly newsletter sharing pertinent information for all members of our student's families. It also contains ideas and suggestions for parents to reinforce many of the students' skills their child or children are learning at school.

We also promote volunteering and community involvement in our school. Parents are encouraged to take part in positive, meaningful activities and volunteers are welcome to share their time, talents and knowledge. Parents volunteer efforts make it possible to offer Builders' Club, Chess Club and Book Club to our students.

In addition to physical education, all students have the following learning opportunities:

- Exploratory classes including creative writing, recycling, STEM activities, crafts etc...
- Vocal Music
- Band instruction
- Large group, small group, and individual counseling
- Computer instruction for all grades
- 1:1 MacBook Pro access for all students

- Full library services
- Gifted program, Destination Imagination
- Student Council
- Drama

In addition to physical education, all students have the following sport opportunities:

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball
- Wrestling
- Football
- Girls Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Track
- Dance and Cheer

Enrollment 2016 -2017

Enrollment: 526

6th grade 128

7th grade 208

8th grade 189

Teacher to Student / Ratio: 1:25 for Core Subjects

Classes taught by highly qualified teachers: 100%

Middle School Building

The Sturgis Williams Middle School building was built in 1957 – 58. SWMS serves 6th through 8th grade students. Sturgis Williams Middle School building suffered significant damage during the 2013 Atlas blizzard. The students were moved to various places in the community during the reconstruction of the roof. During the construction the building also had several upgrades such as air conditioning, new library, new office area and carpet throughout the hallways.

Mobility Rate

The mobility rate at Sturgis Williams Middle School has shown steady growth over the past few school years. We have seen a large increase in enrollment during our current school year.

School Year	Beginning Enrollment	Ending Enrollment
2013 - 14	472	465
2014 - 15	467	463
2015 -16	497	497
2016 -17	519	515
2017 - 18	581	

Selection of Goals

The following information is obtained from the SDDOE online reporting system.

Number of Students Tested and Percent of Students Proficient for Students in Sturgis Williams Middle School- 2016-2017

English Language Arts

Grade	Number of Students Tested	Percent Proficient
Grade 6	118	49.16%
Grade 7	200	54%
Grade 8	177	57.63%

Mathematics

Grade	Number of Students Tested	Percent Proficient
Grade 6	118	35.59%
Grade 7	200	40%
Grade 8	200	40%

Number of Students Tested and Percent of Students Proficient for Students in Sturgis Williams Middle School - 2015-2016

English Language Arts

Grade	Number of Students Tested	Percent Proficient
Grade 6	132	35.6%
Grade 7	181	60.77%
Grade 8	166	53.01%

Mathematics

Grade	Number of Students Tested	Percent Proficient
Grade 6	132	35.60%
Grade 7	181	51.38%
Grade 8	166	44.58%

The following goals are a result of Strategic Planning.

1. Academic Preparation

Goal: The District will provide students with a climate that promotes a rigorous academic curriculum and activity programs that prepare each student to be academic and workplace ready.

Metrics: The District will set achievement indicators (SBAC, ACT, District tests) and monitor annual progress; monitor participation rates in activities; and conduct student surveys.

Action Steps:

1. Curriculum will be reviewed annually to assure alignment with the South Dakota content standards and that student educational needs are being met.
2. Communicate to parents the offerings that are available, especially Advance Placement, Dual Credit, Exploratory, and Career & Technical Education, through parent/teacher conferences, open houses and the District website. Encourage all high school students to take at least one credit from these offerings.
3. Provide problem-based learning activities at all grade levels and in all content areas.

2. Professional Development

Goal: The District will develop a comprehensive Professional Development Plan for faculty/staff.

Metrics: Faculty/staff surveys will be used to determine the progress of the Professional Development Plan.

Action Steps:

1. The District will create an annual professional development plan utilizing input from faculty and staff members utilizing staff surveys, Instructional Council, Teacher Advisory Council, and Preparing All Students for Success Teams.
2. The District will create opportunities for teachers to experience vertical collaboration through content area meetings and horizontal collaboration through grade level meetings.

