

2006

Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424
**Comprehensive Vision Plan
for Educational Excellence**



Board of Education

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Scott Wakeley, Superintendent

Genoa-Kingston CUSD #424
Comprehensive Vision Plan
2006





LETTER FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT:

The Vision Planning Process began in the Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District 424 in January 2006. The initial stages of the Vision Planning Process involved approximately seventy people representing a cross section from the communities of Genoa and Kingston. This process was undertaken to engage the community in determining the direction of the school district as we continue to strive for educational excellence.

This work includes the incorporation of the District's mission and core values that was developed by the Board of Education in October 2005. The current work is a representation of the community's effort to expand the vision and the expectations for the characteristics of students as a culmination of their education within the Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District 424. Furthermore, recognizing that the school alone can not provide all of the needs for children, this process also sought to create a "Community Vision" that would provide the necessary support and resources to foster student achievement both academically and socially.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Staff, Students, and Community, I would like to thank each member of the Vision Planning Team for their thoughtful and honest contribution to the future direction of the School District.

A special thanks and appreciation to the Genoa-Kingston CUSD 424 Board of Education for their progressive thinking, unwavering support and leadership to ensure that ALL students excel and contribute to their community.

Scott E. Wakeley, Superintendent
Genoa-Kingston Community Unit School District 424



Mission and Core Values

Mission

Preparing students to excel and contribute
to their community.

Core Values

Honest
Positive
Team Players
Responsible
Ethical

Professional
Creative
Accountable
Motivated
Highly Competent



The Process

The Genoa-Kingston Vision Planning Team implemented the following process in the creation of the “Student Profile” and “Community Vision”.

- 1) 2 Day Retreat: January 27 and January 28, 2006
 - Reflection of Strengths and Challenges of School District and Community
 - Scanning the Future
 - Vision of characteristics of the ideal student and School District in the year 2018
- 2) Community Meetings to Gain Insight
 - February 7 and February 8, 2006
- 3) Vision Planning Team Validates Preliminary Vision
 - Review Themes and Initial Strategies
February 16, 2006
- 4) Town Meeting to Share Vision and Strategies
 - February 27, 2006
- 5) Vision Planning Team Meeting: April 18, 2006
 - Final Review of Activities and Strategies
- 6) Board of Education Approval—April 25, 2006



Student Profile

The following are characteristics that the communities of Genoa and Kingston identified as essential for students to excel and contribute to their community. See page 15 for illustration.

SKILLS

Communication
Critical Thinking

Technological
Problem Solving

KNOWLEDGE

World Events & History
Languages (Bi-Lingual)
Comprehensive Curriculum

Resourcefulness /Adaptability
Work & Life Skills/Vocational Ed.

ATTITUDE

Respectful
Resilient
Motivated

Positive/Optimistic
Tolerant/Accepting

SOCIAL

Value Diversity
Community Minded/Patriotic

Interpersonal Skills/Emotional Intelligence
Sense of Humor

VALUES

Honesty
Work Ethic

Spiritual Self
Moral/Ethical

MIND SET

Life-Long Learner
Innovative

Dream, Believe, Achieve
Positive Mental Attitude



Community Vision

The components below represent the critical aspects of the community that need to be addressed and in place to foster student and community success. See page 15 for illustration.

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT

Continuous Education for Staff & Students	Systemic Staff Development
Business Partnerships/Internships	Goal Directed

PARENT/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Sharing Responsibility for Learning	Communication & Public Relations
Community Partnership	

TECHNOLOGY

Real-World Use	Responsible Use
Integrated into K-12 Curriculum	

CURRICULUM

Progressive & Comprehensive	Authentic
Differentiated	Rigorous & Relevant

IDEAL SERVICE PROVIDER

Accountable	Share the Vision
Cooperation and Communication	Broad Range of Service & Knowledge

IDEAL STUDENT

Responsible	Critical Thinker
Life Long Learner	Intrinsically Motivated
School/Community Pride	Work to Potential

IDEAL TEACHER

Accountable	Differentiates Instruction
Life Long Learner	Flexible
Passionate about Teaching	Believes in All Students
Sense of Humor	Professional

BIGGEST CHANGES

Manage Growth	Adaptable to Change
Funding Sources	Increase Parent/Community Involvement



Community Vision Continued

BREAKTHROUGH CONCEPTS

Mentoring/Shadowing
Distance Learning
Seamless Transition across Grade Level

STUDENT PASSION

Life Long Learner
Goal Driven

Desire to Excel

MOST PROUD OF

School/Community Pride
School Mission
Reputation, Accomplishments, Successes

Desire to Improve
Range of Opportunities

SCHOOL DAY/YEAR

Flexible
Adapts to Student/Community Needs

Extended Day/Year Opportunities

VALUE AND BELIEFS

Prepared for Continuing Education
Identify Strengths & Motivate for Success

All Students Will Excel and Succeed
Love of Learning

ASSESSMENT

Authentic
Data Drive
Meaningful
Student Evaluation of Programs

Individualized Assessment
School and Community Involvement
Post Graduate Assessment

REPUTATION

Model for Success
Community Committed to Education

High Achieving Students
Respected

LEARNING PHILOSOPHY

Engage and retain an enthusiasm for learning and a drive to succeed.

