

## Community Linkage Committee: 2023 January Inspiring News

### Ends Policies Drive Educational Framework

The Eden Prairie School Board plays a unique role in steering the district towards its educational goals by establishing and overseeing the Ends Policies. Recently, the Board underwent its annual Ends Policies review during the October business meeting. Before delving into the mechanics of the Board's policy monitoring, let's take a moment to grasp the significance of the "Ends."

The Ends Policies are the guiding principles that serve as the yardstick for assessing student outcomes in critical areas outlined in these policies. Every spring, specific measurement targets are established, which help in setting goals for the upcoming school year. Each fall, a thorough examination of the results from the previous academic year is carried out, and the board casts a decisive vote on whether reasonable progress has been made in each area. In cases where progress falls short, the administration ensures transparency by issuing regular reports detailing the measures taken to enhance results throughout the year.

What sets our Ends Policies apart is their comprehensive approach. These policies not only gauge outcomes but also actively encourage creativity and innovation at the administrative level to drive district initiatives. They are instrumental in assisting students in identifying and harnessing their unique strengths, effectively preparing them for their post-graduation journey.

Concrete examples illustrate how these measures are grounded in our policies. At the forefront is the concept of personalized learning. This approach tailors education to each student's individual needs, enabling them to explore and develop their talents to the fullest extent.

Another innovative approach is the initiation of Capstone courses. These courses draw insights from economic development data and local business perspectives, ensuring that students are equipped with the knowledge and skills most relevant to their future career prospects.

Furthermore, EPS promotes classroom and curriculum design that aligns with the "4 Cs" – creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking. These foundational skills are paramount for success in the 21st century, and the board's commitment to incorporating them into the Ends Policies reflects the district's forward-thinking approach to education.

In conclusion, the Eden Prairie School Board's Ends Policies are a cornerstone of our district's educational framework. They not only establish clear standards for student achievement but also serve as a catalyst for innovation, engagement, and personalized learning. The board's oversight and commitment to regular reviews ensure that the district continues on the path of continuous improvement, ultimately benefiting both the students and the community at large.

Eden Prairie public schools exist so that each student obtains an outstanding education that prepares them for their next stage of life in a manner that justifies the resources expended.

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- 1.1 Each student graduates and is academically prepared to progress to multiple opportunities after high school.
- 1.2 Each student is reading at grade level by the end of third grade.
- 1.3 Each student achieves individual growth and proficiency expectations annually in, but not limited to, Language Arts, Math and Science.
- 1.4 Each student receives a broad-based education that exceeds the Minnesota State Graduation Requirements.
- 1.5 Each student has the 21st century skills needed to succeed in the global economy.
- 1.6 Each student has the knowledge that citizens and residents of the United States need to contribute positively to society.