

Annual Action Plan 2022-2023

KCS KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

INTRODUCTION

In 2019, the Knox County Board of Education adopted a **five-year strategic plan**. The plan identifies three goals for the district: *increase student achievement, eliminate disparities, and create a positive culture*. Each goal is supported by three target objectives, which are as follows:

1. Increase Student Achievement

- a. Increase reading proficiency
- b. Increase math proficiency
- c. Increase rate of ready graduates

2. Eliminate Disparities

- a. Provide student supports
- b. Narrow achievement gaps
- c. Improve student access

3. Create a Positive Culture

- a. Exceptional place to work and learn
- b. Effective communication
- c. Strong fiscal management

To accomplish and deepen this work, Knox County Schools has identified **four strategic priorities**: excellence in foundational skills, great educators in every school, career empowerment and preparation, and success for all students. These priorities serve as a framework for organizing and deploying resources and supports across the district to ensure that all students are being equipped with the education, experiences, and relationships necessary to achieve success in a future of their choosing.

The **Annual Action Plan** is a one-year roadmap comprised of intentional strategies and target objectives designed to move the needle in each of the district's four strategic priorities. While priorities represent the long-term and consistent work of the district, strategies function as medium-term, multi-year tactics leveraged to make meaningful progress in each priority area. Target objectives are short-term, one-year goals designed to effectively and intentional advance strategies. These objectives are established and selected based on historic, longitudinal data with an emphasis on areas of significant need and/or opportunities for significant impact.



Priority A: Excellence in Foundational Skills

1.	Strategy: Align resources to introduce highly effective early literacy strategies Objectives Increase 3 rd grade proficiency rates on TCAP by 1.9% Decrease percent of 3 rd graders performing below the 40 th percentile on Aimsweb by 1.5%	1a, 1c, 2b
2.	Strategy: Align resources to introduce highly effective early math strategies Objectives Increase Algebra I proficiency rates by 2.5% Increase math proficiency for 6 th-8th graders by 2.2%	1b, 1c, 2b
3.	Strategy: Concentrate resources to ensure highly effective reading and writing strategies are being implemented in every ELA classroom districtwide Objectives Increase ELA proficiency for 3 rd -8 th grade by 1.9% Decrease percent of students performing below the 40 th percentile on Aimsweb by 1.7%	1a, 1c, 2b



Priority B: Great Educators in Every School

4.	Strategy: Establish innovative strategies to address teacher shortage Objectives Increase enrollment in EPP by 10% Increase enrollment in district GYO programs by 15% Increase participation in job-embedded programs by 5%	2a, 3a
5.	Strategy: Recruit and retain highly effective teachers in areas of greatest need Objectives Increase retention of highly effective teachers by 2% Increase teacher compensation by 4% Increase percent of teachers of color by 5%	2a, 3a
6.	Strategy: Create opportunities for educators to grow professionally and to receive exposure to leadership development Objectives Develop a district plan for intentional professional development based on student data Identify and pilot innovative and intentional approaches to instruction Solicit and leverage staff feedback to structure high-quality District Learning Days	2a, 3a



Priority C: Career Empowerment and Preparation

7.	Strategy: Organize and reorganize school processes and structures to ensure all students have access to opportunities and are prepared for success after graduation Objectives Increase the number of high schools engaged in The 865 Academies to 10 Increase the number of counselors trained in the process of developing career-ready students by leveraging the Ford NGL network Increase the percent of students who have completed an aptitude assessment to 75% in 7th grade and 77% in 9th grade	1c, 2b, 2c
8.	Strategy: Advance local business partnerships for every school within the district Objectives Establish a formal, district-wide committee of business leaders to support schools Enhance relationships between local businesses to support the work of The 865 Academies, PIE, the Clothing Center, the Teacher Depot, and other initiatives	2a, 2b, 2c, 3a, 3b
9.	Strategy: Implement processes to equip every student with the characteristics defined in the KCS Portrait of a Graduate: lifelong learner, effective communicator, collaborative teammate, creative problem-solver, and community-minded citizens Objectives Increase the percent of students enrolled in EPSOs by 1.6% Increase the percent of students awarded industry certifications by 2.8% Increase post-secondary enrollment in TN Achieves by 2.5%	1c, 2a, 2b, 2c



Priority D: Success for Every Student

10.	Strategy: Establish plans to address achievement gaps for underperforming student groups Objectives Increase math achievement among state identified groups by 2.7% Increase ELA achievement among state identified groups by 2.5%	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b
11.	Strategy: Initiate processes to address mental health obstacles and challenges Objectives Establish a Whole Child Support Team in every elementary, middle, and high school Decrease chronic absenteeism by 2.1% Establish a process for local law enforcement to review and collaborate on state-mandated safety plan	2a, 2b, 2c
12.	Strategy: Develop a strategic plan to address needs for underperforming schools Objectives Establish a formal plan for community involvement and engagement in development of multi-year plan Increase ELA achievement for underperforming schools by 2.8% Increase math achievement for underperforming schools by 3.0%	1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 2c



Leadership of District

13.	Strategy: Build methods to effectively communicate with the Board, staff, families, and other key stakeholders Objectives Develop a regular method for communicating with families regarding the work and occurrences within the district Develop strategic relationships with key officials (Board, mayors, community leaders and organizations, etc.) Leverage multiple channels of communication (media, social media, speaking engagements, etc.) to enhance awareness of district work, priorities, and mission	3a, 3b
14.	Strategy: Establish channels of community input to support the district's four priorities Objectives Establish school-based family and community input and engagement opportunities Establish structures for input and engagement at the regional level Establish structures for input and engagement at the district level	3a, 3b
15.	Strategy: Establish priorities and strategies to accelerate student achievement and growth. Maximize the budget and resources and align the district office to support the work of the four district priorities. Objectives Develop an annual Return on Investment report Reorganize Central Office to regionalize schools and concentrate district resources more intentionally around schools	3a, 3b, 3c