Background

The original Long Range Strategic Plan for Bannockburn School District 106 was developed and adopted in 1998. It was updated in 2008, and again in 2016. Periodic reviews and amendments are required to update the plan in order to keep it relevant to the current needs of Bannockburn School District.

Bannockburn School District 106 was established in 1930 in Lake County, IL. Bannockburn School and its District office is a one building District. The District boundaries take in most of the Village of Bannockburn including Trinity International University, the easternmost section of Riverwoods, Del Mar Woods, unincorporated areas of West Deerfield and Vernon Townships, and the western edge of Highland Park. The small school setting offers a very personalized education for its diverse student population.

Today, Bannockburn School educates approximately 180 students in Kindergarten through Eighth Grade. Student achievement is exceptional on all state and national measures. In addition to customary regular and special education programs the school provides the following:

- K-8 Spanish instruction
- Algebra in 8th grade for most students
- Science taught in a laboratory setting beginning in first grade
- Mobile technological tools for all students across all curricular areas
- Opportunities to participate in band, orchestra, choir, interscholastic athletics, and a professionally directed school play.

On Saturday, October 24, 2015 a representative stakeholder group including board members, staff, parents, high school and village representation, and community members reviewed student focus group, technology survey, and other data. This representative group made recommendation to the Board of Education to set broad goal areas. As part of this process, the mission and belief statements were reviewed and reaffirmed.
Mission and Beliefs

The mission of Bannockburn School is to meet the cognitive, social and emotional needs of students living in a global society.

WE BELIEVE THAT . . .

• Our first priority is the best interests of the students.

• All children are of immeasurable worth and able to learn.

• A successful school creates a nurturing, safe and secure learning climate based on mutual respect, individual achievement and collaboration.

• A positive and enthusiastic environment allows children to thrive and grow intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically.

• A successful school maintains a high level of expectation and achievement through the mastery of basic and essential skills, while consistently evaluating its successes as well as areas for improvement.

• Involvement promotes responsibility and commitment.

• Effective education begins before a child enters school, is pursued through one’s school career and must continue beyond formal schooling.

• Children should learn respect for others, interpersonal skills, sound work habits, enabling them to function effectively in a variety of settings.

• The educational program should be directed toward preparing each child to be a contributor to the success of our local, national and global communities.
Instructional Program

Ensure high standards for every student by developing assessments, programs, and curricula.

1. Develop a student assessment, feedback, and reporting plan that measures community priorities including academics, social-emotional learning, and characteristics of successful learners (leadership, persistence, service to community).

2. Incorporate 21st Century learning skills into all curricular areas with an emphasis on our global society, flexible learning opportunities, and innovation.

3. Embed goal setting for both students and faculty to create individual learning plans.

4. Develop an on-going system of curriculum development that involves evaluation, reflection, and progressive thinking.

We will…

1. Continue to utilize our student assessment plan to drive instruction.

2. Research and implement an assessment that measures social emotional learning and characteristics of successful learners.

3. Utilize community service opportunities to foster leadership.

4. Research and implement innovative programs that incorporate 21st century learning skills, innovation and flexible learning opportunities.

5. Generate opportunities for students to gain new knowledge about global issues.

6. Create and implement a plan for student goal setting.

7. Develop and implement a five-year curriculum rotation plan which includes evaluation, reflection and progressive thinking.
Learning Environment

Create a culture of belonging, engagement, empowerment, and opportunity for students.

1. Develop training and opportunities for leadership and student engagement within the school and as part of the larger community.
2. Create a positive learning environment that allows for collaborative problem solving a safe and comfortable environment where social-emotional development is fostered, and children can become confident and independent.
3. Provide age-appropriate support for students during key transitions in their school experience (e.g. K to 1, 5th to 6th, and 8th to 9th).
4. Expand extra-curricular and co-curricular opportunities within Bannockburn School and/or partnering with other organizations/school districts.

We will...

1. Incorporate community outreach programs into Bannockburn Student Council activities.

2. Continue to expand upon our K-8 Developmental Guidance program.

3. Survey students and analyze results to respond to identified needs.

4. Develop and conduct an “Exit Survey” for outgoing 8th grade student to solicit their feedback about the school-learning environment.

5. Work with Deerfield High School to ensure a smooth transition both academically and socially from 8th grade to the high school.

3. Create and implement a plan for student goal setting.

4. Develop and implement a five-year curriculum rotation plan which includes evaluation, reflection and progressive thinking.
Technology

Utilize technology to support student learning, engagement and productivity.

1. Define a school district technology “road map” that aligns infrastructure, hardware, and software with the instructional program and supports the development of 21st century learners.

2. Develop an integrated technology plan that blends instructional needs with technology tools, provides explicit instruction in “digital citizenship”, and fosters a home-school connection.

3. Increase the technical skills and user comfort of students and staff, as well as parent skill in supporting their child’s use of technology.

We will…

1. Survey students and staff yearly to determine needs to address future technology plans.

2. Standardize school wide software application use.

3. Update wireless access for increased use of mobile technology

4. Reduce the dependency on server storage while increasing the use of cloud based services.

5. Provide ongoing education to our school community about internet and social media safety.

6. Provide staff development and parent instructional opportunities, which focus on Google Apps for Education.
Community

Establish Bannockburn School as a positive community focal point.

1. Develop tools to communicate with all District 106 residents, and become more visible through community-wide programs.

2. Engage students in meaningful community service activities that expose them to the world outside of Bannockburn

We will…

1. Research providers and update the District website.

2. Incorporate service learning throughout the curriculum.

3. Provide increased opportunities for parent interaction through programs and learning opportunities.