



# Lake Oswego School District

## Strategic Improvement Goals 2008-09 School Year

### District Mission

This district is committed to providing each student with a strong academic program in a safe and supportive educational environment. Our schools strive to foster a love of learning, to instill a sense of civic and social responsibility, and to develop the intellectual, physical and social skills necessary for life-long personal achievement.

### District Perspective

Each year, the district establishes goals that provide direction for the district's continuous improvement efforts.

The 2008-09 school year will be characterized by an agenda that builds upon district strengths in instruction, program, and parent involvement. In addition, the national and state economic picture and its implications for school funding, our marketing efforts, and Foundation support will require careful strategic and financial planning to ensure the long-term vitality of the district.

The following goals will be the primary focus of district continuous improvement efforts, the development of specific strategies, and the evaluation of district performance.

### District Continuous Improvement Goals

#### 1. *Learning and Instruction*

Nothing the district undertakes is more important than focusing on what matters most: the continuous learning and wellbeing of our students. To best meet the educational needs of our students, the district must always be engaged in the professional development of our staff and the continuous improvement of our programs and services.

- The district will continue its professional development efforts focused on the principles of learning, mindful teaching, differentiation of instruction, thinking strategies, problem-solving and the nature of knowledge.
- The district will concentrate its elementary language arts curriculum improvement efforts on writing.
- The district will renew and adopt the K-12 science curriculum, including cross-discipline concept development.
- The district will establish new focus for the continuous improvement of Special Services.
- The district will complete the third phase of the district's development of a Talented and Gifted Improvement Plan, including focus on the middle level Academic Merit Program.
- The district will study and develop recommendations for world language options for K-8, including language immersion opportunities.

#### 2. *Culture and Participation*

The district's culture must be anchored in our belief in deep purpose, unwavering commitment, and sound perspective. To be successful, the district must engage the collective efforts of all stakeholders in creating the best possible conditions for the educational wellbeing of our children.

- Continue the development and enhancement of district communications that emphasize timely, useful, complete, and consistent information easily accessible by students, parents, employees, the media, and the greater community.
- Continue building relationships with parents through communication, involvement, and partnering, including Raising Minds, Scholars' Alliance, our advisory committees and Coordinating Council.
- Begin piloting online grade access for possible implementation at the secondary level at the beginning of next year.

#### 3. *Leadership and Management*

Focused leadership and sound management will always be critical to the ongoing success of the district.

- Continue developing effective means and processes for engaging the leadership skills and abilities of all stakeholders, including the Foundation Board, ad hoc committees, and parent clubs.
- Continue focusing management improvement efforts on planning, organization, marketing, follow through, time management, and effective communication consistent with district vision, values, and premises.
- Continue focusing school improvement plans on increasing academic achievement, building respectful school cultures, expanding implementation of PBS, and creating conditions for staff participation in leadership decisions.

Approved on November 3, 2008 by the Lake Oswego School Board

*Deborah Lopardo, Chair* ♦ *Rich Akerman* ♦ *Linda Brown* ♦ *Curt Sheinin* ♦ *Bill Swindells*