

TUCKAHOE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT: Long-Range Strategic Plan



Preparing Every Student for Excellence (2026-2030)

Strategic Planning Process



Steering Committee

- **Community Survey**
- **Staff Survey**
- **Student Survey**

Town Hall/World Cafe's

- **2 Staff**
- **3 Community**

Benjamin Roberts,
Superintendent

Peter Casson, Board Trustee

Louis Campana, Board Trustee

Susan Wuornos, PTA President

Julie Siragusa, SEPTA

Amber Kasses, Parent

Lori Gerald, Parent

Cathleen Carney, Parent

Jennifer Gherardi, Teacher

Marcella Lavista, Teacher

John Morash, Cottle Principal

Christopher Fiore, TMS/HS
Principal

Zizette Deutsch, Director of
Special Education & Student
Services

Lisa Weber, Interim Director of
Curriculum, Instruction and
Technology

Faith Sparks, Business Manager



Welcome

This survey was created by TUFSD

Language
English

translated by Google

Get started



Preparing Every Student for Excellence

Mission

In partnership with our families and community, we provide equitable, rigorous educational experiences that ignite curiosity and foster a love of learning. Grounded in tradition and driven by innovation, we nurture and value community pride and belonging for all. Our students are empowered to thrive as ethical, meaningful contributors in an ever-changing world.



Preparing Every Student for Excellence

Vision

The Tuckahoe Union Free School District is committed to cultivating graduates to reach their greatest potential. Our students are confident, resilient, and compassionate individuals who think critically, embrace challenges, and pursue their passions.

Four Pillars



Academic Excellence and Opportunity



Goal 1: Provide rigorous, future-ready learning experiences

Goal 2: Expand and Diversify Educational Pathways and Graduation Opportunities

Goal 3: Cultivate a Culture of Excellence and Equitable Access

Goal 1: Provide rigorous, future-ready learning experiences

TUFSD will provide rigorous learning experiences that support subject mastery while integrating 21st-century competencies.



Implement the Tuckahoe Portrait of a Graduate K-12.



Implement K-5 Science of Reading & NYS STEM First in Math (K-8).



Implement new NYS pathways, personal finance & climate education.

Goal 2: Expand and Diversify Educational Pathways and Graduation Opportunities

To broaden the scope of student opportunity by creating flexible, high-interest graduation pathways that bridge the gap between high school and career/college.



Implement Seal of Civic Readiness and Seal of Biliteracy.



Expand dual enrollment & business/entrepreneurship courses.



Embed CTE opportunities & Expand CTE BOCES participation.

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Gather actionable data from graduates/Alumni network.

Goal 3: Cultivate a Culture of Excellence and Equitable Access

To optimize district systems and policies to ensure equitable access to rigorous coursework and to promote a high-achievement culture for all students.



Develop guiding principles for Course selection & Grading policy.



Further develop distinct TMS identity & Portrait of a TMS Graduate.



Increase opportunities K-5 for enrichment & project-based learning.

Pillar 1 Metrics: Measuring Academic Success

Quantitative Targets



Percentage of students earning Seals of Civic Readiness and Biliteracy.



Number of Dual Enrollment credits earned and AP classes passed.



Increased percentage proficiency on local and state assessments, specifically 3rd Grade Literacy milestones.



Number of certifications earned in specialized CTE classes.

Qualitative Benchmarks



“

¹⁰Target: 85% of students and families agree with a positive TMS identity via annual climate surveys.

”

Student Well-Being and Support

Goal 1: Formalize a Comprehensive K-12 Wellness and SEL Framework

Goal 2: Optimize Instructional Systems for Equitable Support and Enrichment

Goal 3: Partner with Families and the Community to Promote Student Well-Being



Goal 1: Formalize a Comprehensive K-12 Wellness and SEL Framework

Cultivate a supportive school environment that prioritizes the social-emotional health of all students through consistent programming and dedicated wellness resources.



Increase student attendance
Being here matters



Implement TMS/THS
Wellness Integration



Deliver evidence-based
SEL curriculum:
K - 5 (ReThink)
6 - 12 (Ruler)

Goal 2: Optimize Instructional Systems for Equitable Support and Enrichment

Refine elementary and secondary scheduling to ensure every student receives targeted intervention and enrichment opportunities without compromising core instructional time.



District-wide approach to scheduling that prioritizes Tier 1 instructions.



Implement effective and efficient MTSS process.



Strategic Use of WIN (What I Need) period.

Goal 3: Partner with Families and the Community to Promote Student Well-Being

Cultivate relationships with families and outside organizations that support students' well-being and safety.



**Implement Parent
SEL University.**



**Enrich Tuckahoe
Family Twilight.**



**Partner with organizations
to support physical,
mental and digital safety.**

Pillar 2 Metrics: Measuring Student Well-Being

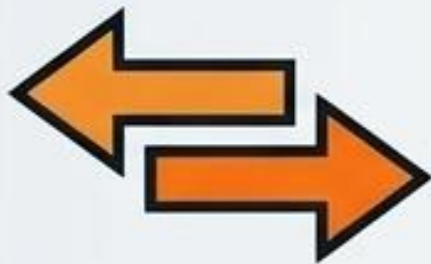
Quantitative Targets



Reduction in chronic and frequent absenteeism, tardiness, and early dismissals.



