What is Critical Race Theory?
According to Education Week, “Critical race theory is an academic concept that is more than 40 years old. The core idea is that race is a social construct, and that racism is not merely the product of individual bias or prejudice, but also something embedded in legal systems and policies." It is a legal theory taught in law school or graduate school.

Our Mission
Growing together to enrich the world.

Our Vision
We provide diverse and meaningful experiences for all learners in a safe and supportive environment by fostering curiosity, inquiry and innovation. We grow and learn together by embracing change and taking risks.

Our Values
We believe strong relationships in our schools and community will result in developing connected, innovative learners, grounded by strong character.

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Critical Race Theory is not part of the ND K-12 Education Content Standards;
Critical Race Theory is not part of the GFPS curriculum and is not a framework that is used in making curricular and teaching and learning decisions.

Goal 2 – Emphasize cultural competence in our K-12 curriculum.
Goal 3 - Provide district staff, principals, and teachers with professional development to help them assess their own cultural viewpoints and biases and effectively engage diverse families and community members.

As evidenced by Goals 2 and 3 of the Grand Forks Public Schools Strategic plan, there is an emphasis on cultural competence in our K-12 curriculum. The strategic plan prioritizes the capacity building of our staff members through professional development to ensure that our students and families have the access and opportunity to achieve at high levels while ensuring a safe, welcoming environment in which all feel a sense of belonging. Cultural proficiency is a paradigm shift from viewing cultural differences as problematic to learning how to interact effectively with a variety of cultures. Therefore, as a result of our efforts, students and staff will accept and respect the diversity of gender, race, culture, and age differences.

This focus, however, is not an endorsement of, nor does it utilize any components of Critical Race Theory.

Resources
Education Week
Grand Forks Public Schools Strategic Plan
ND K-12 Education Content Standards