A DAY IN LIFE

LAUGH & LEARN



GOAL

Character Education & Diversity

Goal Summary

Foster the specific characteristics within the student profile domains of Social, Values, Mindset and Attitude by providing an environment that values, promotes and models these characteristics.

Strategic Objectives

- Implementation of Character Education Program K-12
- Diversity Awareness Training for Staff and Students

Goal 1 Activities: Phase I—Initiate May/June 2006

1. Creation of a character education and diversity committee composed of administration, staff, students, parents, faith-based organizations, business community.
2. Completion of diversity assessment to determine the areas to focus training and activities.
3. Begin the implementation of Character Education Program K-12.
 - Provide training for implementing Character Education
4. Incorporate the District's Core Values in the Character Education Program.

Goal 1 Activities: Phase II—Initiate May/June 2007

1. Implement recommendations based on the analysis of the diversity survey.
2. Broaden the scope of Character Education to include community.



GOAL

Public Relations/Communication

Goal Summary

Expand and improve relationships with all stakeholders by increasing the level of knowledge and understanding.

Strategic Objectives

- Increase communication and public awareness

Goal 2 Activities: Phase I—Initiate Summer 2006

1. Establish a committee to explore public relations and communication opportunities.
2. Investigate utilizing the services of a communications coordinator.
3. Develop a comprehensive communications plan for the School District to include:
 - In-District Communication
 - Foster 2-way communication
 - Assess communication needs



GOAL

Expand Instructional Opportunities for Students

Goal Summary

Expand and improve the instructional opportunities of students through the development of an articulated curriculum and opportunities to provide meaningful challenges in preparing students to excel beyond Genoa-Kingston High School.

Strategic Objectives

- Creation of a seamless articulated curriculum K-12
- Foster increase of multi-lingual students
- Expand AP opportunities at Genoa-Kingston High School
- Increase opportunities for the cultural and creative arts
- Foster authentic/critical thinking opportunities at all levels
- Expand opportunities for high ability learners to move ahead with meaningful challenges

Goal 3 Activities: Phase I—Initiate May 2006

1. Creation of a District Curriculum Council to oversee and recommend the ongoing development of the K-12 curriculum. Council will include Administration, Staff and Parent/Community Member.
2. Creation of Curriculum Maps outlining what students should be able to demonstrate by grade level and aligned to the Illinois State Standards.
3. Expand opportunities for high ability learners to move ahead in the curriculum with meaningful challenge.
4. Expand Advanced courses at all levels.
5. Investigate the implementation of a quality foreign language program at the lower levels.



GOAL

Expand Instructional
Opportunities for Students

Goal 3 Activities: Phase II—Initiate March 2007

1. Investigate fine arts opportunities by fostering interest in multi-level performances.
2. Provide meaningful opportunities for all students including college bound, career or technical



GOAL

School/Community Involvement

Goal Summary

Foster a greater level of school and community involvement and pride through the creation of partnerships and activities to engage all stakeholders in the community.

Strategic Objectives

- Engage all stakeholders in promoting pride and involvement

Goal 4 Activities: Phase I—Initiate August 2006

1. Creation of School/Community Involvement Committee
 - Administration, Staff, Teachers, Parents, Community/
Business, Governmental, Students
2. Examine opportunities to promote community involvement in and among the school district.
3. Look for opportunities to increase school pride at all levels and within the community.
4. Explore activities to provide community service within Genoa and Kingston. “Make a difference day.”
5. Promote the importance of academic, athletic and the fine arts programs.



GOAL

Increase Effectiveness of Instruction to Differentiate for the Needs of All Students

Goal Summary

Increase the opportunity for students to engage in the highest level of academic rigor utilizing best practice of instructional strategies to accommodate the learning of all students.

