

## 2016-2017 Annual Report



**Seward Public Schools**  
**Every Student-Every Day-A Success**

### Message from Dr. Fields

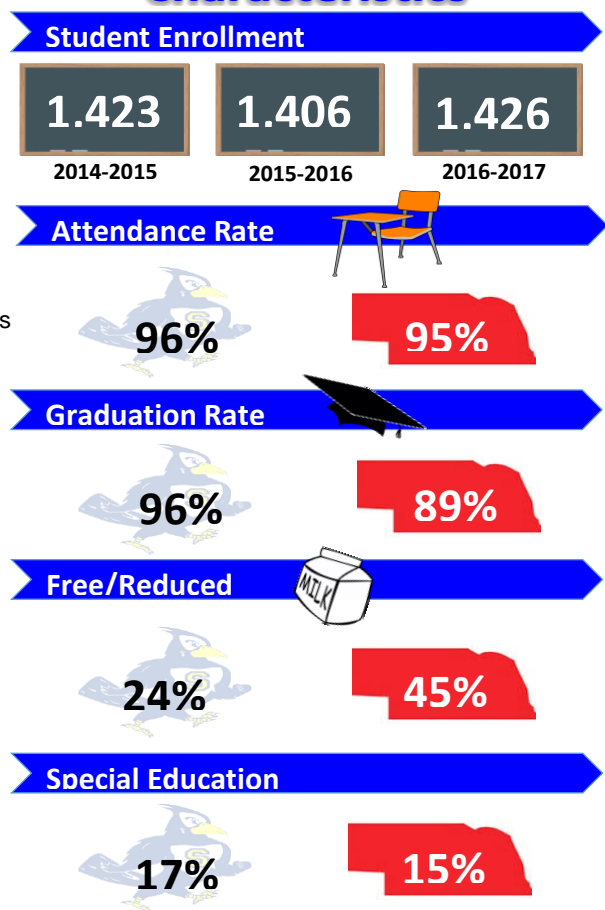
Thank you for taking the time to review our Annual Report for the 2016-2017 academic year. Seward is proud to be a destination school district serving over 1,400 students PK-12th grade. We are very proud of the many accomplishments our students have achieved during the 2016-2017 school year. Dedicated staff, strong parent support, and community outreach has allowed Seward Public Schools to continue its tradition of excellence.

Our District Strategic Plan is in year four of the five-year plan. Our main focus this year has been the implementation of the Marzano Instructional Model and the development of a Teacher Evaluation System that matches this Instructional Model. The specific focus on our district and site plans takes Seward Public Schools to the next level year after year. We believe that if we aren't continuously improving, we are falling behind. This growth mindset has allowed the district to meet the needs of our students and be progressive in developing district-wide systems such as Professional Learning Communities, Curriculum Development, Early Childhood Programs, and Career Academies to name a few.

Through this report one will see that progress has been made in terms of state testing results, yet, that isn't the only measure used to determine success. We also use graduation rate, college going rate, course offerings, and survey data. We also want students to experience fine arts, vocational programs, technology, sports, speech, drama, and so forth. We want Seward High School graduates to be well-rounded, critical-thinking, hardworking people.

Those interested in knowing more information about our school district may review our district profile at <https://goo.gl/7F6Deo>. More information is also available on our district website at [www.sewardpublicschools.org](http://www.sewardpublicschools.org).

## Characteristics



Visit us on  [www.sewardpublicschools.org](http://www.sewardpublicschools.org)

 Seward Public Schools

 @SewardBlueJays



**Strategic Goal No. 1: We will develop plans to engage students, staff, family and community.**

- 40,000 visits/month on our district websites.
- 2,082 Facebook Likes.
- 776 Twitter Followers.
- 4th year of 9-12 grade iPad one to one initiative.
- 84% of our parents from the 2016 parent survey gave Seward Public Schools an A or B rating.

**Strategic Goal No. 2: We will establish and implement plans to model and develop positive character, citizenship, and leadership skills for all students.**

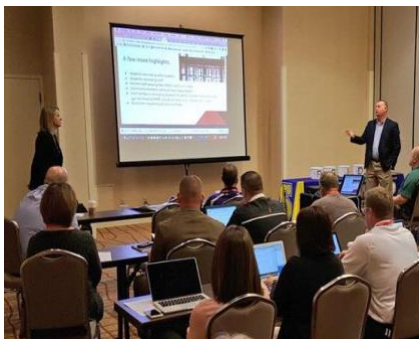
- Implementation of Building Wide Character Building Programs at each level.
- Development of the PRIDE Program at the High School to highlight positive character and behavior. (Featured on 10/11)
- Development of Service Learning Opportunities at our elementary, middle, and high schools.

**Strategic Goal No. 3: We will develop and implement consistent district wide processes for instructional decisions.**

- Professional Learning Communities in year five of utilization.
- New Math Curriculum adopted as part of ongoing seven year curriculum adoption cycle.
- Transition Programs for students as they enter the elementary school, transition to the middle school, and start ninth grade.
- New District Instructional Model adopted.

**Strategic Goal No. 4: We will develop and support the implementation of academic programs and curriculum that drive each student to reach his or her full potential.**

- Nearly 85% of our 2016 graduating seniors attended college after high school and an additional 8% entered the armed services.
- Five-year plan for all high school students.
- District-wide College Week practiced in each building.
- Best practices in the area of differentiation were researched and implemented.
- 97 students completed a college level course in the 2016-2017 school year.
- Professional development related to Higher Order Thinking Questions for HS and MS staff was provided.



Tax dollars are a very important resource for school districts and their efforts to educate children. Nebraska schools receive taxes and other receipts from local, county, state, and federal sources. The great majority of the dollars used to fund education in our district are generated by local tax dollars.

This link, <http://www.sewardpublicschools.org/pages/1617BudgetAnnualReport.pdf> provides a great deal of information relative to the 2016-2017 budget. Please feel free to call or make an appointment with Dr. Fields to discuss this information in more detail.

**Thank you for your support of the School District of Seward!**