Decrease in the percentage of students scheduled with more than one study hall.



Track the raw number of MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports) referrals in and out.

Qualitative Benchmarks



Survey Target: Increase in the number of students reporting they have a "trusted adult" at school.



Climate Target: Measured increase in students' overall sense of belonging.

Operational Excellence

Goal 1: Optimize and Modernize District Infrastructure and Learning Environments

Goal 2: Build Organizational Capacity Through Effective Communication Management

Goal 3: Steward Fiscal Responsibility and High-Quality Human Resource Standards

Approval of Capital Project vote in 2027

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Goal 1: Optimize and Modernize District Infrastructure and Learning Environments

Transform district facilities into high-functioning, 21st-century learning spaces that support both student achievement and community engagement.



Identify 3-4 annual facilities projects & execute energy performance contract.



Approval of a capital project vote in 2027

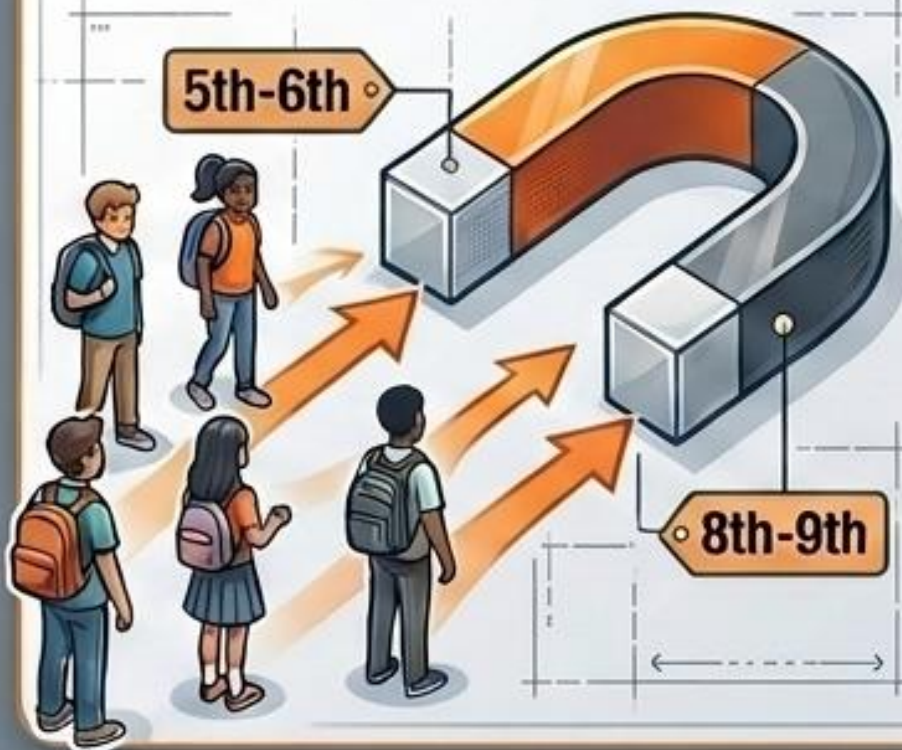


Maximize adaptive spaces, testing centers, wellness centers, and makerspaces.

Goal 2: Build Organizational Capacity Through Effective Communication Management

Ensure long-term district stability and growth by investing in human capital and proactive community branding.

Strategic Growth & Communication for student retention.



Promote effective, regular communication at each level.



Promote district successes, student achievement and community engagement:



Goal 3: Ensure Fiscal Responsibility and High-Quality Human Resource Standards

Uphold high-functioning operational standards that maximize resource efficiency and prioritize the retention of high-quality staff.

1.



Successful annual budget vote and maintenance of healthy fund balance

2.



Implement High-Quality Human Resource Standards.

3.



Ensure Sustained Leadership

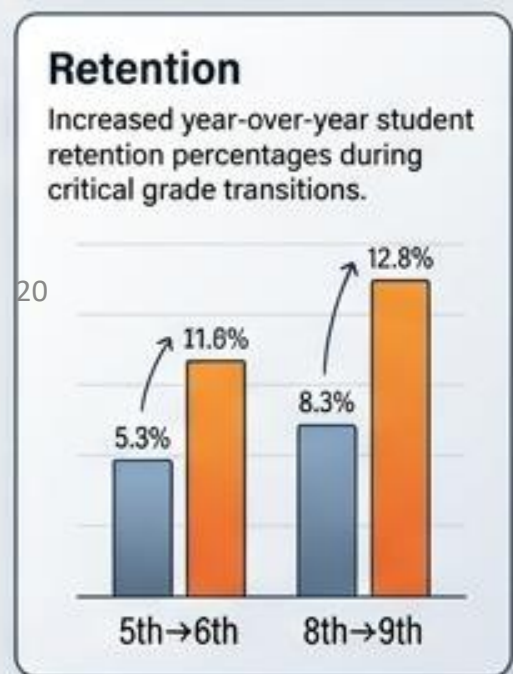
Pillar 3 Metrics: Measuring Operational Health

Financials



Milestone:
Successful approval of the Capital Project bond vote in 2027.

