

# YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

Five-Year Strategic Plan  
Results for 2016-2021

“An investment  
in knowledge  
pays the  
best interest.”

—BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



## OUR GOALS

The Auburn-Washburn USD 437 Strategic Plan for 2016-2021 focused on two student-centered goals:

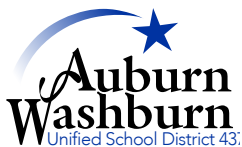
### 1) ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

### 2) LIFE SKILLS AND CAREER READINESS

Four strategies to achieve the goals:

- 1) Attract, retain and develop outstanding staff
- 2) Manage our resources effectively
- 3) Maintain safe and efficient facilities
- 4) Engage our community

Our students, parents, staff and patrons have all contributed to the enormous success over the past five years. This report is a broad view of the results of these years of focused effort.



*Inspiring, Challenging, and Preparing*

EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY

# OUR GOALS

## 1) ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Auburn-Washburn students outperformed in all categories at all grade levels as compared to students **statewide** and **nationally**.

### State Assessments

Average for Grades 3-8

#### Math

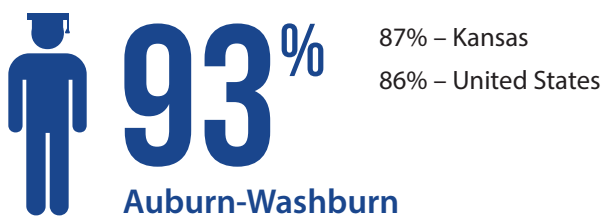


#### Reading



### Graduation Rates

Graduation rates 5-year average 2016-2020:



## 2) LIFE SKILLS AND CAREER READINESS

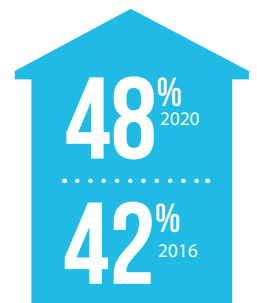
### Average ACT Scores



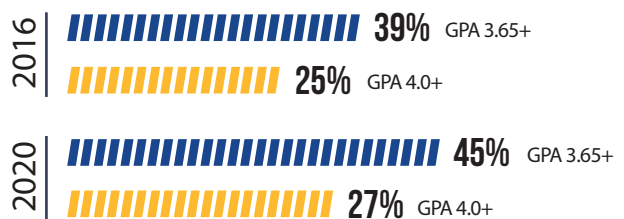
### Graduating Above & Beyond for College and Career

Increased number of students who had any of the following:

- 12 or more college credit hours
- 12 or more hours of AP/IB credit
- Earned a Career or Tech Ed credential
- Performed military service



### Average Senior GPAs Increased



Implemented a proven multi-tiered program to support students at all grade levels to meet social-emotional needs.

### Social and Emotional Wellness

Focused expansion of resources to support our students' social emotional wellness to promote their Skills for Success:

- School Based Mental Health Teams in every building.
- Individual Plans of Study to align student strengths and interests to goals.
- Sources of Strength, Make a Difference Club & Circle of Friends are a few examples of student leadership groups that foster connectedness.
- Partnership with Family Service and Guidance to provide access to community mental health services.

# OUR STRATEGIES

The success of our students and our school community directly impacts the growth and vitality of all who live and work within district boundaries.

## 1) Attract, retain and develop outstanding staff

- 2 Teacher of the Year Regional Finalists, 6 Master Teachers, and 4 Horizon Award Winners.
- Kevin Bordewick named the National Girls Volleyball Coach of the Year.
- Jim Haug earned the State of Kansas Grand Champion Bus Driver Award and placed 19th nationally.
- Forbes ranked Auburn-Washburn as America's Best-in-State to work.



## 2) Manage our resources effectively

- Decreased the Mill Levy Rate from 54.52 in 2016 to 50.00 in 2020.

54.52

2016

50.00

2020

## 3) Maintain safe and efficient facilities

# \$4.8M

**Cost Avoidance Savings**

Achieved \$4,885,943 in cost avoidance savings since committing to an Energy Conservation Program.

- 30.5% of energy costs avoided
- Avoided 22,482 metric tons of CO2 emissions (equivalent to planting 575,473 trees or removing 4,684 cars from the roads each year)



Implemented equipment and best practices to improve indoor air quality that now exceeds ASHRAE Standards (American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers).

## 4) Engage our community

We respond to approximately 2,000 inquiries on a variety of issues from the community and our staff. Annually the district publishes a Points of Pride document to share progress with all Auburn- Washburn residents.

**We seek feedback and input.**

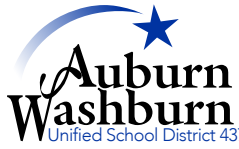
Our 2021-2026 Strategic Plan is built on the input our community from:

- 30 stakeholder group meetings
- Input from students, staff, parents, business and community leaders, Board of Regents and Kansas State Department of Education
- 500 in-person surveys
- 350+ online surveys

Thank you to all who have participated in the past.



# CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT



Shuler Education Center  
5928 SW 53rd Street  
Topeka, KS 66610-9451  
www.usd437.net

Our work is ongoing. Your input will be needed in the near future as plans for the next five years take shape. Please check our website and follow us on Facebook so you always have the latest information.

Auburn-Washburn Registration for 2021-2022 is now open. Visit [usd437.net](http://usd437.net).



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## MAKING STRIDES 2016-2021: 5-year report

### Numerous State and National High School Awards

- National Performing Arts School of Excellence.
- National Debate Championship with the WRHS team of Jake Berry and Jimin Park meeting the WRHS team of Grace Kessler and Raina Peter in the championship round.
- 25 WRHS students earned individual 6A State Titles and 13 WRHS teams earned 6A State Titles in KSHSAA sponsored athletics and activities.
- Niche.org Top 10 Kansas school district.
- ESPN's Unified Sports Top 34 List of the best programs in the nation.
- 18 National Merit Finalists (Top 1% Nationwide), 36 National Merit Commended Scholars (Top 5% Nationwide), 3 Hispanic Scholars, and 12 Presidential Scholars.
- #1 high school in Topeka area, #21 in Kansas as ranked by US News & World Report.

