

Polk County Schools Strategic Plan 2016-2021 Overview

Goal 1: Long-range: By 2020-21, Polk County will be designated an “A” district. **Short-range:** By 2019-20, Polk County will close the gap between its current points earned (598) and the average for the benchmark districts (676) by at least 10 points, and the gap between the current percentage earned (54%) and the average percentage for the benchmark districts (61%) by at least 1 point.¹

- **District Objective 1.A:** By 2019-20, Polk County will increase English Language Arts proficiency on the District Grade by 3 points (48 to 51).¹
- **District Objective 1.B:** By 2019-20, Polk County will increase Mathematics proficiency on the District Grade by 3 points (51 to 54).¹
- **District Objective 1.C:** By 2019-20, Polk County will increase Science proficiency on the District Grade by 5 points (48 to 53).¹
- **District Objective 1.D:** By 2019-20, Polk County will increase Social Studies proficiency on the District Grade by 3 points (66 to 69).¹
- **District Objective 1.E:** By 2019-20, Polk County will increase the points earned in acceleration on the District Grade by 3 points.¹

Goal 2: Long-range: Polk County will increase the graduation rate (close the achievement gap) to 83.4% based on benchmark districts. **Short-range:** By 2018-19, Polk County will increase the graduation rate from 80.4% to 83.4%.²

- **District Objective 2.A:** By 2018-19, All schools will exceed their 17-18 graduation rate.²
- **District Objective 2.B:** By 2018-19, Polk County will increase Students with Disabilities graduation rate to 68% from 65.9%.²
- **District Objective 2.C:** By 2018-19, Polk County District will provide accuracy training to 100% of the Terminal Operators responsible for senior graduation rate data reporting.

Goal 3: Long-range: Polk County will have a dropout rate at least as low as the average for the benchmark districts. **Short-range:** By 2018-19, Polk County will close the gap between its current dropout rate and the average for the benchmark districts by at least .3 of a percentage point.³

- **District Objective 3.A:** By 2018-19, Polk County will decrease the dropout rate at each graduating school.³
- **District Objective 3.B:** By 2018-19, Polk County will decrease the dropout rate of Students with Disabilities from 30% (2017-18) to 27% (2018-19).⁴

Goal 4: Long-range: Polk County will have a five-year Teacher Retention Rate at least five percentage points higher than the average for benchmark districts. **Short-range:** By 2019-20, Polk County will have a five-year Teacher Retention Rate at least one percentage point higher than the average for benchmark districts.

- **District Objective 4.A:** Increase the annual retention rate of teachers by one percentage point for 2019-20.
- **District Objective 4.B:** Increase retention of teachers through early teacher recruitment pipeline initiatives by at least one percentage point for 2019-20.

Goal 5: Long-range: Polk County Public Schools will improve public perception of the School District according to a target set after completion and analysis of public opinion survey. **Short-range:** By 2019-20, Polk County Public Schools will complete a public opinion survey, analyze its data, and develop a long-range target on improving public perception of the School District.

- **District Objective 5.A:** Develop, administer, and analyze a public opinion survey.
- **District Objective 5.B:** By 2019-20, the internal population will demonstrate a positive change in attitude related to Polk County Public Schools as measured by the public opinion survey.
- **District Objective 5.C:** *To develop a new leadership objective.*

¹ <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/accountability-reporting/school-grades/>

² <http://www.fldoe.org/accountability/data-sys/edu-info-accountability-services/pk-12-public-school-data-pubs-reports/students.stml>

³ <https://edstats.fldoe.org/SASPortal/main.do>

⁴ <http://fldoe.org/academics/exceptional-student-edu/data/>