Strategic Objectives

- Increase the development of instruction to meet the needs of all learners
- Seek additional staffing for a Differentiation Facilitator to meet the needs of high ability students and support differentiation of instruction
- Provide a System of Support that provides assistance to students in need of support
- Increase academic rigor within all NCLB areas

Goal 5 Activities: Phase I—Initiate May 2006

1. Staffing Differentiation Specialists to provide assistance to classroom teachers.
2. Expand Model Classrooms Project to all Certified Staff
3. Continued support of Model Classrooms Project facilitators with additional training.
4. District personnel will initiate Diary Mapping process.
5. Investigate additional coordination opportunities for supplemental education programs (Title I, Special Education and English Language Learners).
6. Educate parents and community regarding differentiation and curricular initiatives.



GOAL

Increase Effectiveness of
Instruction to Differentiate for the
Needs of All Students

Goal 5 Activities: Phase II—Initiate January 2007

1. Expand student choices within courses utilizing Model Classrooms Project technique.
2. Seek opportunities for community members to support the academic achievement of all students.

Definition: Differentiation:

- Differentiation pertains to the teachers instruction. Differentiation focuses on whom we teach, where we teach and how we teach. Its primary goal is ensuring that teachers focus on processes and procedures that ensure effective learning for different students. Teachers in differentiated classrooms are better able to individualize instruction to meet the needs of all learners.

Sources:

Tomlinson, C.A and McTighe, J. (2006). *Integrating differentiated instruction & understanding by design: Connecting content and kids*. ASCD.

Tomlinson, C.A. (1999). *The differentiated classroom: Responding to the needs of all learners*. ASCD.



GOAL

Growth Management

Goal Summary

Maintain efforts to create proactive involvement in the management of the impact of growth on the school district.

Strategic Objectives

- Foster a collaborative communication process to provide timely information in order to plan and manage growth

Goal 6 Activities: Phase I—Initiate May 2006

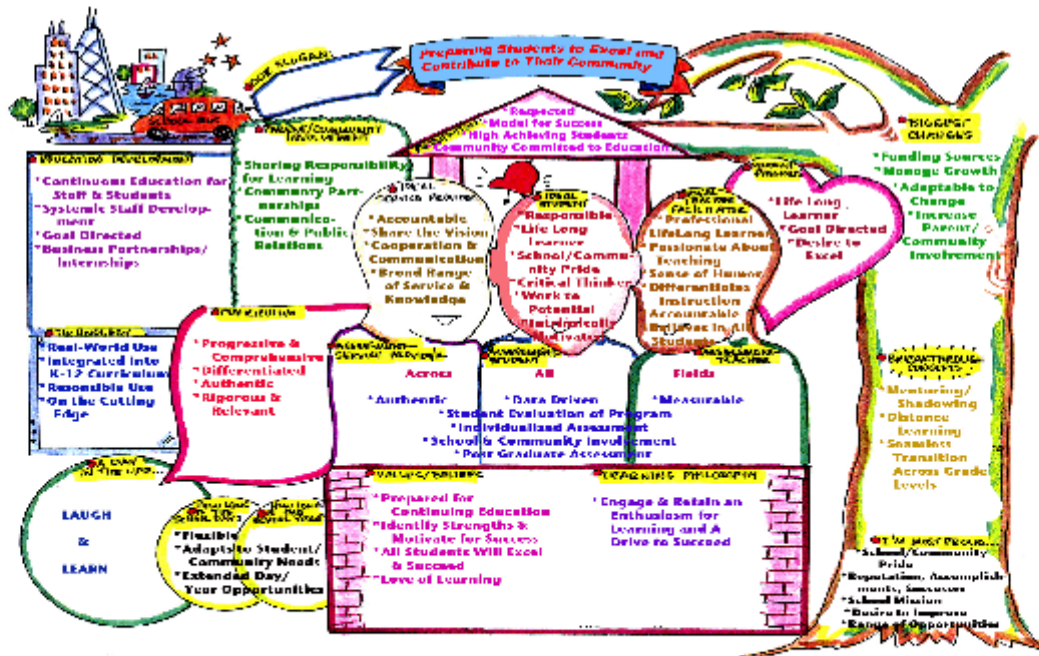
- Create ongoing communication with the City of Genoa and the Village of Kingston to maintain up-to-date information regarding residential growth
- Explore the creation of a facilitator planning committee to plan for future facilities needs
- Create a growth planning document
- Facilitate growth planning discussion with municipalities and developers
- Create a mechanism to communicate the changing state of the School District as a result of growth
- Foster partnerships with other agencies to provide the best opportunities for our stakeholders
- Maintain a mindset of fiscal responsibility.



STUDENT PROFILE



COMMUNITY VISION





Contributors to the Vision Planning Process

Alexandra Acevado-Student
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Julie Craig-Parent/RAMP
Colleen Dander-Parent
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John Francis-Administration
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Jim Manley-Administration
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Dale Pelley-Board Member
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