

Great Meadows Regional School District Strategic Plan Update December 14, 2023

Michael Mai, Superintendent/Director of Special Services

Wendy Flynn, GMMS Principal

Samantha Westberg, Central School Principal

Amanda Kinney, Acting School Business Administrator

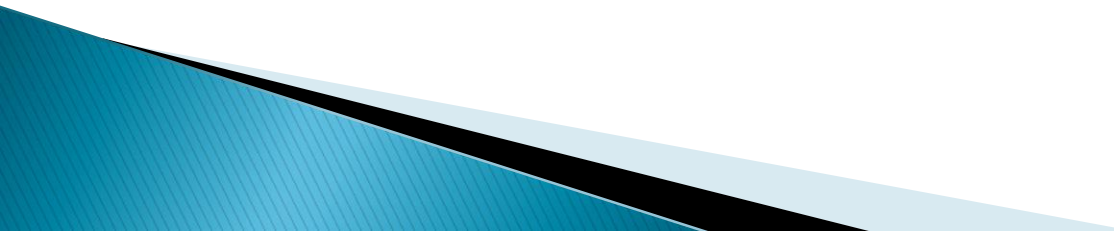
Michael Hann, Computer Technician

Doug Glenn, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds



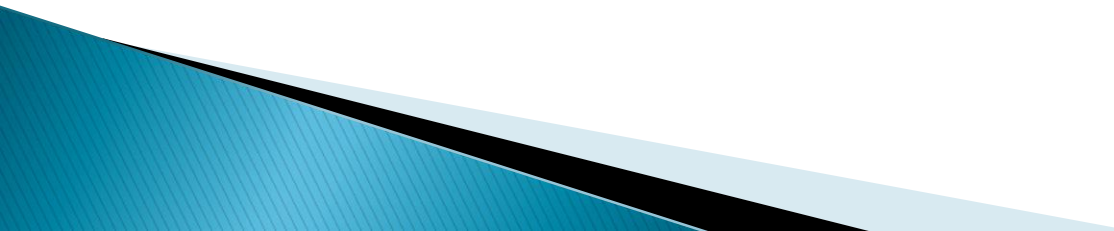
Goal 1: To provide authentic, hands-on, multimodal, and appropriate learning opportunities for students at all levels

Dec. 2021

- ▶ Instituted Link-It benchmark assessments to provide more accurate depictions of student performance data
 - ▶ Created Curriculum and PD Committees to ensure best practices and resources are being utilized
 - ▶ ESSER and Title funds earmarked for learning acceleration and STEM/STEAM-related clubs and activities.
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Goal 1: To provide authentic, hands-on, multimodal, and appropriate learning opportunities for students at all levels

Dec. 2022

- ▶ NJSLA results at or above state average in ELA and Mathematics
 - ▶ Enhancement of Basic Skills Program at Central Elementary School
 - ▶ Use of ESSER and Title funds to retain staffing and provide quality extra-curricular programming
 - ▶ Revised GMMS schedule to maintain class size
 - ▶ PD with Teach4Results to best use data to drive instruction
 - ▶ Introduction of Schoolwide ELA program
 - ▶ Students collaborating, troubleshooting, problem solving and designing a wide variety of products with 3-D printers using a variety of design applications
 - ▶ Students learning coding and expanding Google Suite knowledge and skills (Google Sheets and Slides)
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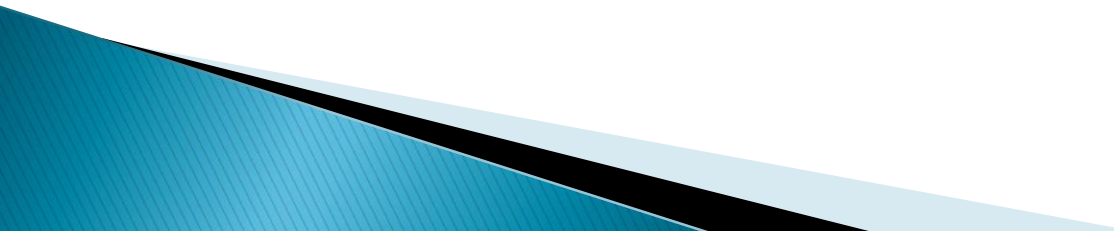
Goal 1: To provide authentic, hands-on, multimodal, and appropriate learning opportunities for students at all levels

