



STRATEGIC VISION 2020

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL DISTRICT 25
DRYDEN • GREENBRIER • IVY HILL • OLIVE-MARY STITT
PATTON • WESTGATE • WINDSOR
SOUTH • THOMAS

OUR VISION

Within a framework of learning for the 21st century, AHSD 25 creates a nurturing environment and provides a world class education for all.

OUR MISSION

Provide a superior education for a lifetime of learning.

CORE SUBJECTS AND CONTENT

AHSD 25 provides a comprehensive, cohesive, and student-centered education that optimizes the capabilities of the whole child. Excellence defines the core subject areas—literacy, mathematics, the sciences, foreign language, social studies, health and wellness, and the arts—needed to live and contribute in a global community. Core subjects include emerging content areas critical to the future success of our students in the work place and in the world. Core subjects emphasize...

- an engaging, rigorous, and meaningful curriculum
- effective use of technologies
- high level thinking skills and creativity
- global understanding
 - geographical
 - cultural
 - second language acquisition
- personalized learning to address all learners
 - access to high quality curriculum and instruction
 - instruction that matches capability and learning style
 - academic, behavioral, social, and emotional support
 - enrichment and accelerated learning
- application of learning to real life
- relevance and timeliness
- financial, economic, business, and entrepreneurial literacy
- civic literacy and service learning
- awareness of the world of work

21ST CENTURY LEARNING

REASONING SKILLS

AHSD 25 students are prepared to learn throughout their lives by making effective and innovative use of what they know. Students learn to generate questions, pose problems, and come to well-reasoned conclusions. Lifetime learning requires reasoning skills, such as...

- applying past knowledge to new situations
- solving problems through analysis and evaluation
- striving for accuracy, clarity, and precision in thinking
- finding humor and expressing wonderment
- gathering and assessing relevant data
- flexibility in thinking
- self-reflection about learning
- creating, imagining, and innovating
- remaining open to continuous learning
- using information and communication technologies to solve problems

LIFE SKILLS

AHSD 25 provides students with the skills to be productive citizens in a global society in partnership with families and community. Life skills include...

- persistence and perseverance
- communication skills
- interdependence and collaboration
- social and diplomacy skills
- personal responsibility
- understanding diversity
- the ability to adapt to change
- demonstrating leadership
- taking responsible risks
- ethical decision making
- conflict resolution
- healthy living choices
- character education

21ST CENTURY ASSESSMENT

AHSD 25 utilizes purposeful assessments which are the building blocks for continuous improvement and serve as essential components of a 21st century education. These assessments include national, state, district, school, classroom, program, and individual assessments that provide information about student learning to teachers, students, parents, and community. Purposeful assessments emphasize...

- mastery of content and evidence of successful learning
- self-assessment, self-reflection, and self-monitoring (metacognitive strategies)
- reporting student progress
- timely access for parents to monitor grades and assignments
- meaningful communication of results
- progress toward standards
- academic and non-academic areas

STRUCTURAL FOUNDATIONS

AHSD 25 provides the community with a school district that has structurally sound foundations through fiscal planning; hiring and retaining quality staff; providing safe, up-to-date facilities; and the involvement of community as constituents who support learning. These foundations include...

- responsible resource allocation
- varied means of communicating information
- multiple opportunities for community involvement
- data-informed decision making

System-wide evaluations assure attention to the continuous improvement process and include...

- screening to guarantee the hiring of high quality staff
- performance evaluations for all employees
- organizational health surveys
- audits (i.e., finance, staffing, energy, space, enrollment, board policies and procedures)