

Beaver Brook Elementary School:

School Improvement Plan

2017-2018

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Beaver Brook Elementary School (BBES)
School Council Members
2016-2017

Chairperson/Principal	Catherine Zinni (Year 1)
Parents	Stefan Bell (Year 1) Carolyn Russo (Year 1) Susan Harris (Year 3) Aimee Kellstrand (Year 2)
Staff Members	Nancy McSharry (Year 2) Jonathan Hawes (Year 1) Lori Corner (for transition) Amy Fedrick (for transition)
School Committee Representative	Mike Kurowski

Mission
Statement

The mission of the Abington Public Schools is to provide all students with relevant, challenging educational experiences to prepare them to be engaged, responsible citizens and members of the global community.

District: Guiding Beliefs

We believe in:

- ◆ making decisions in the best interests of students.
- ◆ supporting all students in achieving success.
- ◆ fostering the physical, intellectual, technological, social, emotional, and artistic development of our students.
- ◆ creating a safe, tolerant, supportive, organized, and equitable learning environment.
- ◆ providing challenging educational experiences that build character.
- ◆ developing self-discipline and personal responsibility.
- ◆ promoting creativity, problem solving, effective communication, and critical thinking skills.
- ◆ cultivating the educational partnership among home, school, and community.
- ◆ nurturing a culture of collaboration, collegiality, and mutual respect.
- ◆ encouraging staff initiative and innovation.
- ◆ implementing professional development that is essential for effective instruction and improved student learning.
- ◆ reviewing and updating curriculum, instruction, and assessment in a regular cycle.
- ◆ recognizing that effective and appropriate technology is essential for teaching and learning.
- ◆ inspiring all students to become life-long learners.

District: Goals and Objectives

Teaching and Learning

- 1 **To improve student performance through curriculum, instruction, and assessment.**
 - 1.1 Provide rigorous and relevant curriculum and instruction in an optimal learning environment.
 - 1.2 Analyze student performance data from a variety of sources to make informed decisions.
 - 1.3 Commit time and resources for meaningful collaboration and high quality professional development.

Technology

- 2 **To maximize opportunities provided by technology to transform teaching and learning.**
 - 2.1 Provide all staff and students access to current hardware and software, achieving one to one computing ratio.
 - 2.2 Develop technology literacy curriculum for all students.
 - 2.3 Continue to provide professional development in instructional technology.
 - 2.4 Provide appropriate instructional technology support.
 - 2.5 Commit to a regular plan to evaluate, consider, and acquire emerging technology.

Finance and District Operations

- 3 **To obtain and responsibly manage equitable, predictable, and sustainable funding for educational programs, facilities, and operations.**
 - 3.1 Collaborate with the community, local, state, and federal officials to obtain sustainable and predictable financial support.
 - 3.2 Provide transparency and encourage community participation in the budgetary process.
 - 3.3 Plan and secure funding through traditional and alternative sources, in order to provide state-of-the-art facilities, infrastructure, technology, and other capital projects.
 - 3.4 Provide relevant professional development in the area of technology to maximize data management and business continuity.

Facilities

- 4 **To provide state-of-the-art facilities.**
 - 4.1 Secure the necessary votes to support the renovation, expansion, and /or construction of school facilities.
 - 4.2 Present required Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) applications and have them accepted and funded.
 - 4.3 Begin work on MSBA and town funded projects as soon as possible.
 - 4.4 Continue to avail ourselves of alternative funding sources for maintenance and upgrades to school facilities.

Community Support

- 5 **To generate strong community support for the school district.**
 - 5.1 Create and implement a plan to effectively communicate the achievements of the students and staff of the Abington Public Schools.
 - 5.2 Increase family and community participation in the educational process and the life of the schools.
 - 5.3 Broaden our students' awareness of their responsibility to participate in their community.
 - 5.4 Build strong community support for education through the approval of the annual budget and special budget requests at town meeting.