The graphic features a large orange checkmark inside a circle, with the word 'APPROVED' in a stamp-like font.



Qualitative

Establish a defined baseline via comprehensive Parent Surveys regarding district communication effectiveness

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Goal 1: Promote Experiential Learning and Civic Engagement

Goal 2: Prioritize Executive Functioning and Digital Fluency K-12

Goal 3: Ensure Access to Enriching Extracurricular Opportunities

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Goal 1: Promote Experiential Learning and Civic Engagement

Ensure that all students have opportunities to apply classroom knowledge to real world experiences.



Expand
Internships &
Field Experiences



Establish
Seal of Civic
Readiness



Expand K-12
Leadership
Opportunities



Foster Civil
Discourse &
Respect
Perspectives

Goal 2: Prioritize Executive Functioning and Digital Fluency K - 12

Systematically integrate cognitive and technical life skills into the K-12 experience to ensure all students develop the organizational habits and digital literacy required for self-directed learning.



**Implement K-12
Executive Functioning
Curriculum**



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**Integrate Computer
Science & Digital
Fluency Standards**



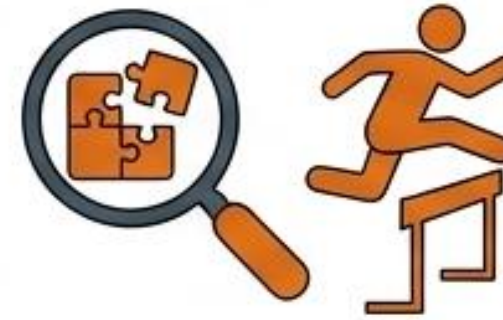
**Responsible & Ethical
Use of AI**

Goal 3: Ensure Access to Enriching Extracurricular Opportunities

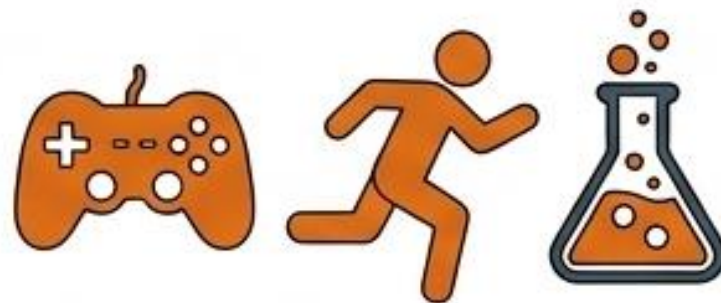
Enhance and diversify K-12 extracurricular programming to build community pride and improve student retention.



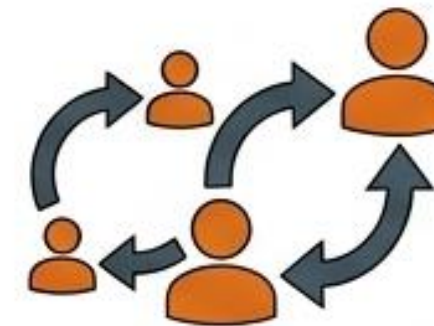
Comprehensive Tracking of
Extracurricular Participation



Alignment with Interest &
Removal of Barriers



Expanded Interest-Based
Clubs & K-5 Intramurals



Increased K-12 Vertical
Mentorship Activities

Pillar 4 Metrics: Measuring Broader Engagement



Increase in the raw number of extracurricular offerings that successfully maintain high student participation.



Measurable increase in students participating in formal leadership opportunities across all K-12 levels.



Number of students successfully completing the Seal of Civic Readiness pathway.

Qualitative Benchmarks



Increased percentage of students who report feeling their **unique culture is respected**.

25



Increased percentage of students who feel **comfortable expressing differing opinions** during classroom discourse.

The 2030 Vision



Academic Excellence

- AP / Dual Enrollment pass rates.
- 3rd Grade Literacy milestones.
- NYS Seals earned.



Student Well-Being

- Chronic absenteeism reduction rate.
- MTSS referral resolution.
- 'Trusted Adult' survey benchmark.



Operational Health

- >70% Budget approval & 4% Fund Balance.
- 2027 Capital bond passage.
- 5th-9th grade student retention rate.



Broader Engagement

- High-participation extracurricular growth.
- K-12 student leadership capacity.
- Civil discourse comfort metrics.



A stylized orange and white tiger head logo is centered in the background.

Preparing Every Student for Excellence.

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TUFSD Long-Range Strategic Plan

2026

2030