



**Glens Falls City Schools**  
*Board of Education's*  
*District Goals, 2015-16*



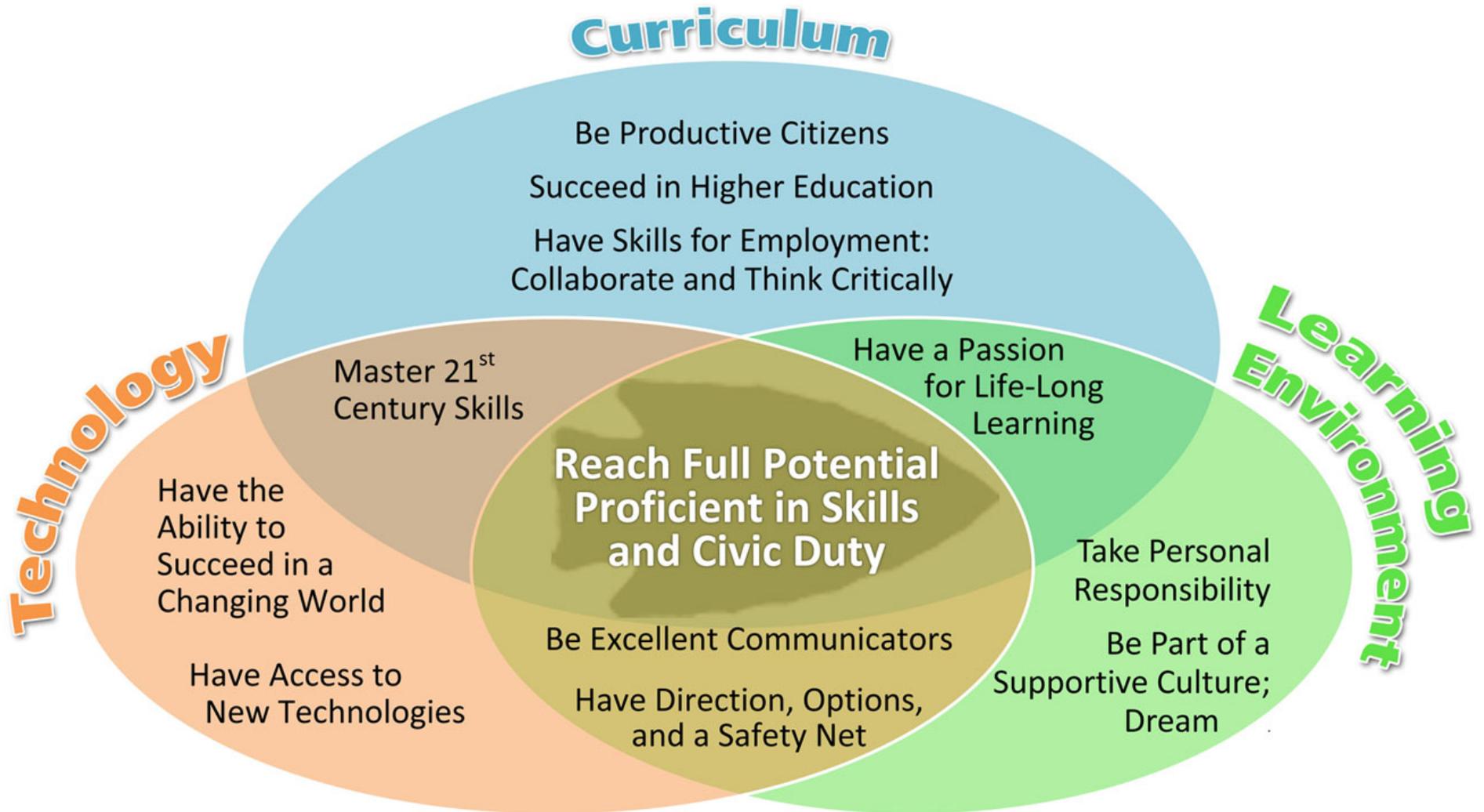
## **2015-16 District Goals**

*The Board of Education, administrators, teachers, support staff, community members, and families of the Glens Falls City School District, working together, must prepare our students to succeed in an ever-changing world.*

*Therefore, the following goals for the 2015-16 school year seek to fulfill this mandate.*



# Glens Falls students will...





## Curriculum: *Premises*

We believe that an increasingly rigorous curriculum is best supported by an elevated entry level skill set in students entering kindergarten.

