

The background of the slide is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.

WILLINGBORO, NJ

GARFIELD PARK ACADEMY STRATEGIC PLAN (2025–2032)

MISSION STATEMENT

CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES AND LEARNING DISABILITIES CAN BE SUCCESSFUL IN LIFE, IF PROVIDED THE RESOURCES TO MONITOR AND SELF-REGULATE THEIR OWN BEHAVIORS. THROUGH SELF-REGULATION, COUNSELING, AND TRULY INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION, GPA HELPS STUDENTS UNDERSTAND AND ACHIEVE SUCCESS BY CHANGING THEIR ATTITUDES AND ALLOWING THEMSELVES TO ACHIEVE.

VISION STATEMENT

***TO BE A NATIONALLY-RECOGNIZED LEADER IN SPECIAL EDUCATION,
UTILIZING INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODS, EVIDENCE-BASED
THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS, AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING TO
MAXIMIZE EACH STUDENT'S POTENTIAL AND ENSURE SUCCESSFUL
TRANSITIONS INTO ADULTHOOD.***

CORE VALUES

AT GARFIELD PARK ACADEMY WE BELIEVE OUR SCHOOL PROVIDES STUDENTS WITH:

- **EMPOWERMENT:** HELPING STUDENTS MONITOR AND SELF-REGULATE THEIR BEHAVIORS, GIVING THEM TOOLS FOR PERSONAL SUCCESS.
- **INDIVIDUALIZATION:** PROVIDING TRULY INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION TAILORED TO EACH STUDENT'S UNIQUE NEEDS
- **INNOVATION:** USING A POSITIVE, INNOVATE APPROACH TO LEARNING AND THERAPY.
- **INCLUSIVITY:** SUPPORTING STUDENTS WITH EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES AND LEARNING DISABILITIES TO THRIVE IN EDUCATION AND LIFE.

OUR STUDENTS LEARN TO CHANGE THEIR PERSPECTIVES AND ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS.

AT GARFIELD PARK ACADEMY, WE PROVIDE A POSITIVE, INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO LEARNING FOR STUDENTS AGES 5-21 WITH EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES OR LEARNING ISSUES. THE SCHOOL'S THERAPEUTIC PROGRAM, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL ACADEMICS AND PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE OR THE VOCATIONS, ENHANCES THE CHANCES OF STUDENTS WITH EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES TO SUCCEED IN AN EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND IN LIFE.

STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. ACADEMIC & VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

2. SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

3. FACULTY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

4. COMMUNITY & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

5. FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH

ACADEMIC & VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

OBJECTIVE: ENHANCE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SUCCESS IN GPA'S EXISTING STATE-OF-THE-ART VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS, WHICH ARE ALREADY INTEGRATED INTO EACH STUDENT'S DAY.

- **- MAINTAIN THE SIX VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFERED, ENSURING EVERY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RECEIVES 80 MINUTES OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING PER DAY.**
- **- INCREASE STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN CAREER EXPLORATION AND POST-SECONDARY TRANSITION PLANNING TO ENHANCE REAL-WORLD READINESS.**
- **- STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR INTERNSHIPS AND JOB PLACEMENTS WITHIN INDUSTRY SECTORS RELATED TO GPA'S VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS.**
- **- PROVIDE MORE CROSS-DISCIPLINARY LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES TO INTEGRATE ACADEMIC SKILLS WITH VOCATIONAL PRACTICE.**

SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL & BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE: BUILD ON THE EXISTING SUPPORT STRUCTURES TO CONTINUE FOSTERING POSITIVE SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL GROWTH AND EFFECTIVE BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT.

- **- LEVERAGE THE EXPERTISE OF SOCIAL WORKERS IN EACH CLASSROOM AND BEHAVIORAL CONSULTANTS TO FURTHER INDIVIDUALIZE THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS.**
- **- CONTINUE EXPANDING TRAUMA-INFORMED PRACTICES AND SOCIAL SKILLS TRAINING TO EMPOWER STUDENTS IN MAKING HEALTHY, SELF-DETERMINED CHOICES.**
- **- STRENGTHEN PEER MENTORSHIP AND SELF-ADVOCACY PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT EMOTIONAL AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING.**

FACULTY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

OBJECTIVE: PROVIDE ONGOING TRAINING AND SUPPORT FOR FACULTY TO MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARDS OF INSTRUCTION AND THERAPEUTIC CARE.

- **- OFFER SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN INTEGRATING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING WITH VOCATIONAL CURRICULUM.**
- **- FOCUS ON CROSS-COLLABORATION BETWEEN ACADEMIC INSTRUCTORS AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATORS TO ENSURE A HOLISTIC, INTEGRATED LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS.**
- **- DEVELOP LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS FOR STAFF TO BUILD CAPACITY AND FACILITATE MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES.**
- **- MAINTAIN A STRONG COMMITMENT TO STAFF WELL-BEING BY PROVIDING SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND JOB SATISFACTION.**

COMMUNITY & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

OBJECTIVE: STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE SCHOOL, FAMILIES, AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY TO ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS AND FOSTER LIFELONG CONNECTIONS.

