2026–2027 Board of Education Goals

Goal 1: Students First

The Board will ensure that students are the first consideration in decision-making and priority-setting. Through its committee work and governance responsibilities, the Board will maintain a strategic focus on decisions that directly impact and enhance the student experience across the district.

Objectives & Benchmarks:

1. The BOE Policy Committee, made up of Board and community members, will:
    1. Complete policy compliance updates in partnership with NYSSBA and rescind outdated or unnecessary policies.
    2. Identify and prioritize student-focused policies for review and revision.
    3. Work with the Superintendent to establish a clear process for policy implementation and communication throughout the district.
2. The BOE Finance Committee will:
    1. Monitor improvements in the district's financial management, forecasting, and reporting.
    2. Ensure financial reporting provides the Board with timely and understandable information to support decision-making.
    3. Evaluate significant financial decisions through the lens of their impact on students and educational programming.
3. The BOE Facilities Committee, made up of Board and community members, will:
    1. Work to ensure HCSD facilities are improved and maintained to provide safe, welcoming, and effective learning environments for all students.
    2. Receive and provide regular updates on capital improvement projects and internal maintenance.
    3. Help establish priorities for future facilities investments based on student needs, safety, instructional impact, and long-term district planning.

Goal 2: Fiscal Oversight and Budget Development

The Board will strengthen its oversight of district finances and the annual budget process to ensure decisions are timely, transparent, sustainable, and centered on student needs.

Objectives & Benchmarks:

1. Establish and follow a clear annual budget development timeline that gives the Board sufficient time to understand financial conditions, evaluate priorities, and consider alternatives before decisions are required.

2. Provide regular and earlier communication to the Board and community regarding the district's financial position, budget assumptions, projected challenges, and significant proposed changes.
3. Clearly connect budget priorities and significant spending decisions to district goals, student needs, and educational outcomes.
4. Improve the Board's understanding of multi-year financial trends, including enrollment, staffing, revenues, expenditures, fund balance, and other factors affecting the district's long-term financial health.
5. Ensure significant budget decisions and potential reductions are discussed early enough to allow for thoughtful consideration of their educational and community impact.

Goal 3: Superintendent Support and Accountability

The Board will establish a strong working relationship with the Superintendent in year one by providing clear expectations, consistent support, constructive feedback, and meaningful accountability.

Objectives & Benchmarks:

1. Establish clear, measurable Superintendent goals aligned with Board and district priorities.
2. Conduct a structured Superintendent evaluation process, including a mid-year review in December and an end-of-year evaluation in June, in accordance with district policy.
3. Work with the Superintendent to prioritize clear and consistent communication among the Board, administration, staff, families, and community.
4. Support the Superintendent in building a district culture grounded in trust, collaboration, accountability, and shared responsibility for student success.
5. Maintain regular opportunities for the Board and Superintendent to discuss progress toward goals, emerging challenges, and areas where additional Board support or direction may be needed.