Dec. 2023

- ▶ Professional Learning Community (PLC) “reset” with teachers focusing on data-driven goals in monthly meetings
- ▶ Expanded professional development to create better learning opportunities
 - EdCamp w/ cluster districts
 - Lexia – reading intervention K–5
 - Restorative practices & Conflict Resolution
 - Sheltered Instruction
 - Data-Driven Decision-Making
- ▶ Completed full transition to Link-It Intervention Manager
- ▶ Picatinny STEM Outreach program (Superhero Day – Grades 2 & 3)
- ▶ Introduction of a Readiness Roster, which compares benchmarks, Link-It scores, NJSLA, MP averages, and IXL diagnostics (GMMS)
- ▶ Coding instruction in Technology classes

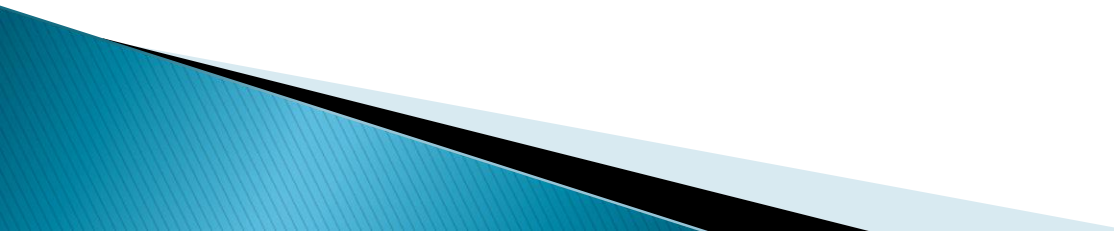
Goal 2: To provide programming that addresses the needs of the Whole Child, with a focus on collaboration, social skills, physical needs, and the cognitive development of students

Dec. 2021

- ▶ Sensory Room created at Central Elementary School as a place for students to reset and refocus
 - ▶ Staff training on trauma-based instruction
 - ▶ Creation of clubs with focus on Social-Emotional skills
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Goal 2: To provide programming that addresses the needs of the Whole Child, with a focus on collaboration, social skills, physical needs, and the cognitive development of students

Dec. 2022

- ▶ Sensory Room created at GMMS; enhanced at Central Elementary School
 - ▶ Character Strong Program for Grades PK–3
 - ▶ Maintenance of Sensory Hallway at Central Elementary School
 - ▶ Restorative Groups led by staff facilitators to help students reflect on and improve behavior
 - ▶ Virtual Town Halls to discuss Health and Wellness (Aug. 2022) and HIB (early 2023)
 - ▶ Programs such as Ryan's Story delivered for students and parents
 - ▶ Saturday Tutoring Club expanded to include all students and not just those that qualify for Title 1
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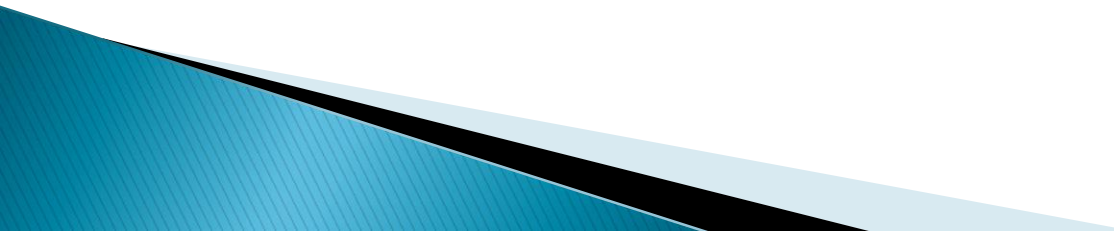
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Dec. 2023

- ▶ Project-based learning with GATE teacher
 - ▶ Expansion of Restorative Groups led by staff facilitators to help students reflect on and improve behavior
 - ▶ Application for Preschool Expansion Aid
 - ▶ Hiring of in-district behaviorist (shared with Newton Public Schools)
 - ▶ Town Halls focusing on Special Education, Diversity, and Health/PE
 - ▶ Creation of Special Education Parent Advisory Group (SEPAG)
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Goal 3: Create an environment of social, emotional, and physical well-being so that students will be able to interact cooperatively with others now and in the future

