

Mason City Community School District  
Board of Education  
2009-2012 Board Goals

**In 2008-09 the Mason City Community School District Board of Education defined their work in the following ways:**

**Who are we?**

*"We are members of a caring community of parent volunteers with similarities and differences guiding toward a common goal. We are passionate about education, are learners and conduits of information to put out the message, elevate and are guardians of the people resources and money for the district."*

**What are we about?**

*"We are an interaction of diverse skills and personalities, working collectively to make our mission statement a reality for kids by offering opportunities and by guiding education into the future."*

**How will our children experience school?**

*"Our younger students will continue to need basic understandings and skills, receiving a strong foundation for learning. No matter how much technology changes, we must take one day at a time. Employers say teamwork is tantamount to the workforce. Communication skills are different and changing with the availability of global connections, text messages, emails and on-line meetings. Students must understand and be skilled in "face to face" and distance communication. Students must be valued participants in their learning and be engaged in creative endeavors and problem-solving and not just be expected to memorize facts."*

**Gary Marx says:**

*"A culture of excellence and high expectations. Education is really the engine of our community. People want to come here because they know their children will get the kind of education that prepares them for the future. That's why our property values are going up, and it's why we're not only attracting but developing new industries. We expect a lot from our schools, and they expect a lot from us. I wouldn't want it any other way." P. 145 Future Focused Leadership*

Using this information as a springboard the following goals for the 2009-10 school year have been developed collaboratively by the Mason City Community School District Board of Education Directors.

**Board of Education Goals 2009-12**

**The Board will encourage and promote the development and growth of stronger community partnerships and connections.**

Community Conversations with Stakeholders	Mason City Education Foundation
Development of a "Link to the Community"	Wrap-around community services
Volunteerism in schools	Internships or Externships for students
NIACC	KAPLAN
North Iowa Vocational Center	Mason City Youth Task Force
Workforce development	Mentoring programs
YMCA	United Way
RSVP	Mercy Hospital
North Iowa Region School Districts/Boards	Parochial and Private Schools
Service organizations within the community, Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Rotary, etc.	

**The Board expects that the school environment honors diversity, instills mutual respect, develops citizenship and sense of community so that our students will demonstrate confidence, cultivate an eagerness to learn and understand their role as a citizen.**

- Development and implementation of a culture/climate survey for students, staff and families
- Use of Senior Survey data
- Silver cord participation

- Community Service Projects
- Volunteerism
- Student behavior data

**The Board expects all of the teachers, administrators and staff in the Mason City Community School District to increase student proficiency/achievement through their development as connectors, relationship builders, learners, and motivators of teaching and learning, so that instruction will be relevant and challenging for all, holding high expectations for ALL students by meeting students where they are and taking them to the next level.**

- Professional development of staff
- Model Schools Project
- Differentiated Learning Environments
- Co-teaching
- Guided Reading
- Teacher talks on use technology in the classroom
- Instructional Coaches
- Athletic and Activities Coaches and Sponsors
- Data related to continuing education # of staff earning college or professional development credit

**The Board, in partnership with all stakeholders, will continue to pursue opportunities and provide leadership in the following areas:**

- Update technology so that every child and professional has access to the tools necessary for 21<sup>st</sup> century learning.
- Re-design learning environments to meet the academic, personal/social needs of students PreK-12 with a focus on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades and 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades during the 2009-10 school year.
- Increase communication with all stakeholders through the development of a PR and Marketing Committee
- Short and Long-range financial planning
- Energy conservation
- Legislative advocacy at the state and federal levels
- Short and Long-range comprehensive facilities management and planning
- Student enrollment trends, grouping of children and school boundaries
- Activities and athletics at all levels

**The Board will focus on their role in terms of the District's current five-year Comprehensive School Improvement Plan (CSIP) to support the teachers, administrators and staff in their efforts to increase student proficiency/achievement in the areas of Literacy, Math, Science, Social Studies, and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills through the development and implementation of a rigorous curriculum that engages students in "real-world problems, issues important to humanity, and questions that matter."** *(quoted from Gary Marx, 16 Characteristics of Schools and School Systems for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century)*

**In addition, the Board will monitor those areas in the CSIP that will require additional professional development for the Board of Education.**

- Expand knowledge of the Iowa Core Curriculum and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills
- Annual Yearly Progress Reports
- ACT Reports
- Graduation
- Drop out prevention
- Benchmark Presentations
- Other

*NOTE: Measurable progress indicators will be used in the assessment of these goals on an annual basis.*

**The Board is committed to being visible at school activities and events as well as day-to-day operations in each of the buildings.**