

remains diligent in its duty to meet the challenges outlined in its district plan. Its efforts are aligned with the Governor's 21st Century Readiness Project that endorses full-day kindergarten, the expanded learning time initiative, promotes highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals, and focuses on district unions and management working as teams to create a learning environment where all students will reach the level of proficiency by 2014. The Governor is passionate about Massachusetts becoming the leader in state education, and Saugus shares that vision with the same concern and passion for its children in preparing them for the 21st century.

The Vision

Imbedded in the district's strategic plan is the Vision Statement: ***"Saugus is a place of excellence where children are able to achieve their full potential."*** For Saugus it's more than a place of excellence, ***"Excellence is a Culture."*** Everything we do is focused on doing the best for our children so that they can compete, successfully, in this ever changing global community. It is about providing a quality education, with the best technologies and skills, that will enable all children to contribute, survive, in a new world order. Just as the Saugus Iron Works fell victim to financial problems in the 1750's that led to its demise, Americans, today, are confronted with similar changes in economics and politics that are reshaping the world as we know it. The challenge is to ready our children for this complex world and to shape their values and commitment to the preservation of our commitment to excellence.

"The challenge is to ready our children for the complex world we live in"

We are, Saugus is, looking ahead, reshaping the past, and developing a better platform of education for its children. It wants for all its children to be successful, demonstrate proficiency, and set the standard for others to follow. Saugus is constantly exploring, conducting self-studies, and looking to pilot best practices.

Quality of Education in Saugus

- Highly Qualified Teachers and Paraprofessionals
- 85% of high school graduates pursue a baccalaureate or vocational education
- Rigor in curriculum and instruction
- Enrichment and extended day programs
- State-of-the-art technologies in all schools
- Resources and supports for students with special needs and language barriers
- Crisis response readiness program
- Advanced placement courses in Calculus, Statistics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, US & World History, and English
- 39 interscholastic sports and 7 middle school intramural sports programs
- Recognized elementary to high school band program
- Exemplary student government and Model United nations program
- Active School Councils and parent community

**THE
SCHOOL SYSTEM
OF
CHOICE**

**SAUGUS
PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

**"WHERE EXCELLENCE
IS A CULTURE"**



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The Community

Saugus, an early New England town just fourteen miles northeast of Boston, is located along the banks of the Saugus River and in the north shore quadrant of Massachusetts. Saugus is a town of 28,000 people that dates back to 17th century Puritan life. The community is governed by a five member Board of Selectmen, a Town Manager, and a fifty member Town Council which provides a wide range of services for their residents.

Saugus has a unique history dating back to the establishment of the “Saugus Iron Works” in 1641. Under the auspices of John Winthrop, Jr., the first successful plant for the integration of cast and wrought iron in the New World was founded. Located along the Saugus River is the Saugus Iron Works, originally known as the Company of Undertakers of the Iron Works in New England, which introduced to the New World a complex and demanding technology that remains a historical landmark today. It was here that the Puritans forged the first transformation of ore into iron products.

Saugus is a blend of old New England town heritage amidst a commercial belt along Route 1 that runs north along the American coast line. Saugus has the best of modern technology and retail integrated with the mystique of a small town setting. The town is located close to the energy and social environment known as “Boston”, is ten minutes from the Atlantic coastline, and forty minutes from ski country. Saugus features two private hockey arenas, a small lobster industry, several fitness centers, a quaint nine hole golf course, hiking trails, and recreational centers.

“Saugus is a community built on character and integrity”

Saugus remains committed to a quality education for their children, public services for its residents, and maintaining the integrity of family values. The town manages its operations and capital improvements with a budget of \$60 million. In FY02 and FY05 the town suffered two significant financial setbacks that compromised both public services and education. In recent times, a shared community spirit has brought some resolve to the financial issues and has launched a new era of energy and investment. The people of Saugus are proud of their community and reaping the benefits of their community resources and expertise to make it a better place to live, work, and enjoy.

The Schools

The Saugus Public Schools has an operating budget of \$24 million for a school district with 3000 students and six schools covering enrollment from pre-k to grade 12. The school system is governed by a five member School Committee which is focused on making Saugus a 21st century school system. Saugus offers a comprehensive education for its children that includes; full-day kindergarten, expanded school day, enrichment programs, advanced studies, practical learning experiences, and a rich program of studies. Saugus is a place of excellence where children are able to achieve their full potential.

The Mission Statement

The Mission of the Saugus Public Schools is to educate, challenge, and empower students to be life-long learners and to achieve excellence with integrity in the 21st century as productive, caring, and contributing members of society.

The school system's mission is an outgrowth of an extensive, intensive, strategic planning effort of over twenty-five citizens, parents, staff, and administrators that yield a productive document; capturing the strengths and weaknesses of the Saugus

Public Schools. To fulfill its mission, several key areas were identified: facilities, community awareness, student achievement, school culture, technology, and program offerings. The strategic plan is a five year plan extending through 2009 and denotes the critical factors to accomplish these goals. The strategic plan acknowledges the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation, Massachusetts education reform, and district audits conducted by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

To that end, the Saugus School Committee is committed to addressing the critical areas identified in the strategic plan and as mandated by state and federal reviews. Saugus has made a commitment to aligning its curriculum maps vertically and horizontally, procuring additional funding through competitive grant sources and local aid, demonstrating a collaboration and connection with the whole community, building a technology infrastructure, investing in teacher professional development, broadening its entitlements and resources, and fostering a professional learning community.

The Saugus Public Schools is moving quickly towards the 100% benchmark for highly qualified teachers and paraprofessionals, improved accountability, redesigning its schools that failed to meet AYP, restructuring its services for children with special needs and 504, and addressing a population that is becoming more diverse. The School Committee supports its plan and