3. Human Resources

Goal: The District will promote a safe and positive work environment.

Metrics: The success of this goal will be monitored through input and feedback from District faculty/staff.

Action Steps:

1. The District will promote collaboration among classroom teachers.
2. The District will follow guidelines to keep class sizes at appropriate levels.
3. The District will provide a competitive compensation and benefit package for employees within constraints of the budget.

4. Facilities and Technology

Goal: The District will develop and implement a comprehensive Facility Master Plan that will guide all infrastructure and technology decisions.

Metrics: Capital outlay resources to support the plan will be monitored. Administrators will provide feedback on progress of the plan with school board approval for any changes.

Action Steps:

1. The District will develop a Facility Master Plan and communicate the components of the plan to internal and external audiences. The District will take input from all stakeholders.
2. The district will include building site plans as a part of the District's Facility Master Plan.
3. The District will include technology improvements and related professional development training opportunities.

Assessments

Classroom assessments and the tri-annual assessments will provide feedback on student progress toward the annual goals. The Smarter Balance results will be the summative test used to check annual progress and for setting goals for the following year.

The District will annually track spending that supports the strategic planning goals. Surveys given to all stakeholders will also be used to determine perceptions on the meeting of these goals.

Intervention Strategies

- PASS training on NWEA assessments, ALICE training, CPM math curriculum instructional support and coaches.
- Grade level and department meetings to address vertical and horizontal alignment at a district level.
- Specific interventions/strategies will be designed to address identified students and content needs, and need not address all content area for all students simultaneously. Such targeted interventions/strategies allow more appropriate staff development and enable teachers to more precisely measure the success of each intervention/strategy in relation to each of the selected school improvement goals. Intervention programs at Sturgis Williams Middle School that are to be utilized are Moby Max (math, decoding/comprehension), After School Tutorial Program, ELA Intervention Classroom co-taught jointly with Special Education and General education staff and ICU Program.

Highly Qualified Staff

Sturgis Williams Middle School provides instruction by a highly qualified staff of 27 certified classroom teachers and 7 full or part time certified support staff members, all serving in a variety of capacities, including literacy, mathematics, special education, and special areas. Of the 27 Sturgis Williams Middle School certified staff, all meet the highly qualified requirements. Teaching certificates are reviewed annually to ensure each teacher is highly qualified in each subject area they teach. In addition, the superintendent's administrative assistant encodes into the state personnel report system program, the subject area each teacher teaches for compliance.

Meade School District actively strives to attract highly qualified staff through a variety of recruiting and job notification options. Before any teacher is hired, the teaching certificate is reviewed to ensure the subject area the newly hired teacher is assigned to is an area the teacher possesses an endorsement.

SWMS has 4 paraprofessionals/instructional assistants of which all have met the requirements as highly qualified staff described in the *No Child Left Behind* Act. All assistants are also included in all building

level staff development opportunities and the paraprofessionals provide instructional service under the direct supervision of a highly qualified teacher.

Staff Development

2016-2017 Meade District

Types of Professional Development Offered at the district level:

August 23-24 2016 Training on use of MacBooks 6-12, Social Studies Training K-5 and 9-12, Instructional Council and Grade Level Meetings

October 7, 2016 Social Studies Training K-5 Data retreat 6-12

November 4, 2016 Training on Effective Digital Learning Environments K-12 Instructional Council and Grade Level Meetings

January 13, 2017 Training on Informational Text Reading Strategies K-12 Motivational Speaker

March 16, 2017 Training on Informational Text Reading Strategies K-12 Instructional Council and Grade Level Meetings

April 24, 2017 TIE (Technology training in Rapid City)

August 17-18, 2017 Boys Town Classroom Management training for new teachers

August 22, 2017 ALICE training

August 22, 2017 Science Curriculum

August 22, 2017 NWEA assessment training (first session)

October 6, 2017 NWEA assessment training (second session)

November 3, 2017 NWEA assessment training (third session)