EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Mission	"Doing what is best for kids."
Beliefs	We believe all children are capable of high achievement.
	We believe positive relationships between teachers, students, and parents are integral parts of a quality education.
	We believe quality education is a shared responsibility of the entire community.
	We believe passion in teaching cultivates successful students.
	We believe character, integrity, and perseverance are the founda- tion of education.
	We believe a well-rounded educational experience is the priority.
Objectives	Each student will graduate life-ready, striving for personal excel- lence and excelling as a leader and innovator in his or her chosen career path.
	Each student will be an independent thinker who possesses critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills, and persever- ance to reach his or her extraordinary potential.
	Each student will be an ethical citizen who contributes to and serves his or her local and global community.
Parameters	We will base all decisions on what is best for students.
	We will treat students, parents, faculty, staff, and community mem- bers with dignity, respect, and passion.
	We will ensure a culture of integrity.
	We will be responsible stewards of our resources.
	We will practice and promote open, honest communication.
	We will not compromise excellence.
Portrait of a Graduate	The Portrait of a Graduate moves Gatesville ISD students and staff members to look beyond the high-stakes testing environment and to help all of our students be successful in the workforce, college, or military.
College-, Career-, or Military-Ready	Graduates of Gatesville ISD (GISD) will have engaged in a chal- lenging curriculum, which culminated in preparation for a success- ful transition to college, career, or the military. The classroom expe- riences for all students in Gatesville ISD will have matched the student's strengths and interests, challenged them intellectually, and prepared them socially.

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Critical Thinkers and Problem Solvers	Graduates of Gatesville ISD will have learned to seek quality re- sults through individual accountability, leadership, teamwork, and lifelong learning using multiple modes of technologies and re- sources. Graduates of GISD will have engaged in problem-solving, inquiry, and design of innovative solutions to overcome obstacles.
Effective Communicators	Graduates of Gatesville ISD will know how to comprehend and ex- press ideas clearly through various means of communication. Graduates of GISD will be effective communicators who can read, speak, write, comprehend, interpret, and listen to various forms of communication.
Servant Leaders	Graduates of Gatesville ISD will have experience in giving to and serving others in the community through service projects. The GISD graduate will have learned to demonstrate ethical behavior and serve those in need.
Contributing Members of Society	Graduates of Gatesville ISD will be socially responsible citizens who understand the importance of being a contributing member to society. Graduates will make ethical decisions as well as sound fi- nancial decisions in order to be independent and successful mem- bers of the community.
Technologically Literate	Graduates of Gatesville ISD will be technologically literate citizens who can demonstrate basic computer operating skills in order to be successful in daily living and the workplace. Graduates will be able to discern reliable information from online resources, collaborate using online tools, apply basic word processing skills, manipulate data within spreadsheets, and display information with presentation tools.
Strategic Action Plan	Strategy 1—Alignment of Resources and Human Capital: Increase efficiency by aligning people and resources to improve productivity, curriculum and instruction, and District programs.
	Strategy 2—Curriculum and Instruction: Develop and implement a real-world, engaging, innovative, and rigorous curriculum that will optimize relevant learning.
	Strategy 3—Technology Integration: Continually evaluate, update, and implement emerging technology by budgeting necessary re- sources, ensuring teacher accountability, and providing profes- sional development.
	Strategy 4—Communication and Community Partnerships: Estab- lish a comprehensive community communications plan that inte- grates all facets of school and community and fosters collaboration of resources and events to provide synchronized planning and exe- cution for all stakeholders.

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Strategy 5—Facilities and Infrastructure: Utilize the comprehensive facilities plan to design facilities to create an innovative learning environment. Build flexible spaces for the classroom in order to leverage technology and to enhance the learning experience. Develop criteria to be used in the design of future construction and renovation project.

Strategy 6—Human Resources, Recruitment, and Retention: Provide competitive employment packages to recruit the highest quality faculty, staff, and administrators. Retain and maximize effectiveness by providing a positive culture, mentoring, and promoting open communication between all stakeholders.