



KIT CARSON SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1

102 W. 5TH AVE. PO BOX 185
KIT CARSON, COLORADO 80825

Priority #1

Student Growth

Provide both rigorous and proactive teaching of standards by using the elements of intentional design with a specific focus on helping students help themselves to achieve maximum growth.

WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY

Measures of student academic growth can give teachers a more nuanced understanding of student achievement that's useful for instruction. Academic growth happens for students even when they are below proficiency cuts. The teacher gets insight into the student's starting point and progress throughout the year so that he/she can adapt instruction accordingly. The student is encouraged and applauded for his/her achievements and given feedback on areas that remain challenging; and his/her future teachers understand his/her achievement and his/her starting point for new learning. With growth data, teachers and coordinators are able to better pinpoint whether specific instructional strategies and interventions hold promise and adjust over the course of the school year.

PRIORITY ACTION DETAILED

ACTION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME FOR BEGINNING, IMPLEMENTING & SUSTAINING ACTION
Testing - MAPS testing will be done in the fall, winter, and spring to diagnose growth and gaps	Superintendent, Tech. Coordinator, Classroom Teachers.	Begin: Fall 2014 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Interventions - Interventions will be administered for students needing extra support <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Colorado READ Act is a legislative priority that focuses on early literacy development for all students, especially for students at risk for not reading at grade level by the end of third grade. Specific funding is allocated to help students who are struggling the most. Kit Carson School District uses summer school, Read Live, 1 on 1 teaching, and many other components to enhance early literacy.RTI - Response to Intervention a prevention-based framework of team-driven data-based problem solving for improving the outcomes of every student through family,	Superintendent, Classroom Teachers SPED/GT/RTI Coordinators	Begin: Fall 2016 Ongoing: 2019-2020



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school, and community partnering and a layered continuum of evidence-based practices applied at the classroom, school, district, region, and state level. The Kit Carson School District has done in-services to develop techniques and interventions to help all students who are lagging behind their peers.

Goals - Students use growth goals to develop plan on how to attain their goals.	Superintendent, Classroom Teachers Students	Begin: Fall 2016 Ongoing: 2019-2020
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Planning - Intentional design leads to standards being taught at the correct time and correct grade levels.	Superintendent, Principal, Classroom Teachers	Begin: Fall 2016 Ongoing: 2019-2020
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PRIORITY #2

Establish SAFE and HEALTHY Learning Environments

- a. District facilities will be designed and maintained to prevent and protect students from physical harm.
- b. The culture of the district will promote emotional and social well-being of all students.

WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY

2a. The Kit Carson School District buildings are older facilities and require daily maintenance. The building received new windows, new water heaters, and one updated bathroom in 2016. A master facility plan will include attending to the needs discovered through a thorough diagnostic of the facilities to ensure the health of our students. Attention to both the physical structures and culture (the intellectual and moral ability) of our schools is essential to ensuring the health and success of our students.

2b. A positive culture within the district will be maintained and stressed. Preventative measures to address issues like bullying, suicide, and other risky adolescent behaviors are critical. Attention to both the physical environment and culture of our district is essential to ensuring the health and success of our students.

2a. PRIORITY ACTION DETAILED

ACTION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME FOR BEGINNING, IMPLEMENTING & SUSTAINING ACTION
Planning - Update the school with safety and health enhancements	Superintendent, Principal DAC (District Accountability Committee)	Begin Summer 2016 Ongoing: 2019-2020



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Legal - Refine and align district emergency operations plan to statutory requirements of SB 213-124	BOE (Board of Education) Superintendent, Principal	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Partnerships - Establish partnerships with law enforcement and emergency management to create safe spaces.	Superintendent, BOE Principal	Begin: Summer 2016 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Kit Carson receive the BEST grant in 2018 to construct a new building.	Superintendent, BOE, Principal, DAC (District Accountability Committee)	Begin: Spring 2019 End: Fall 2020

