

DISTRICT COMMITMENTS AND FOCUSES FOR THE 2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR

What are the commitments and focuses of the school district for the current school year? The chart below provides parents with some of the key focuses. For more specific information, please contact Superintendent Kathy Meany or a member of the Board of Education.

The Board of Education and the administration of Menands School District are committed to...	Key Focuses of the Menands School District for 2008-2009
<p>The Board and the administration are committed to providing students with a high quality instructional program that is aligned with the New York State Standards, 21st century skills, and high school expectations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map and/or develop the K-8 curriculum in the following areas: science, health, computer literacy, Spanish • Evaluate current programming for students with disabilities, high ability and high achieving students, and students in need of Academic Intervention Services • Enhance the transition plan for new students, students moving to middle school, and students moving to Shaker High School
<p>The Board and the administration are committed to student safety and wellness and the development of respectful and responsible behaviors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update the School Safety Plan • Increase healthy choices on breakfast and lunch menus • Implement respect and responsibility lessons in grades 5-8
<p>The Board and the administration are committed to maintaining safe, attractive building and grounds and preserving the physical plant.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a five year capital facilities plan related to major repairs and necessary building improvements
<p>The Board and the Superintendent are fiscally responsible and are committed to providing a high quality educational program at a reasonable cost to the taxpayers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct an energy audit and expand upon recycling • Utilize opportunities for cost savings through consolidated purchasing, competitive bidding, and health insurance options
<p>The Board and the administration are committed to compliance with regulations of the State Education Department and the Office of the State Comptroller.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write the Board of Education policies to reflect changes in business practices following the Comptroller's audits
<p>The Board and the administration are committed to attracting, supporting, retaining, and maintaining high expectations for a highly qualified faculty and staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate a successor contract with the teachers' association • Develop a formal mentoring program for new teachers • Facilitate professional development in the areas of technology, curriculum mapping, science kits, teaching diverse learners
<p>The Board and the administration are committed to constructive, professional relationships among the Board, the administration, and the faculty and staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain communication protocols • Establish Board of Education policies on the orientation of new members and on BOE officer succession