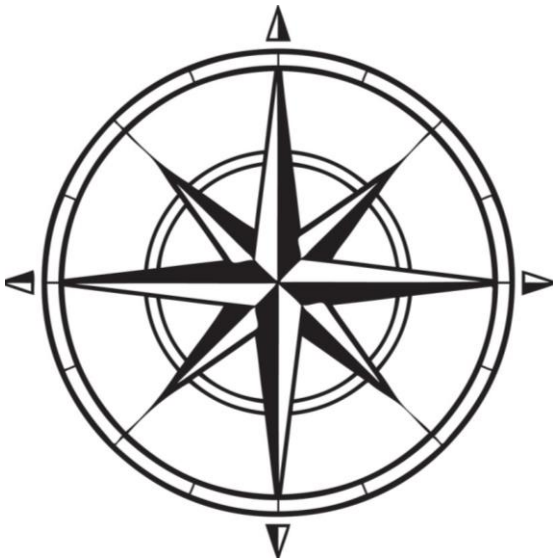


# Superintendent's Goals, Priorities, and Values

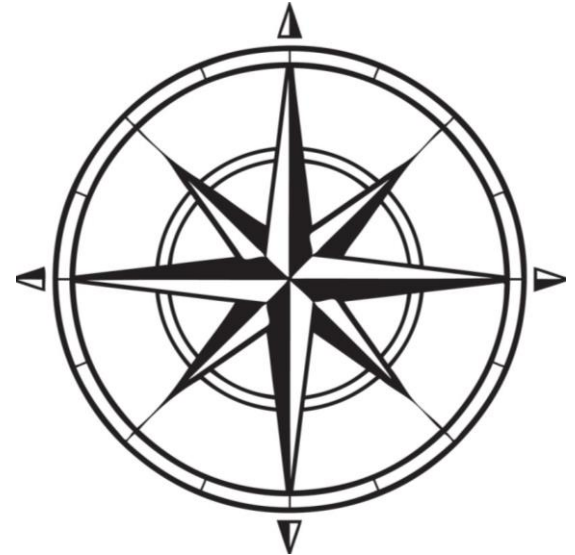
Sean McPhetridge, Ed.D.

August 11, 2015



# **Superintendent's Goals, Priorities, and Values**

- 1. STRENGTHEN ELD**
- 2. GROW ECE SERVICES**
- 3. REFOCUS ON EQUITY**
- 4. RENEW THE PARCEL TAX**
- 5. RESTORE AND RENEW CTE**
- 6. REAFFIRM SCIENCE AND BUILD STEAM**
- 7. REBUILD SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE FACILITIES**
- 8. EMPOWER PARENTS AND PARTNER WITH OTHERS**
- 9. ADAPT AND CHANGE TO 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CHALLENGES**
- 10. STAY FOCUSED ON AUSD'S VISION, MISSION, AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES**



# Superintendent's Goals, Priorities, and Values

1. Strengthen our focus on literacy and English Language Learner services
2. Prepare more students with increased early childhood education services
3. Focus on equity through ensuring opportunities for all Alameda students
4. Build public awareness to renew a parcel tax for existing AUSD programs
5. Restore Career Technical Education (CTE) to transform AUSD high schools
6. Build STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) in AUSD
7. Rebuild district facilities to adequacy to maximize resources for students
8. Maintain our focus on family engagement and community partnerships
9. Adapt to new conditions but stay focused on AUSD's vision and mission
10. Stay focused on our commitment to equity and excellence for all students

# 1. Strengthen English Language Development

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- Alameda as a community is enriched by its great diversity, and that includes its great language diversity. There are over 75 languages represented in AUSD schools, and as a district we must do our best to support English language learners (ELLs) as well as the literacy needs of all learners so all access rigorous curricula and achieve at high levels.
- This requires new efforts to create a coherent, systematic English Language Development program with district-wide agreements on how teacher professional development and student programs will operate consistently in all schools.
- AUSD has now allocated additional resources to address this systemic priority and create teacher-led PD services so all schools and students will have the tools to succeed.

## **2. Double Down on Early Childhood Education**

- Research tells us one of the best investments we make is in increased early childhood education (ECE) access.
- AUSD will soon be able to reclaim the former WCDC ECE site on Singleton Avenue, and instead of moving the current WCDC program back to that site, our hope is to “double down” on early childhood education by opening a second WCDC site for our neediest families.
- Meanwhile, we will also be able to continue to offer increased transitional kindergarten (TK) services to families over time. Thus, more Alameda students will be better prepared for school by investing in increased access to our ECE opportunities.

### 3. Focus on Equity & Increase Opportunities for All

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- We can debate what it means, how it works, why we need it, and on and on. But the simple truth is when a foster child, an English language learner, an immigrant, a child with different learning needs, or a child who comes to school hungry or hurting needs our help, we will be there to provide care and service and support. It's just the thing we do as educators.
- It's what the LCAP is about, it's what Alameda is about, and it's what I'm about. It's why we do what we do: to achieve AUSD's mission, we have to take care of all of our students.
- Our course ahead is one we chart with a renewed sense of hope and focus. AUSD must return our focus again and again to using an equity lens in decision making so AUSD continues to provide an excellent academic program for all students with extra resources for those in need.