2b. PRIORITY ACTION DETAILED

ACTION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME FOR BEGINNING, IMPLEMENTING & SUSTAINING ACTION
Social - Preventative lessons to address social issues and risky behaviors.	Superintendent, Principal Classroom Teachers, DAC	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Partnerships - Partnerships with local and state agencies to provide guidance around bullying, suicide, and risky behaviors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received a planning Colorado Health Foundation grant to focus on whole child. Ethics and Health classes have been implemented. • Applied for an implementation Colorado Health Foundation Grant June 2019. 	Superintendent, Principal Counselor, Student Council	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020



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PRIORITY #3

Instruct with focus on THINKING STRATEGIES and FEEDBACK

Provide both rigorous and responsive instruction by using the elements of intentional design with a specific focus making student thinking visible and giving specific, meaningful, feedback in the learning process.

WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY

Research shows, ability and skills are not enough for students to reach potential. Students need to develop and be taught the **attitude** and **alertness to think deeply and to communicate thinking**. Thinking can be practiced. Teachers who attend to ways of asking students to demonstrate their **thinking visibly** find students who are more **engaged** and **responsible** for their learning as well as successful in **mastering content**. Paired with thinking strategies in promoting engagement and growth, is a teacher's intentional practice of **specific and timely feedback to students**. Students need much more than a final score; learners need to know what is expected, what success looks like, and what needs to be done next to move toward higher success. Feedback is the vehicle to do this. Instructional strategies address teaching strategies that focus on developing students' thinking and providing meaningful feedback. Prioritizing these two strategies will foster student **engagement, student ownership of their learning, and mastery**.

ACTION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME FOR BEGINNING, IMPLEMENTING & SUSTAINING ACTION
Logical & Sequential Thinking- putting a focus on the development of the problem solving and design process.	Superintendent, Classroom, Teachers	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Grading - Implement grading strategies that support feedback and growth mindset	Classroom Teachers	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Questioning - Use DOK (Depth of Knowledge) questioning techniques that are level 3 and 4	Classroom Teachers	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Grit & Resilience	Superintendent, Classroom Teachers	Begin: Fall 2019 Ongoing: 2019-2020



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PRIORITY #4

Build Professional and Community COLLABORATIVES

Establish and sustain systems for teachers and staff to strengthen delivery of instruction through on-going conversation and critique of practice and develop partnerships with the community.

WHY IS THIS A PRIORITY

Professional and Community Collaboratives are a necessary focus for the district. Based on teacher evaluations, Kit Carson School District teachers perform at high levels. The district has been successful in hiring and retaining qualified and powerful teachers. Written curriculum and assessments are being established to coordinate instruction. Through both **observation and teacher feedback data**, there is an awareness among staff of the state standards along with agreed upon instructional practices. Consistent and high levels of implementation of the agreed upon curriculum, assessments, and instructional practices are needed to elevate positive impacts for student success. Opportunities remain for strong connections between instruction and mindsets at all levels in the district. While partnerships between local health agencies, businesses, youth and family care non-profits, and law enforcement are in place, **informal feedback** indicates intentional efforts are needed to further establish these partnerships to promote student success.

PRIORITY ACTION DETAILED

ACTION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	TIME FRAME FOR BEGINNING, IMPLEMENTING & SUSTAINING ACTION
Elementary Collaboration - Share instruction and assessment between PK and K-5	PK-5 teachers with support of BOE and Superintendent	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Secondary Collaboration - Establish time for department and cross-department (SPED and general) planning	BOE, Superintendent	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Relationships - Establish relationships with the Kit Carson School District community by communication, vision, and being transparent with decisions.	BOE, Superintendent, Classroom Teachers, DAC (District Accountability Committee) and PAC (Preschool Accountability Committee)	Begin: Fall 2017 Ongoing: 2019-2020
Professional Development – Teachers will continue to actively seek and	BOE, Superintendent, Classroom Teachers	Begin: Fall 2016 Ongoing: 2019-2020



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participate in professional
development that leads to
student growth

Continue to grow and strengthen
our Career and Technical Education
Programs.

Classroom Teachers, AG
Advisory Board, Superintendent

Begin: Fall 2015
Ongoing: 2019-2020