Delivering a rigorous and relevant educational program includes specialized exposure in the areas of science, world languages, culture, and the arts.

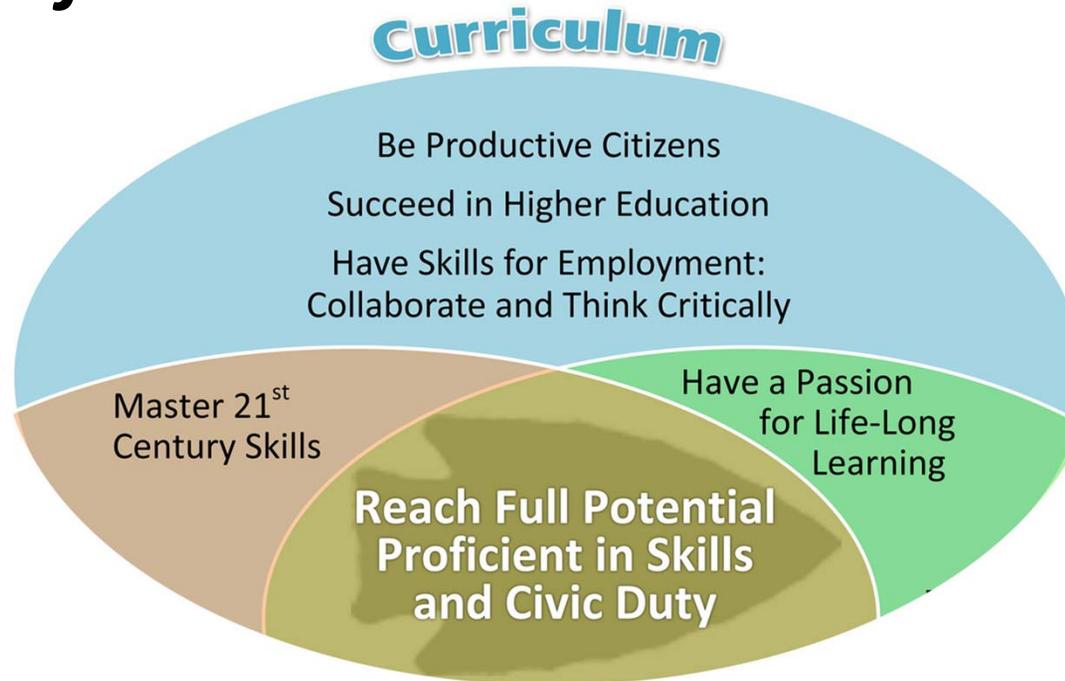
Specific or non-traditional educational supports are necessary for under-resourced students and their families.

The transition into more technology-enhanced learning should embolden us to strengthen instruction in English Language Arts and core writing skills, particularly at the elementary level.



## Curriculum: *GOAL*

***The Glens Falls Board of Education will promote excellence by providing a rigorous, relevant, challenging, and innovative educational program for all students K-12.***





## Curriculum: *Guideposts*

The path to our curricular ideal may include developing new, creative, and relevant academic programs to better meet the needs of at-risk students, promoting regular attendance, and improving our graduation rate.

Elementary curriculum may be refined with renewed focus on increasing Universal Pre-K participation, developing innovative and challenging science curriculum, strengthening writing/grammar skills, and increasing exposure to world languages and cultures.

