Aitkin Public Schools

Our Vision:
A COMMUNITY IN CONTINUOUS PURSUIT
OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Our Mission is to **empower students** to be **life-long learners and productive citizens** through the use of a comprehensive curriculum with **high expectations** in a safe **21st Century** learning environment.

Guiding Principles/Beliefs

· We will create a positive, safe, caring, and supportive environment that is responsive to the academic, social, physical and emotional needs of students and builds positive relationships.

• Through standards based curriculum, content and life skill learning, embedded technology, and purposeful activities, we will develop engaged independent learners.

• We value the importance of collaboration with students, colleagues, administration, school board, parents, and the community.

• We will NOT stay status quo. Continuous Improvement involves everyone. We will provide purposeful professional development and use data to measure our effectiveness.

• We believe all stakeholders will attain high standards and expectations.

• We will provide access to 21st century technology

Our Mission is to **empower students** to be **life-long learners and productive citizens** through the use of a comprehensive curriculum with **high expectations** in a safe **21st Century** learning environment.

We Value:

The Whole Student
Academic, emotional, social and physical

Fostering Independence
Knowledge, skills, productivity, technology

Collaboration
Partnerships with students, colleagues, partners, community

Safe & Caring Environment
Safe & Positive climate for staff and students with clear expectations

Continuous Improvement
Purposeful focused professional development. Data to measure practices and achievement

High Standards /Expectations
For instruction, learning & behavior

Technology
Provide 21st Century skills/opportunities
Continuous exploration

Aitkin Public Schools

Our Vision:
A COMMUNITY IN CONTINUOUS PURSUIT OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR ALL

Our Mission is to **empower students** to be **life-long learners and productive citizens** through the use of a comprehensive curriculum with **high expectations** in a safe **21st Century** learning environment.

Guiding Principles/ Beliefs

• We will create a positive, safe, caring, and supportive environment that is responsive to the academic, social, physical and emotional needs of students and builds positive relationships.

• Through standards based curriculum, content and life skill learning, embedded technology, and purposeful activities, we will develop engaged independent learners.

• We value the importance of collaboration with students, colleagues, administration, school board, parents, and the community.

• We will NOT stay status quo. Continuous Improvement involves everyone. We will provide purposeful professional development and use data to measure our effectiveness.

• We believe all stakeholders will attain high standards and expectations.

• We will provide access to 21st century technology

We Value:

The Whole Student
Academic, emotional, social and physical

Fostering Independence
Knowledge, skills, productivity, technology

Collaboration
Partnerships with students, colleagues, partners, community

Safe & Caring Environment
Safe & Positive climate for staff and students with clear expectations

Continuous Improvement
Purposeful focused professional development. Data to measure practices and achievement

High Standards /Expectations
For instruction, learning & behavior

Technology
Provide 21st Century skills/opportunities Continuous exploration

Focus Area: Student Achievement

Fostering Independence - Knowledge, Skills, Productivity, Technology

Continuous Improvement - Purposeful focused professional development. Data to measure practices and achievement

High Standards/Expectations - For instruction, learning, and behavior

Goals	Objectives
1. Reduce the achievement gap in the special education and free and reduced student groups through increased performance in the state assessments throughout the district.	1a. Use annual assessment data to adjust the curriculum to meet the needs of the students in the student groups. 1b. On an annual basis, involve teachers in data analysis and review of curriculum alignment based on current standards. Communicate out strengths and weaknesses by grade level.
2. Annually evaluate and adjust curriculum and measurement tools to ensure the school district is meeting the needs of all students.	2a. Annually evaluate the Children's Center. 2b. Set annual targets of increasing the number of third grade students reading at grade level with the aim of having 90% of students reading at grade level by the 2019-2020 school year. 2c. identify the tools we are going to use each year: Data - Star, FAST, MCA, ACT, attendance and behavior best practices; Balanced literacy, co-teaching, reading and math interventions.

Focus Area: Collaboration

Partnerships with students, colleagues, partners, community and post secondary

Goals	Objectives
3. Initiate, develop, and track partnerships with local business and postsecondary institutions each school year.	3a. Annually track, evaluate and broaden the courses and/or course experiences or academic opportunities.
4. Invite outside speakers to share career experiences each school year.	4a. Collaborate with building leadership teams and principals to plan for speakers.

Focus Area: Technology

<u>Fostering Independence</u> - Knowledge, Skills, Productivity, Technology

Goals	Objectives
5. Integrate technology into the classroom to improve student achievement.	5a. Incorporate the use of 1-1 computers in grades 7-12 for the use of instruction. 5b. Develop common time for staff to share "what works" for instruction with technology. 5c. Encourage the LMS use in each classroom per year. 5d. Integrate 1-1 devices at Rippleside by the 2018-2019 school year 5e. Hire another technician. 5f. Build on the student tech groups that exist already. 5g. Continue to study or follow trends so we are moving towards new emerging technologies. 5h. Work towards integrating a Fab Lab in our District. 5i. On a continuous basis, provide sufficient hardware and software to meet the programmatic and instructional technology needs of the district. 5j. Annually review and update the District Technology Policy.

Focus Area: Facilities

Goals	Objectives
6. Have safe facilities that are well maintained and provide appropriate and adequate space for all school programs. 7. All Facilities located on one campus.	6 & 7. Create a long-range plan based on the results of the referendum.