Arlington Central School District  
Strategic Plan  
 Adopted January 8, 2013

**OUR MISSION**  
is to empower all students to be self-directed,  
lifelong learners, who willingly contribute to their community,  
and lead passionate, purposeful lives.

**Core Values**  
We believe that:  
- All people have inherent value.  
- Lifelong learning is essential for growth.  
- A community thrives when all members embrace their interdependence with compassion and empathy.  
- Potential can only be attained through commitment, resilience, and high expectations.  
- All people can learn.  
- Change is essential for progress.  
- All people are responsible for their choices and actions.

**Strategies**  
We will:  
- Develop systems that are clear and consistently applied across the organization that promote interdependence, efficiency, and trust in order to support and contribute to our strategic objectives and mission.  
- Develop trusting, collaborative, interdependent relationships and empower all employees to understand, support, and contribute to our strategic objectives and mission.

**Strategic Objectives (See Prioritized District Initiatives below)**  
- Each student will continually pursue new knowledge, deeper understanding, or skill in a topic of their interest.  
- Each student will continually and willingly contribute to their community.  
- Each student will demonstrate initiative, responsibility, and action toward a goal of their choosing.

**Strategic Delimiters**  
We will not:  
- Adopt any new program or service unless it is:  
  o aligned with and contributes to our mission.  
  o accompanied by the resources needed for its effective implementation.  
- Allow past experience or tradition to prevent consideration of new ideas.
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Prioritized District Initiatives

A small but consequential word is contained in our Mission Statement above; that word is all. As a school district, one of our primary responsibilities is to ensure that all students demonstrate learning and academic growth over time. We believe that in order for all students to demonstrate this growth, we must remove barriers and provide an equitable learning environment in which all students receive what they need to be successful, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, disability, poverty, and other factors. In addition, our k-12 grading practices must be consistent, aligned with supporting and providing feedback to students, and represent an accurate report of student learning.

Initiative #1

Equity- a continued examination of the internal and external influences on educational equity in Arlington, focusing on:

- promoting a common language and shared commitment to equity
- including student, parent and staff voice in school climate
- monitoring and addressing differences in attendance, achievement, discipline, access, opportunity, and lived experience
- providing professional learning for staff, and coordinating a review of current curriculum, resources, policies, and practices for evidence of bias

Initiative #2

Grading and Assessment- focusing on:

- implementing the Next Generation ELA and Mathematics Learning Standards (replacing Common Core Learning Standards)-to review use this link: http://www.nysed.gov/next-generation-learning-standards
- alignment of assessments within and between grade levels with an emphasis on students demonstrating mastery of standards and growth over time
- implementing equitable grading practices that are in alignment with the district’s purpose of grading statement formally adopted by the Board on June 11. 2019 (see page below).
The purpose of grading in the Arlington Central School District is to communicate educational growth to students, teachers, and families based on learning standards. Our grading system provides feedback in order to encourage students to reflect and focus on their own learning and skill development, empowering them to be lifelong learners.

A grade is:

- an evaluative measure that indicates what a student knows or demonstrates.
- reflective of multiple opportunities for student learning and growth.
- one method of providing feedback regarding student learning and growth.
- a tool to guide instruction, foster collaboration among staff, and form the basis for student interventions.