

Why do students set goals?

At the beginning of the school year, each student meets with his/her teacher and identifies areas that the student and teacher(s) believe need to be worked on and improved. These goals include academic areas, such as reading, writing, math skills, as well as additional subject areas that the student may find challenging. Goals may also include social and behavioral areas, if the student has identified needs in these.

Each student is to define at least two goals to receive focus, so that over the course of time, the student is able to report to the teacher(s) and to the parents their progress towards their goals.

Students keep records of these areas through student portfolios. For students in the Middle School and High School, they may wish to share their documentation through their computers- in other words, through an electronic portfolio.

Students also record their assessment growth. The district uses multiple measures to assess; however, the MAP test (Measures of Academic Progress) and the Iowa Assessment are two different measures that are given each year. MAP is given three times a year (fall, winter, spring) to see growth over time. The Iowa Assessment is given once a year and shows growth from one year to the next. Students are to record their personal results on each assessment and recognize areas where they are improving and those areas that need more improvement.

Students share the information with parents at Student Led/Student Involved conference twice each year. This occurs in the fall and again in the spring.