Summary of 2017-2018 Goals:

Goal # 1: Provide rigorous and relevant curriculum and instruction in an optimal learning environment

- Continue common planning time with a focus on collaboration, balanced-literacy, and curriculum
- Incorporate Keys to Literacy practices
- Incorporate Focus K-2 strategies
- Develop, share, and evaluate common assessments

Goal # 2: Continue the development of a positive climate and sense of belonging for students, families, and staff

- Provide relationship-building activities throughout the beginning of the school year
- Establish community connections
- Reestablish and update social curriculum such as Bucket Fillers and Morning Meeting

Goal # 3: Improve communication with the Beaver Brook Elementary School Community, as well as the local and global community

- Effectively communicate with the community through electronic means
- Encourage effective and appropriate communication

BBES School Improvement Plan

The Beaver Brook Elementary School (BBES) School Council is a representative building-based group that meets monthly to discuss important issues related to the overall needs of BBES. In addition to monitoring all factors related to the educational needs of children and reviewing the school's annual budget, the School Council is responsible for the development of the BBES School Improvement Plan. The School Improvement Plan is an annual document that outlines the most pressing needs of the school community. All goals/action steps, although specific to the Beaver Brook Elementary School, are consistent with the vision, mission, goals, and objectives of Abington Public School District's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. This year, the BBES School Council has identified the following goals as primary areas of focus for the 2017-2018 school year:

Goal # 1	Provide rigorous and relevant curriculum and instruction in an optimal learning environment
Goal # 2	Continue the development of a positive climate and sense of belonging for students, families, and staff
Goal # 3	Improve communication within the Beaver Brook Elementary School Community, as well as the local and global community

Beaver Brook Elementary School Improvement Goal #1

Goal #1	Provide rigorous and relevant curriculum and instruction in an optimal learning environment.
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Grade-level teams and related staff continue to meet during common planning time to share and evaluate the implementation of best instructional practices within the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.	Principal/Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate to analyze student work and apply consistent strategies for improving performance and differentiating instruction • Promote student achievement through implementation of best-practices across grade levels • Implement balanced-literacy approach within Reading, peer-to-peer accountable talk, vocabulary development in all subjects • Consistently review local curriculum alignment with Massachusetts Frameworks 	Ongoing
2. Continue to identify, design, and implement common assessments, aligned to Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks	Principal/ Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, design, and deliver common assessments in all curricular areas • Analyze to determine if assessment collects relevant data, and make adjustments as necessary 	Ongoing
3. Incorporate Keys to Literacy strategies across multiple disciplines	Principal/Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement Keys to Literacy strategies (top down webs, two column notes, Frayer models) in 	Ongoing

		multiple curricular areas	
4. Incorporate selected Focus K-2 strategies across grade K to 2.	Principal/Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff models lesson elements (i.e. Thinking & Feedback) • Establish peer-coaching sessions for embedded implementation 	Ongoing

Beaver Brook Elementary School Improvement Goal # 2

Goal #2	Continue the development of a positive climate and sense of belonging for students, families, and staff		
Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Provide relationship-building activities throughout the beginning of the school year	Principal/ Assistant Principal, PTO, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver opportunities for staff-to-staff, peer-to-peer, staff-to-family-, and family-to-family events 	October 2017
2. Establish ways for incoming students to develop connections within the school community	Principal/ Assistant Principal, Educators, related staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing protocol for incoming students and families (providing resources, information, tours, etc.) • Create notification intra-school enroll/withdraw email group 	Ongoing
3. Assist students, staff, and families in reflecting upon qualities of citizenship	Principal/ Assistant Principal, Educators, related staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule enrichment programs that provide positive messages about self-respect and good citizenship • Convey messages of acceptance of students who are different both socially and/or academically • Apply Digital Citizenship to real-life experiences 	Ongoing
4. Reestablish and update Responsive Classroom (including Morning Meeting) and Bucket Fillers social curriculum	Principal/ Assistant Principal, Educators, related staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase necessary materials through PTO support • Promote throughout building through varied staff communications • Evaluate progress through collaboration with staff, surveys, and communication with students 	Ongoing

Beaver Brook Elementary School Improvement Goal #3

Goal #3	Improve communication with the Beaver Brook Elementary School Community, as well as the local and global community.
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Effectively communicate with the community through electronic means	Principal/ Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update website regularly • All school-published information is accurate and current • Use sources such as Constant Contact, newsletters, notices, Remind 101, Facebook, Twitter, Cable, etc. 	Ongoing
2. Encourage open school-based communication to effectively address issues as they arise	Principal/ Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow hierarchy of communication (parent to teacher, then administrator, then principal, central office, etc.) • Ensure effective follow-up through appropriate channels 	Ongoing

Appendix

Acronyms

AEF- Abington Education Foundation

AHS- Abington High School

BBES – Beaver Brook Elementary School

CPT- Common Planning Time

DIBELS - Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills

ELA - English Language Arts

ELL- English Language Learner

FMS- Frolio Middle School

MCAS - Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System

ORF- Oral Reading Fluency

PTO- Parent Teacher Organization

RTI- Response to Intervention