## 4. Build Awareness and Renew a Parcel Tax

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- AUSD must partner closely with local businesses and city agencies to help us realize our mission, and we also must build awareness in our community so we can pass a new parcel tax when Measure A expires. Without it, AUSD loses close to 13% of its annual funding, demanding a loss of crucial services. The community must vote in years ahead on whether to help sustain AUSD's current level of educational resources.
- AUSD must make the case in months ahead to show the public what life with (and without) a parcel tax looks like and how its funding helps AUSD continue to provide great public schools for Alameda's families.
- Along with our LCAP engagement efforts, we have also convened a Community Advisory Group composed of representatives who advise AUSD in how to better collaborate with city partners, local businesses, realtors, non-profit organizations, and other stakeholders. I aim to provide accessibility to more stakeholders who want to learn together and partner with us to align interests and achieve our common goals.



## 5. Restore & Renew Career Technical Education

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- In the recession, AUSD decimated its CTE course offerings in programs we worked hard to build and strengthen. Now is the time to restore CTE to its rightful place as a key to increased graduation rates and as a meaningful, effective way to help students realize their dreams of college and career.
- The Career Pathways Trust consortium is our platform to help build new CTE pathways aligned with early college opportunities in growing industry sectors (e.g., Allied Health, Public Service, Advanced Manufacturing, and Information Technology & New Media). Plans are underway to double CTE offerings by rebuilding closed CTE programs at Encinal Jr./Sr. High.
- We must increase awareness in middle schools, restore CTE pathways in high schools, develop early college access with community colleges, and increase our existing efforts at partnering with local industry partners to create meaningful work-based learning experiences for AUSD students.
- This work is underway as a strategic priority. Numerous industry partners and public agencies are now offering work-based learning experiences.



## 6. Build STEAM in Alameda Unified School District

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- Science, technology, engineering, arts, math: we must strengthen in these areas to help our students thrive in a high tech economy.
- In this day and age, all schools should be science and technology institutes with increased opportunities for AUSD students to be challenged to more rigorous expectations using meaningful STEAM curricula and 21<sup>st</sup> century learning experiences to inspire them. And all AUSD high school students should now have early college access.
- AUSD must continue to focus on building in these STEAM areas (e.g., BaySci, ACOE arts integration training, etc.) to help teachers learn and collaborate so all students can find meaning, learn more deeply, and engage in inquiry across these different academic content areas.
- To build STEAM, we will deepen our professional development to implement the California Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) in AUSD schools.

## 7. Restore Our Facilities for Safe & Sustainable Use

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- Rebuilding an abandoned Historic Alameda High School to new state-of-the-art 21<sup>st</sup> century learning labs must be a priority for this community, and AUSD must also prioritize rebuilding and creating the same opportunities for all our other high schools too, including Encinal High School.
- We must create new classrooms where our campuses are overenrolled. We must plan for a lower cost solution for District Office. We must make all AUSD facilities safe and sustainable for all, whether schools or maintenance yard. All of us deserve safe places to learn, to live, and to work.
- We must finally reclaim and restore our assets for efficient use by next generations of families in the century ahead. We must be good stewards of our schools going forward.

## 8. Maintain Our Focus on Family Engagement

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- AUSD is acknowledged and awarded for our work to educate families in our PTA School Smarts Academies; indeed, we were the first district to implement this program in every one of our elementary schools, and AUSD is also a model for its translation of this program into several of our major languages spoken here.
- This work has been instrumental to our effective LCAP process.
- We need to maintain our focus on helping families partner with our schools and our district to help us better serve the children and young people we teach. We need engaged families to do it.
- We also need to focus new efforts in our Adult School to help older Alamedans learn English, get a diploma, and find their place at local colleges to get new AB 86 CTE training opportunities too.
- We need to maintain AUSD's focus on helping all of our families.

## 9. Grow & Adapt to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Challenges

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- AUSD was recently named as an LCAP Watch Partner by EdTrust West for our work to more closely involve families and other stakeholders in our Local Control and Accountability (LCAP) processes. And we need to keep up that good work in community engagement.
- AUSD needs to assess and take stock of our current technology use and our deployment ahead for our implementation of new assessments and also for our use in blended learning instruction before the tests. Great work remains to be done ahead for us to realize benefits of 21<sup>st</sup> century technology, whether that be in teaching and learning or to improve facilities use.

## 10. Focus on AUSD's Goals: Equity & Excellence

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- We need to continue to make decisions that are guided by a vision of schools where all children are provided the resources and support so they can achieve at high levels. Currently we are experiencing a shift in best practices to follow recommendations by federal and state actors.
- Sometimes these shifts require us to change practices, resource allocations, and organizational structures to best serve all of our students. There is great opportunity!
- We will need to keep learning, keep talking, and keep our focus on AUSD's vision of safe and inclusive schools where each and every child can achieve and succeed.
- We must now continue training teachers in RTI, PBIS, systematic ELD, and other student-centered methods and practices if we are to achieve our district vision of keeping kids engaged in safe and supportive schools.

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