

**New Fairfield Public Schools  
District Priorities  
2024-2025**

<p><b>I. Curriculum Goal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Define a cohesive PreK-12 curriculum approach, to include a curriculum design tool and design criteria, NFPS Curriculum Guidebook outline, and electronic curriculum platform.</li> <li>● Implement a comprehensive curriculum design process to include Stage 1 mapping and transfer goals for PreK-12 across all disciplines and PreK-12 Science full curriculum design as a model.</li> </ul>
<p><b>II. Instruction Goal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Implement data protocol cycles to monitor student learning progress and inform instruction.</li> <li>● Implement instructional practices that foster students’ engagement, critical thinking, and inquiry.</li> <li>● Launch AI study group to investigate instructional opportunities with AI to deepen student critical thinking skills.</li> <li>● Map indicators and levels of competency that operationalize the NFPS Vision of the Learner with curriculum connections.</li> <li>● Continue to build staff capacity and provide relevant professional learning for Special Education Teachers, Related Service staff, and Paraeducators in the areas of writing high quality IEPs, structured literacy, and behavior management/strategies</li> </ul>
<p><b>III. Wellness Goal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Begin articulation of a vertically-aligned PreK-12 continuum to foster students’ social-emotional wellness, including the design and implementation of a developmental guidance curriculum in grades 9-12.</li> <li>● Enhance community and family partnerships in support of student wellness, including family education programs and resources to address technology use, challenging behaviors, and mental health.</li> </ul>
<p><b>IV. Attendance</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue efforts to reduce the student chronic absenteeism rate to 8%.</li> <li>● Partner with collective bargaining units to achieve at least a 95% staff attendance rate.</li> </ul>
<p><b>V. Resources to Support Learning</b></p>	<p>Provide the necessary resources for learning--defined as finances, facilities, operational systems, and human resources. Adequate resources are a foundational component for New Fairfield to achieve its Vision of the Learner.</p>
<p>A. <u>Finance</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Develop and present a FY 26 Operational and Capital Budget request to the community that is transparent, fiscally responsible and ensures continuous improvement.</li> <li>● Manage the FY 25 Operational and Capital Budget to provide resources as planned and to address unanticipated expenses.</li> </ul>

B. <u>Transportation</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continue to provide leadership and collaborate with town leaders on the identification of the permanent bus lot location.</li> </ul>
C. <u>Facilities</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Close out the New Fairfield Elementary and High School building projects and continue to monitor large punch list items such as the elementary playground and lack of propane at the high school.</li> <li>● Identify appropriate classroom space for middle school programs: chorus, orchestra, general music, talented and gifted, and world language expansion). Consider relocation of central office departments in the lower level of the middle school.</li> <li>● Work in partnership with the PBC to complete the underground oil tank removal and replacement by July 2025 deadline.</li> <li>● Upgrade the Middle School Cafeteria and servery without impact to operational budget using our food service fund.</li> <li>● Execute documents and monitor stadium project for summer 2025 completion.</li> <li>● Launch partnership between STRIDES and another district as part of move to a larger space and enhanced program.</li> </ul>
D. <u>Human Resources</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assess HR functions across the district and standardize and optimize processes, such as all aspects of recruitment including Frontline Software and OLAS, the hiring process and flow of information, onboarding, best practices with Human Resource Information Systems (HRIS) and benefits management.</li> <li>● Promote multiple channels for HR information and updates to strengthen relationships districtwide via newsletters, email blasts, one on one meetings with HR and visiting buildings.</li> <li>● Foster a positive workplace culture by proactively addressing employee concerns and creating pathways to increase satisfaction and reduce turnover - utilizing data from future climate surveys and exit interviews.</li> </ul>
E. <u>Technology</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Begin the process of thoughtfully integrating AI tools into the classroom to enhance the delivery of high-quality instruction.</li> <li>● Continue to enhance access to educational support technology for K-12 curriculum initiatives. (SmartBoards, document cameras, projection and sound reinforcement)</li> <li>● Continue to grow into our upgraded facilities to cultivate STEM initiatives to full potential with industry leading hardware and software. (K-5 STEM lab, new HS Robotics, digital media, and art/music labs)</li> <li>● Continue maintaining and bolstering the digital repository of online tools and resources increasing efficiency in delivering high-quality instruction.</li> </ul>