Dec. 2021

- ▶ Restorative Practice research and implementation
 - ▶ Identifying outdoor locations to serve as learning environments
 - ▶ Opportunity for staff to become certified in SEL and Yoga
 - ▶ Staff wellness initiatives
 - ▶ Therapy dogs
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Goal 3: Create an environment of social, emotional, and physical well-being so that students will be able to interact cooperatively with others now and in the future

Dec. 2022

- ▶ Therapy Dogs
 - ▶ School- and District-wide theme days during the Week of Respect
 - ▶ PD on and use of Restorative Practices to resolve conflicts
 - ▶ Central Elementary School Kindness “Shoutouts”
 - ▶ Lunch bunches with GMMS counselor and principal
 - ▶ Working with PTO to bring back student Get-Togethers with the first scheduled for January 6th
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Goal 3: Create an environment of social, emotional, and physical well-being so that students will be able to interact cooperatively with others now and in the future

Dec. 2023

- ▶ Yoga and Wellness Club (K-3)
- ▶ Lil' Jags Club (K-3)
- ▶ Cooperation Club (4-8)
- ▶ Continuation of Character Strong positive behavioral support program
- ▶ HighFive providing Restorative Practices PD for staff and students
- ▶ HS Peer Ambassadors
- ▶ Therapy Dogs
- ▶ GMMS garden cleanout to open up outdoor learning spaces
 - Local Girl Scout troop has identified and will be making tags for the trees on campus in hopes of creating an interactive online guide.

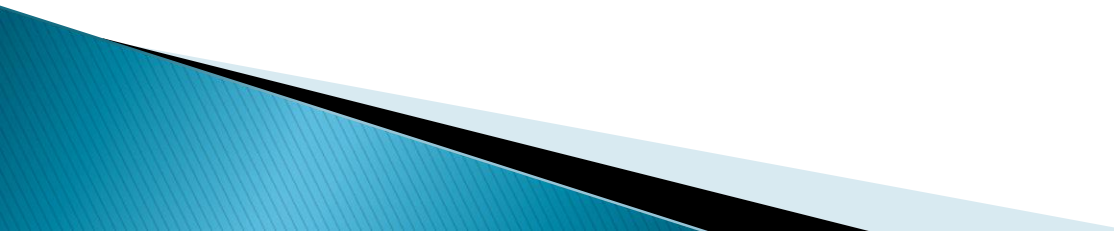
Goal 4: To provide students a deep understanding of cultural diversity and citizenship through making local and global connections

Dec. 2021

- ▶ Creation of Diversity Committee
 - ▶ Purchase of resources focused on diversity and different cultures
 - ▶ Central Elementary School's Garden Club
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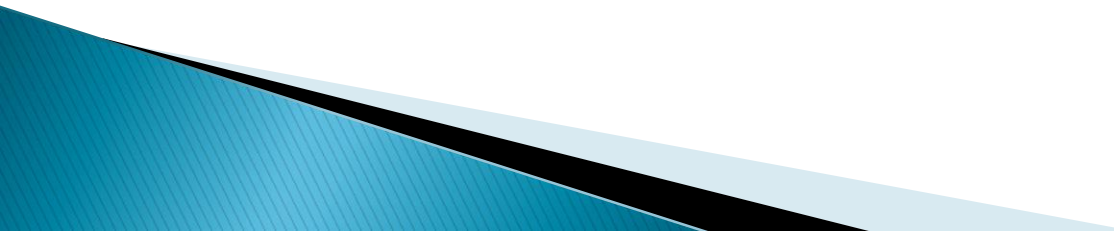
Goal 4: To provide students a deep understanding of cultural diversity and citizenship through making local and global connections

Dec. 2022

- ▶ Updated literature and texts to include diversity and different cultures
 - ▶ Partnership with GMRSD PTO to create a diversity event (coming Spring 2023)
 - ▶ Activities and acknowledgements to best understand the meanings behind cultural months (Native American Heritage, Black History, etc.)
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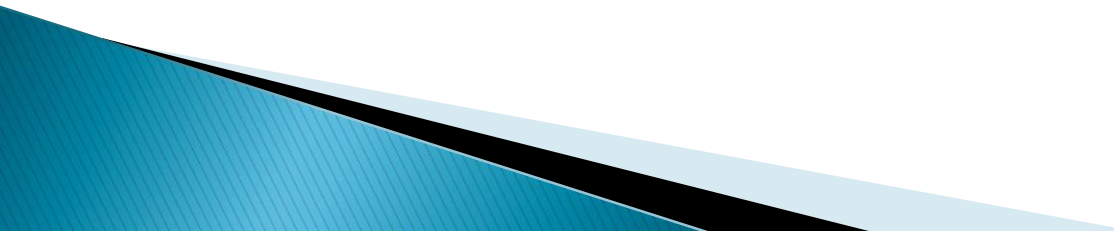
Goal 4: To provide students a deep understanding of cultural diversity and citizenship through making local and global connections

