

Guiding Principles and Strategic Goals 2008

Approved November 20, 2008

Vision

All Delaware children are prepared to lead full and productive lives and be successful in the 21st century global society.

Mission

The Delaware State Board of Education will provide the breadth of viewpoint and continuity of purpose of an independent citizen's board and will work with the General Assembly, the Department of Education, school districts, families and the community to create a world class education system that provides educational excellence and equity for every student

Delaware State Board of Education Legislative Priorities 2008

- Support for state-wide property reassessment
- Funding for early childhood and full-day kindergarten
- Funding for continuing our reading success
- Funding for implementation of increased high school graduation requirements

Guiding Principles

- Public education is the foundation for a democratic society.
- Education policymaking is enriched by the involvement of an independent citizen's board.
- The diversity of its members is a strength of the Delaware State Board of Education.
- The fundamental responsibility of the Delaware State Board of Education is to represent the best interests of all students.

- The Delaware State Board of Education is committed to providing educational excellence and equal opportunity to learn for all students.
- A strength of the Delaware State Board of Education is its ability to provide a research-based perspective and specifically commissioned studies.

Goals

Goal 1: All children enter school ready to learn.

Action steps-

Support the implementation of Early Success: Delaware's Early Childhood Plan.
Support statewide full-day kindergarten.

Goal 2: Every student is held to high expectations and is taught with a curriculum aligned to the Standards.

Action steps-

Work to close the achievement gaps at all levels.
Ensure that Delaware's content standards are world class standards.
Ensure that all students have access to a rigorous and challenging curriculum.

Goal 3: All high school students graduate and are prepared to be successful in postsecondary education or the workforce.

Action steps-

Ensure that students enter high school on grade level and prepared to be successful in a challenging high school curriculum.
Support the Delaware Promise plan to increase the graduation rate.
Support the implementation of the Student Success Plans for all students in grades 8-12.
Support dual enrollment and dual credit courses.
Support the work and recommendations of the Delaware College Access Network committee.
Monitor implementation of the high school graduation requirements.
Support quality career and technical education programs.

Goal 4: Every district and school has effective leadership to improve student academic achievement.

Action steps-

Maintain rigorous administrator standards.
Support the work of the Delaware Cohesive Leadership System.
Monitor the progress of the Delaware Performance Appraisal System (DPAS II) for

administrators and make modifications to strengthen it when necessary.
Review licensure and certification regulations to maintain effective processes in these areas.

Goal 5: Every classroom has a qualified and effective teacher.

Action steps-

Maintain rigorous teaching standards.

Ensure a high quality induction program for new teachers.

Support quality professional development programs.

Review licensure and certification regulations to maintain effective processes in these areas.

Explore creative ways to effectively hire and retain qualified teachers.

Monitor the progress of the Delaware Performance Appraisal System (DPAS II) for teachers and make modifications to strengthen it when necessary.

Goal 6: The Delaware Student Testing Program informs decision making and supports quality teaching and learning.

Action steps-

Support the development and implementation of the next generation of the Delaware Student Testing program