

# Central School

## Strategic Plan 2024-2025

Simsbury Public Schools  
Simsbury, Connecticut

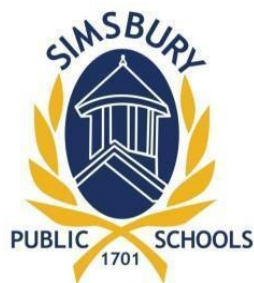
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## **Introduction and Purpose of our School Strategic Plan**

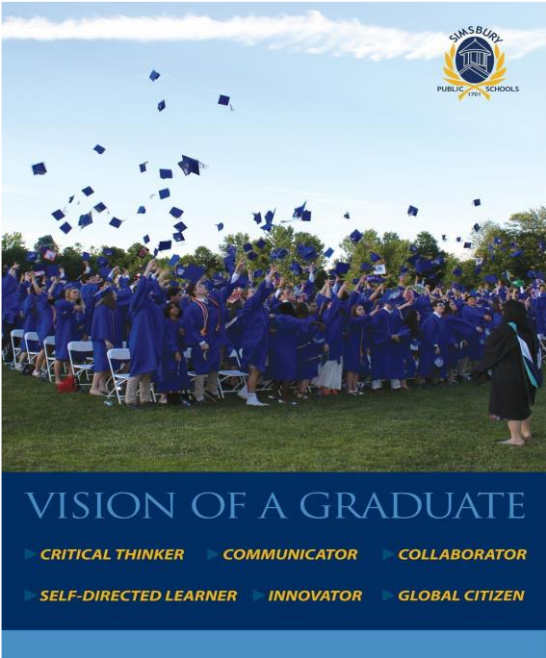
This document presents Central School's Strategic Plan - an action plan inclusive of Simsbury Public Schools' strategic goals, Vision of a Graduate, information about Central School, and school improvement indicators for the 2024-2025 school year. The goals and benchmarks set forth in this school's strategic plan were established following an analysis of state and district student performance data. In addition, the goals are aligned with the [Simsbury Public Schools Strategic Plan](#). Throughout the year, teachers will work in collaborative teams to assess student achievement with multiple indicators, monitor student progress, and adjust/refine instructional practices accordingly. Professional development will be ongoing at the district and building levels to further support our improvement. In the Summer of 2025, a concluding analysis of our progress toward these goals will be documented in the Annual Report.

Warm regards,  
Beth Hennessy Principal, Central School  
Simsbury, Connecticut

## Information about Central School

Central School is a mid-sized, community-based school. Built in 1913 and enrolled on the National Register of Historic Places, Central is the oldest school in Simsbury. Renovation and new construction took place in 1997. We concluded the year-long 100th Anniversary of Central School in June, 2013 with many events that recognized the deep history of the school and community. Our shared memories will carry us through for the next 100 years at Central School. The theme at Central School is *Learning the Ropes for the Voyage of Life* – reflecting our belief in meeting the needs of the whole child. The faculty is committed to a rigorous instructional program that fosters and enhances the development of a community of learners within which students learn to set and achieve high standards. As stated in the Vision Statement, the staff and parent community believe in the “whole child” and reinforce the six Themes of Character on a daily basis, as well as through the “Central Sails” Character Education Program. Central School is a close and connected neighborhood school. It has a reputation for being a caring community with a focus on the whole child. Success and effort are celebrated at Central School as our children work to meet standards and gain proficiency in areas outlined in the benchmarks for literacy, mathematics, and in content areas. Additionally, our strong home/school partnership has always been a cornerstone for the success of our learners, highlighting one of Simsbury’s Core Beliefs: “We believe that family and community partnerships enhance and enrich the learning experiences for all students and staff.” Our school’s Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) and our many community volunteers exemplify this core belief and are invaluable to our school’s strong culture and ongoing student achievement. Central School embraces a diverse population both culturally and socio-economically. For over forty years, Central School has augmented its student population through the Open Choice program which invites urban students from diverse backgrounds to attend our school. We look forward to the continued enrichment of cultural and intellectual exchange this coming year. As a result of the cooperative efforts and collective talents of a dedicated faculty and staff, involved parents and families, and students, Central School is an accomplished school that provides a caring and supportive climate that nurtures the whole child.