- **- CONTINUE THE PARENT EDUCATION PROGRAM, OFFERING WORKSHOPS FOCUSED ON ENHANCING STUDENT SUCCESS AT SCHOOL AND AT HOME.**
- **- DEVELOP A LARGER NETWORK OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND BUSINESSES TO PROVIDE INTERNSHIP, MENTORSHIP, AND POST-GRADUATION OPPORTUNITIES.**
- **- CREATE A MENTORSHIP PROGRAM WHERE ALUMNI RETURN TO GUIDE CURRENT STUDENTS THROUGH VOCATIONAL AND ACADEMIC PATHWAYS.**

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY & GROWTH

OBJECTIVE: ENSURE LONG-TERM FUNDING AND RESOURCE ACQUISITION TO SUPPORT GPA'S CONTINUOUS GROWTH AND SUCCESS.

- ***- STRENGTHEN FUNDRAISING EFFORTS AND GRANT APPLICATIONS TO SUPPORT ONGOING PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS.***
- ***- CULTIVATE RELATIONSHIPS WITH CORPORATE PARTNERS AND PHILANTHROPIC ORGANIZATIONS THAT ALIGN WITH GPA'S MISSION.***

IMPLEMENTATION & EVALUATION PLAN

PHASE 1: SHORT-TERM GOALS (2025–2028)

- ***- EXPAND CAREER READINESS PROGRAMMING TO CONNECT STUDENTS MORE EFFECTIVELY WITH VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES.***
- ***- DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION PLAN FOR STUDENTS LEAVING HIGH SCHOOL, FOCUSING ON EMPLOYMENT AND POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.***
- ***- SECURE NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO INCREASE INTERNSHIP AND JOB PLACEMENT OPTIONS.***
- ***- CONTINUE REFINING BEHAVIORAL AND THERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS WITH THE SUPPORT OF SOCIAL WORKERS AND CONSULTANTS.***

IMPLEMENTATION & EVALUATION PLAN

PHASE 2: MID-TERM GOALS (2028–2030)

- ***- DEVELOP ADVANCED LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS IN VOCATIONAL TRACKS, PREPARING THEM FOR INTERNSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP ROLES.***
- ***- ENHANCE CROSS-DISCIPLINARY INITIATIVES THAT COMBINE ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL, AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING.***
- ***- ESTABLISH FORMALIZED POST-GRADUATION SUPPORT NETWORKS, INCLUDING ALUMNI MENTORSHIP.***
- ***- SECURE ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS FOR LONG-TERM PROGRAM SUSTAINABILITY.***

IMPLEMENTATION & EVALUATION PLAN

PHASE 3: LONG-TERM GOALS (2030–2032)

- ***- STRENGTHEN DATA TRACKING SYSTEMS TO BETTER ASSESS THE EFFECTIVENESS OF VOCATIONAL, ACADEMIC, AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL PROGRAMS.***
- ***- EXPAND STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY INTERNSHIPS AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.***
- ***- ENHANCE PARENT AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT WITH MORE IN-DEPTH SUPPORT AND WORKSHOPS.***
- ***- DEVELOP AN ENDOWMENT FUND TO ENSURE FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND FUTURE GROWTH.***

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS FOR SUCCESS (KPIS)

- *- INCREASE IN STUDENT PARTICIPATION AND SUCCESS IN VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS.*
- *- IMPROVED SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS, MEASURED THROUGH BEHAVIOR METRICS AND PEER FEEDBACK.*
- *- HIGHER RATES OF POST-GRADUATION EMPLOYMENT AND VOCATIONAL SUCCESS.*
- *- INCREASED ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT IN MENTORSHIP AND JOB PLACEMENT.*
- *- STRONGER COMMUNITY AND FAMILY ENGAGEMENT, WITH HIGHER PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS AND EVENTS.*
- *- SUSTAINED FINANCIAL GROWTH THROUGH FUNDRAISING, GRANTS, AND NEW PARTNERSHIPS.*

CONCLUSION

GARFIELD PARK ACADEMY IS COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING ITS ALREADY STRONG ACADEMIC AND VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS WHILE CONTINUING TO PROVIDE ROBUST SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL AND BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT. THIS STRATEGIC PLAN OUTLINES A CLEAR PATH FORWARD TO ENSURE CONTINUED GROWTH, ACADEMIC SUCCESS, AND VOCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS, EMPOWERING THEM TO THRIVE IN LIFE BEYOND GPA.