New initiatives designed to support secondary educational programming, could include non-traditional “academy” efforts, and community-based mentorships.

We believe in supporting programming so that: all students will perform on grade level in reading (nonfiction), writing, and math by third grade and in every grade thereafter; and 85% of students in grades 3-12 will achieve mastery on all state assessments.

Our desire is to improve academic performance to achieve a ranking among the top ten high-achieving regional schools, as determined by the annual assessment published in the Albany Business Review.



## Technology: *Premises*

The Glens Falls City School District is committed to increasing student access to the most current advances in educational technology with the intent of promoting the highest level of achievement for all students.

The Board of Education is uniquely positioned within the district leadership structure to map out larger learning opportunities through the use of technology, and translate the global community's technological implications into visions for teaching and learning within the Glens Falls K-12 educational system.

Technology—in the form of accessible devices with intentional applications—has the potential to improve the home-school connection between students, parents, and teachers, and presents opportunities to collaborate beyond the limitations of physical space or time.



# Technology: *GOAL*

*The Glens Falls Board of Education fully supports the utilization of technology advancements to facilitate curriculum innovation, differentiation, remediation, collaboration, and communications within the school community.*





## Technology: *Guideposts*

The path to our technological ideal includes supporting instructional staff as they demonstrate consistent, relevant, and productive use of Chromebooks to facilitate individual, differentiated instruction compatible with the Common Core Learning Standards.

We intend to fully implement the multi-year effort to increase student access to technology for the purpose of promoting the highest level of achievement for all students.

Applying the use of technology will further enhance communication between students, parents, teachers, and the community.

We will seek opportunities to cooperate with area business leaders in an effort to expose students to technological advances and their application beyond the school environment.



## Learning Environment: *Premises*

Understanding the needs of our under-resourced students, identifying barriers which prevent their full academic achievement, and providing the resources for their full participation in academic and extracurricular pursuits will lead to an even more inclusive learning environment.

Within a true learning community, every adult and child is a valued member of the group, invested in the process, and modeling the behaviors of continuous learning that are influential to the character as well as the mind.

Positive relationships between students, faculty/staff, and parents are key to student success and achievement.



# Learning Environment: **GOAL**

***The Glens Falls Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and stimulating learning environment which promotes the success of all students, and ensures that the district's facilities meet the needs of our school and community.***





## Learning Environment: *Guideposts*

The path to our environmental ideal will continue efforts to instill good moral character in all students, focusing on anti-bullying, respect for others, and self-confidence—creating a secure environment in which all students are valued.

We will endeavor to create a true learning community, wherein every adult and child is an integral part of the group, invested in the learning process, and modeling behaviors which inspire lifelong learning.



## Home and Community: *Premises*

The business leaders within the Glens Falls school community are as yet an under-utilized resource in exposing our students to technological advances and consumer applications beyond the walls of K-12 public education.

Leadership and character development of our students promotes an enhanced learning environment, and strengthens families and community.

A strong school community is supported by engagement of parents and caregivers. As district leaders, it is important to enhance and foster family support at every level of the resource spectrum.

Opportunities for increased family engagement and an extended learning environment outside of the school day are improving with access to technology across the entire school community.



## Home and Community: **GOAL**

***The Glens Falls Board of Education will continue to initiate opportunities to make frequent, meaningful connections with individual students, their families, PTAs, and community representatives to foster better understanding of our joint roles in preparing students for success as life-long learners in a global community. Together, we will provide parental and community support and enrichment as it relates to student success.***



# Priorities and our Mission

The mission of the Glens Falls City School District is to provide a safe, positive and stimulating environment — one that fosters self growth, a passion for continuous learning, confidence and the ability to succeed in a changing world.

We promote excellence through high expectations and evolving standards for students, staff, parents and community. The challenge is to reach one's personal best while respecting each person's individuality.

We make it our responsibility to be accountable for the implementation of this mission and to model behaviors that are influential to the character as well as the mind.