**Simsbury Public Schools ~ Vision of a Graduate**





### Critical Thinker

- Engage in problem solving, inquiry, and reflective thinking
- Develop compelling questions
- Analyze information to consider varied perspectives
- Evaluate information to reason and solve problems



### Collaborator

- Perform a variety of roles and responsibilities
- Function interdependently and flexibly with others
- Seek and contribute feedback
- Embrace contradictions and divergent ideas to accomplish a common goal



### Innovator

- Empower creativity and develop skills
- Use a variety of techniques as part of a process to enhance outcomes
- View failure as an opportunity to learn, persevere, and show flexibility
- Challenge the status quo, push boundaries, and achieve growth



### Communicator

- Listen actively
- Lift conversations by asking and responding to questions
- Deliver clear, concise, accurate ideas through spoken and written language
- Demonstrate an awareness of audience by adjusting purposefully



### Self-Directed Learner

- Take initiative and responsibility for learning and productivity
- Use "experts" and other resources to pursue goals
- Demonstrate resilience, optimism, and perseverance
- Accomplish tasks through self-advocacy, self-confidence, and a growth mindset



### Global Citizen

- Exemplify empathy, compassion, and respect in interactions with others
- Consider diverse perspectives and cultures
- Act responsibly and ethically
- Recognize impact of actions and civic decisions

## Simsbury Public Schools Strategic Plan Goals 2019-2024

**Student Growth and Success:** Simsbury Public Schools will engage all students in rigorous, dynamic, and relevant learning experiences, in alignment to the Simsbury Vision of the Graduate, in order to ensure student growth and achievement.

**Compassionate and Connected School Culture:** Simsbury Public Schools will engage our students and adults in an inclusive, responsive, and safe environment that fosters the development of empathetic, ethical, and resilient community members.

**Premier Workforce:** Simsbury Public Schools will hire, invest in, and retain passionate and exceptional staff who will contribute to a challenging, innovative, and collaborative culture defined by continuous improvement.

**Sustainable and Strategic Investments:** Simsbury Public Schools will identify and advocate for the needs of our school communities in innovative ways to support the success

and growth of all students, ensure fiscal responsibility, and the long-term stability of the district.

**Board of Education  
Adopted June 11, 2019**

*“If you go to work on your goals, your goals will go to work on you. If you go to work on your plan, your plan will go to work on you.  
Whatever good things we build end up building us.”*  
~ Jim Rohn

<b>Goal 1: Student Growth and Success</b>
<i>Simsbury Public Schools will engage all students in rigorous, dynamic, and relevant learning experiences, in alignment to the Simsbury Vision of the Graduate, in order to ensure student growth and achievement.</i>
<b>Central School’s Strategic Action Steps</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Use Professional Learning Community meetings to identify students' response to instruction and to monitor growth and achievement relative to grade level standards.</li> <li>● Utilize coaches to deliver professional development, provide student centered coaching, and monitor growth and achievement across all tiers of instruction.</li> <li>● Increase professional learning around tiered instruction and refine instructional practices and collaboration to improve student achievement.</li> <li>● The math coach will support the implementation of the new math programs–Think! Math and Developing Roots.</li> </ul>
<b>Performance Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Smarter Balanced Assessment Math and ELA grades 3-6 aggregate performance</li> <li>● Next Generation Science Assessment (Grade 5)</li> </ul>

**SMART Goals: (Specific/Measurable/Aggressive yet Achievable/Relevant/Time-Bound)**

<b>Mathematics Expectations by June</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By June of 2025, 80% of students in grades 3-6 will meet or exceed the SBA Math benchmark.</li> </ul>
<b>ELA Expectations by June</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By June of 2025, 83 % of students in grades 3-6 will meet or exceed the SBA ELA benchmark.</li> </ul>
<b>NGSS Expectations by June</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By June of 2025, 80 % of students in grades 5 will meet or exceed the Next Generation Science benchmark.</li> </ul>

<b>Goal 2: Compassionate &amp; Connected School Culture</b>
<p><i>Simsbury Public Schools will engage our students and adults in an inclusive, responsive, and safe environment that fosters the development of empathetic, ethical, and resilient community members.</i></p>
<b>Strategic Action Steps</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reinforce and celebrate themes of good character through the <i>Central Sails</i> Character Education program.</li> <li>Monitor the implementation of the K-12 SEL program, Everyday Speech.</li> <li>Continue to use school resources to support students’ behavioral needs.</li> <li>Utilize the Character Education and Leadership Team to identify professional development opportunities for staff and programming/celebrations for students.</li> <li>Continue leadership practices to engage the school community and increase a sense of belonging</li> </ul>
<b>Performance Indicators</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey results - Parent and student</li> <li>Completion of action steps and outcomes as noted in the strategic plan</li> <li>Positive behavioral recognition and Better Choice Slips</li> </ul>

**SMART Goals: (Specific/Measurable/Aggressive yet Achievable/Relevant/Time-Bound)**



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● By July 2025, analyze performance indicator data for trends, celebrations, concerns and next steps</li><li>● Greater than 90% of students will receive school-based positive behavioral recognition</li><li>● Fewer than 10% of students at the elementary level will not have required a Tier 2* behavior intervention</li></ul>

\*Tier 2 behavior intervention at the elementary level is defined by either an action/consequence taken by administrator and/or referral to the SIT process for behavior.