Dec. 2023

- ▶ Reimagining of Diversity Day for 2024
 - ▶ Student Council updates at BOE meetings
 - ▶ Creation of GSA Club at GMMS
 - ▶ Mock Trial competitions (and victories!)
 - ▶ ESL Family Night
 - ▶ CoolSpeak assembly for K–8 on perseverance
 - ▶ Cornell Thomas assembly for GMMS
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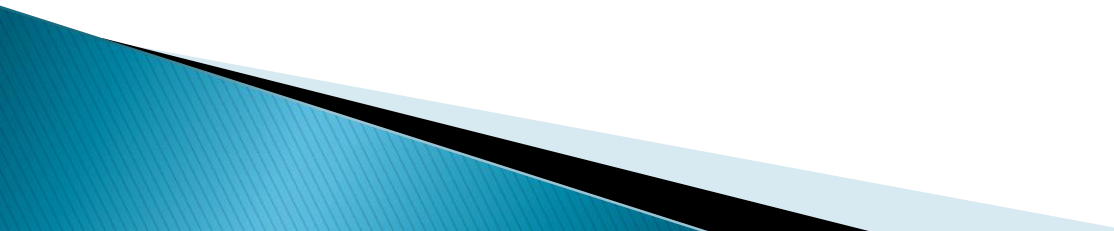
Goal 5: To build the district facilities and technology environments to provide the foundation for the infinite student growth without limitations

Dec. 2021

- ▶ Improvements to wireless connectivity capabilities
 - ▶ Maintaining a 1:1 ratio of devices to students and providing hotspots to students in need of internet access to work from home
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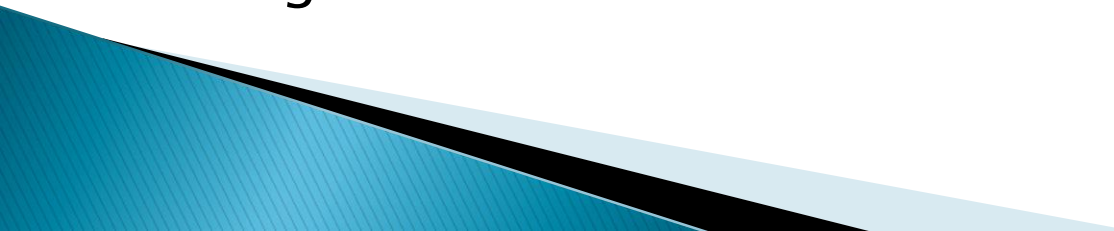
Goal 5: To build the district facilities and technology environments to provide the foundation for the infinite student growth without limitations

Dec. 2022

- ▶ 3D Printers
 - 2 @ Central Elementary
 - 6 @ GMMS
 - ▶ Increased wireless capabilities by adding more access points
 - ▶ Increased internet bandwidth
 - ▶ Maintaining 1:1 devices from P-8
 - ▶ Providing home connectivity to those in need
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Goal 5: To build the district facilities and technology environments to provide the foundation for the infinite student growth without limitations

Dec. 2023

- ▶ Girls Who Code
 - ▶ Sheltered Instruction training for staff to use technology to address the needs of Multi-Language Learners
 - ▶ Upgraded internet connection from 600 Megabits per second to 1 Gigabyte per second; upgraded to newer domain version; upgraded Windows Update server
 - ▶ Refreshed 200 student Chromebooks
 - ▶ Completed a boiler feed tank project at Central that will reduce the number of boiler shut downs and help the boilers run more efficiently
 - ▶ Installed new water treatment equipment at both schools to treat the water utilized in the boilers to help the boilers run more efficiently and the equipment last longer.
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Funding Sources

- ▶ In addition to our traditional, general operating budget, GMRSD has utilized the following to maintain, enhance, and modify our programs in pursuit of Strategic Plan goals:
 - ARP ESSER and CRRSA grants
 - ESEA Title I, II, III and IV grants
 - PTO
 - ROD Grants
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