# SALAMANCA CITY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

2020-2025 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

## WELCOME TO SALAMANCA CITY CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT!

We have experienced a renaissance of growth over the past five years, and I am excited to share our plan to guarantee another five years of innovation and academic excellence. We will take advantage of the momentum we've built by increasing graduation rates and expanding students' extracurricular opportunities to provide the best education any district can offer in the Western New York region.

To do this, we will need the active engagement and commitment from our students, educators, families, administrators, alumni, and other community members. Together, we will reach our goals, and overcome and learn from every challenge.

Robert J. Breidenstein, Superintendent



Artwork by Kaihalla George, Class of 2020



## WHAT IS A JOURNEY OF A WARRIOR?

The Journey of a Warrior represents the skills and mindsets we believe will prepare every student to be active contributors to the Salamanca community and beyond.

#### **OUR TEAM**

Salamanca's 5-year Strategic Direction is the result of district stakeholders, including district leaders, principals, teachers, members of the Seneca Nation, students, instructional coaches, school board members, and other community members coming together to determine a path for success.

#### LEARN MORE

For more information about our programs please visit www.salamancany.org.

#### **OUR PROCESS**

Beginning in December of 2019, our team began engaging community members in the process of identifying common themes that influence our strategic direction. To accomplish this, we conducted 25 focus group interviews (each with participants of 4 or more) which included students, teachers, staff, parents, quardians, alumni, and more. Additionally, to further our quest for input, we sent out surveys to teachers, staff, and families. We were pleased to receive responses from 322 participants. Overall, we've held more than a dozen planning meetings and seven workshops to seek these perspectives and to determine our Strategic Direction. We thank everyone that participated in this journey and look forward to meeting the high standards we've set for ourselves.



## BOARD OF EDUCATION INVOLVEMENT

The district's board of education serves as an advocate for educational interests of children, establishes policies, sets goals and objectives, and more. The board's seven elected members, the district superintendent, district clerk, and district administration meet twice a month.

## DISTRICT BUDGET AND TAXES

A \$42,418,500 budget was approved for 2019-20. The proposed 2020-2021 budget of \$43,537,292 has been approved. The District has not raised the tax levy since 2011 and has reduced the tax burden on the community by 91.7% since 2012.

#### **OUR PARTNERS**

Thank you to our partners including our students, parents, staff, the Seneca Nation, and the City of Salamanca for their continued support.



## WARRIOR PRIDE GENERAL DISTRICT INFORMATION<sup>1</sup>

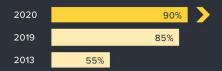


<sup>1</sup>Total district student enrollment as of June 1, 2020

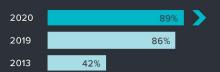
<sup>2</sup>CTE-enrolled refers to Career and Technical Education

## GRADUATION RATES AND OTHER SUCCESSES

We have increased graduation rates by 35% since 2013 for all students.



75% of our graduates pursue postsecondary higher education. Salamanca City Central School District is a Federally Impacted Indian Land district. The percentage of students earning We have increased graduation rates by 47% since 2013 for Native students.



Advanced Regents diplomas has risen in recent years. Students in grades 3-8 have achieved success and progress on state administered assessments (ELA, math and science).

#### **OUR VISION**

## RAISING RESILIENT AND COMPASSIONATE WARRIORS.

#### **OUR MISSION**

Maximizing the potential of every warrior by fostering strong relationships, embracing diversity, and providing opportunities for exploration and inquiry.

#### **OUR VALUES**

## COLLABORATION & COMMUNICATION

We value clear and consistent communication with community members and responding to your concerns.

## > UNIQUE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

We value providing an extensive variety of experiences for the larger Salamanca community.

## > COMMUNITY DRIVEN

We value developing positive relationships through respectful and compassionate interactions, in each classroom and throughout our community.

## > CELEBRATING SALAMANCA'S CULTURE

We value our community's diversity and embrace the qualities that bring us together.

#### SKILLS AND MINDSETS

### **JOURNEY OF THE WARRIOR**



RESPONSIBILITY

INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

**CRITICAL THINKING** 



#### RESPECT

Understand and practice mutual respect, remain calm when experiencing difficulty, and be confident to ask for help.



#### LITERACY

Enjoy reading, learn how to use strategies to better understand text, and explore different genres.



#### LIFE SKILLS

Demonstrate an awareness of how to maintain overall health and personal safety including nutrition, physical activity, and hygiene.



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Be aware of and take ownership of their choices, their roles, and their responsibilities.



#### INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Express themselves using their words, listen to others, and communicate their needs appropriately.



#### **CRITICAL THINKING**

Identify a problem, propose possible solutions, and understand where to go for help when needed.









#### RESPECT

Demonstrate empathy, appreciate boundaries, and possess the vocabulary to express their emotional needs.



#### RESPONSIBILITY

Act honestly and demonstrate care for the interests of the larger community and for greater good.

#### LITERACY

Shift from learning to read, to reading to learn, and demonstrate the ability to incorporate literary skills to communicate more effectively.



#### INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Take part in class discussions, advocate for a position using facts and data to support opinions, and work with others to create solutions.

#### LIFE SKILLS

Demonstrate an awareness of personal safety, ageappropriate choices, health and nutrition, and become engaged in positive and enriching activities.



#### CRITICAL THINKING

Apply clear, open-minded, and informed thinking to craft multiple solutions, make a model, and test it when presented with a problem (engineering design process).



Above are the skills we expect our middle school Warriors to leave Seneca Intermediate with as they get ready to enter the next stage in their education journey.





#### RESPECT

Understand and appreciate racial, gender, and ethnic diversity, and cultural power dynamics.



Read to learn and read for enjoyment, and use texts to make inferences, draw conclusions, and analyze, synthesize, and evaluate ideas.

#### LIFE SKILLS

Manage their own money, time and physical health, and demonstrate an understanding of ethics and personal safety.





#### RESPONSIBILITY

Exercise thoughtful decisionmaking, prioritization, and self-reflection to own the outcomes, whether positive or negative.

#### INTERPERSONAL SKILLS

Resolve differences through collaboration, present and evaluate facts and opinions, as well as, defend a position (verbally/written).

#### CRITICAL THINKING

Propose and refine solutions and explain the potential impact of each proposed solution.



## ACADEMIC AND OTHER EXTRACURRICULAR OFFERINGS

District students enjoy the opportunity to participate in many extracurricular activities. Options include student council, student government, honor societies, the Extended Day Enrichment Program (EDEP), athletics, robotics, Drama Club, Key Club, Archery Club, International Club, Ski Club, and other ventures.

#### STEAM

The district's internationally award-winning program provides all students (PK-12) an opportunity to explore how science, technology, engineering, arts and math impact our world. STEAM is fully integrated into all facets of programming to create 21st century learners.

#### **NATIVE STUDENT SUPPORT**

In collaboration with the Seneca Nation, the district provides additional tutoring, counseling, and family support for Native American students in all grade levels.

#### LITERACY

A fully integrated literacy program surrounds and supports our instructional program. Students create written text, are exposed to a multitude of multicultural genres and develop the ability to read, write and speak with purpose.

#### **FINE ARTS & MUSIC**

The district offers a robust music, fine arts and theater program for students including band, choral, performance and ensemble performances. The fine arts curriculum concludes annually with a district-wide art show and all-band concert.

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION OFFERINGS

The school district oversees a community education program available to all ages. Course offerings include open swim, fitness, art, gardening, auto repair, health, technology, drones, and more (usually 5-6-week courses with minimal participation costs).

