

Teaching for 2027



***Strategic Plan for
Peru Elementary
School District 124***

Our Mission

Preparing our students to learn, grow and reach their greatest potential.

Our Beliefs and Values

Children are why we are here, and their education, safety and well-being must always come first.

There is no replacement for high expectations, and we must expect and support our students to achieve to the best of their individual ability.

All children can learn – even if not at the same pace or in the same way – and show constant growth.

Reading, literacy and mathematics are the foundations of learning, academic excellence and access to higher education and success.

Effective education is a partnership among schools, parents, families and our local community.

Fiscal responsibility is critical to ensuring that we continue to provide our students with the highest quality educational programs and instruction.

About Teaching for 2027

Every highly effective organization has a plan for continuous growth and success, and schools should be no different. Our latest in a series of three-year strategic plans was developed with clear, focused goals and strategies that can be easily reviewed and measured. Progress will be reviewed semi-annually.

This Strategic Plan was developed by the Board of Education with input from staff through Climate Surveys and Administrative staff. At any time, we welcome and encourage the input and involvement of our parents, businesses, taxpayers and community members.

This plan was adopted by the Peru Elementary School District 124 Board of Education on May 15, 2024.

Teaching for 2027 Goals

During the development of Teaching for 2027, five critical areas emerged. These critical areas are exploring additional curricular options for students, address district facility needs, manage financial resources, enhance community partnerships and communication, and monitor and improve district culture and climate.

Arising from these critical areas are five main goals, with implementation strategies under each of the four goals. As Teaching for 2027 is implemented, more specific timelines will be developed. Progress will be reviewed at least semi-annually to determine the level of success in achieving these goals and moving the District forward.

Goal 1
Explore Additional Curricular Options for Students.

Goal 2
Address District Facility Needs.

Goal 3
Manage Financial Resources, Maintain Fiscal Integrity and Transparency, and Plan for Long-Term Budgetary Needs.

Goal 4
Enhance Community Partnerships and Communication.

Goal 5
Monitor and Improve District Culture and Climate.

Goal 1
Explore Additional Curricular Options for Students.
To increase student exposure to possible Careers, Foreign Languages, and CTE Courses.

Strategy 1.1
The Superintendent and Administrative Team will work with the Illinois State Board of Education to develop the district English Language Learner Program.

Strategy 1.2
The Parkside Building Principal and Building Leadership Team will develop a Committee to consider how to integrate Career Exposure and Career Exploration into the curriculum.

Strategy 1.3
The Parkside Building Principal and Building Leadership Team will research and recommend the feasibility of adding Foreign Language as an option in the district curriculum.

Goal 2

Address District Facility Needs

Adequate school facilities are critical to the safety of students and staff, access to the best possible programs and learning opportunities for students, as well as the long-term health of a growing community.

Strategy 2.1

The Board of Education will review all possible options for creating additional classroom space at Northview School.

Strategy 2.2

The Finance Committee will review and recommend financing options for identified expansion options and facility needs.

Strategy 2.3

The Superintendent and Building and Grounds Committee will continue to review, update, and implement the 5-Year Facilities Plan.

Goal 3

Manage Financial Resources, Maintain Fiscal Integrity and Transparency, and Plan for Long-Term Budgetary Needs.

Healthy Finances have a major impact on the district's ability to provide essential educational programs and services to students as well as attract and retain a high-quality faculty and staff.

Strategy 3.1

The Superintendent and Finance Committee will determine and make recommendations for the best and most efficient utilization of local tax revenues, and the Superintendent will annually provide a report and detailed history regarding local tax levy and extension.

Strategy 3.2

The Superintendent will monitor and periodically report on district programs and personnel needs so that staff is being utilized in the most efficient and feasible manner.

Strategy 3.3

The Superintendent will communicate with legislators and advocate to eliminate unfunded mandates.

Strategy 3.4

The Superintendent will make recommendations to provide the technology and infrastructure necessary to improve efficiencies and effectiveness

Goal 4

Enhance Community Partnerships and Communication

To create collaboration opportunities with local businesses, and organizations and to explore shared services opportunities with neighboring school districts and Illinois Valley Community College.

Strategy 4.1

The Administrative Staff and Building Leadership Teams will seek to expand partnerships with Community Organizations to enrich educational offerings and provide career exposure.

Strategy 4.2

The Superintendent and Administration will seek opportunities to further develop Collaboration and shared services opportunities with area districts.

Strategy 4.3

The superintendent and Administration will explore and implement new strategies to communicate with and engage with all community members.

Goal 5

Monitor and Improve District Culture and Climate

A strong culture promotes trust, innovation, and collaboration. It fosters a positive climate leading to increased productivity, improved employees' health and wellness, increased job satisfaction, and ultimately improved student performance.

Strategy 5.1

The district will employ a Behavioral Specialist to work primarily at Northview Elementary assisting with function-based intervention planning for developing behavior change strategies that focus on reducing problem behavior and increasing more appropriate behavior.

Strategy 5.2

The district will employ an additional special education teacher at Northview Elementary due to increased demand and needed support.

Strategy 5.3

The Administration will monitor the impact of a Behavioral Specialist and additional Special Education teacher and make other related service recommendations if necessary.

Strategy 5.4

The Administrative Team will work with Building Leadership Teams to identify strategies for maintaining high teacher morale and job satisfaction. The Superintendent will advise the Board of Education quarterly of the status of progress.

