

Abington Middle School School Improvement Plan 2019-2020



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**Abington Middle School
School Council Members**

Matthew J. MacCurtain	Principal/Chair	
Erica Nali	Assistant Principal/Secretary	
Taren Whitman	Teacher	Term ends September 2020
Megan Tomlin	Teacher	Term ends September 2020
Jennifer D'Ambra	Parent	Term ends September 2020
Shannon Tenore	Parent	Term ends September 2020
Kathy Bailey	Community Representative	Term ends September 2020

Abington Public Schools

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.

Guiding Principles:

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.

Summary of 2018-2019 Abington Middle School Improvement Plan Goals

Goal 1-Improve student achievement through rigorous and relevant curriculum, instruction & assessment.

- **Data Meetings were held to analyze MCAS data as well as local assessments. Adjustments were made to curriculum delivery, instructional and assessment practices as well as student groupings.**
- **Student grouping meetings were held with grade 8 teachers and department heads. A recommendation for a move to heterogeneous grouping was made.**
- **New ELA programming was implemented for grades 6-8. Curriculum development is ongoing.**
- **Investigated math common assessment software for purchase including IXL and Star math**
- **Implemented Co-Teaching model in grade 5 and provided PD for staff in grades 5-8.**
- **Grade 5-6 Teaming group was formed and visited multiple sites and made a recommendation to school council.**
- **Canvas Learning Management System implemented and used throughout grades 5-8.**
- **Implementation of a 1:1 computing model in grades 7-8 and 2:1 model in grades 5-6**
- **Abington Middle School was invited to apply to become a Microsoft Showcase School**

Goal 2-Create a positive school climate, inclusive of grades 5-8, that builds on existing strengths, and encourages academic, social and emotional growth.

- **Continued Development of W.A.V.E. PBIS for full implementation in August, 2019**
- **Creation and implementation of Compass SEL program, supporting 17 students directly during the 2018-19 school year**
- **Continuation of Peer Leaders, School Council, Announcement Team, Project 351, NELMS Scholar Leaders**
- **After school enrichment programs including Art, Technology, Chorus, Drama & Crew, Intramurals, Cross Country and Track**
- **Honor Roll ceremonies for grades 5-8**
- **Students of the Months for grades 5-8**

Goal 3: Provide home/school communication opportunities that shares relative news, information and curricular support.

- **Created and frequently updated the Abington Middle School Facebook Page as well as the Grade 8 Philadelphia Trip Facebook page.**
- **Published weekly email newsletter sent out on Fridays.**
- **Involved parents and community members in events such as International Week, Celebrate the Arts Festival, Open Mic Night, Philadelphia Trip Fundraising**
- **Inter grade level events held including Foreign Language presentation to grades 5&6, Peer Pairs research and Yoga event with High School Seniors and Grade 5, Superhero Stories with High School English classes.**

Abington Middle School

School Improvement Goals for 2019-2020

Goal 1	Increase student achievement through enhancements to Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.
Goal 2	Create a positive school climate, inclusive of grades 5-8, that builds on existing strengths, and encourages academic, social and emotional growth.
Goal 3	Provide home/school communication opportunities that provide relative news, information and curricular support.

Abington Middle School Improvement Goal #1

Goal #1	Increase student achievement through enhancements to Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment.
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Meet as Data Teams to implement and analyze common assessments for academic subjects (ELA, Math, Science, SS) in order to identify priority areas of focus for curriculum, instruction, and assessment.	Principal Assistant Principal Department Heads Elementary Curriculum Director Instructional Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data teams meet to analyze initial statewide and local common assessment data and develop focus areas. • Existing assessments identified/modified • Additional assessments developed • Adjustments to curriculum, instruction, and/or assessment are planned and executed. • Additional meetings held to monitor progress. • Data teams meet to analyze results. • Make corresponding changes to curriculum, instruction, assessment and intervention. 	June 2020
2. Continue to create, update and publish curriculum maps aligned with Massachusetts Common Core State	Principal Assistant Principal Department Heads Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present existing updated curriculum maps at September faculty meeting. • Use APS Curriculum Review and Update Plan 	June 2020

Standards	Curriculum Director	<p>to identify additional curriculum mapping needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use curriculum maps to track progress during common planning and/or faculty meetings. 	
3. Continue to improve staff and student use of technology and 1:1 computing to enhance and transform teaching and learning.	Principal Assistant Principal Department Heads Elementary Curriculum Director Instructional Staff Guidance Secretaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish baseline SAMR model levels for staff members. • Provide periodic professional development targeted at Augmentation, Modification and Redefinition. • Provide opportunities at faculty meetings and common planning times for teachers to share technology integration experiences. • Provide professional development for staff specific to 1:1 computing in classrooms and Canvas 	June 2019
4. Implement and strengthen co-teaching practices	Principal Assistant Principal Instructional Staff Elementary Curriculum Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement co-teaching in grades 5&6 • Identify co-planning periods for co-teachers in grades 5-8 • Schedule internal meetings to review co-teaching practices • Provide ongoing co-teaching professional development 	Ongoing

5. Increase teaming in grades 5-6	Principal Assistant Principal Guidance Elementary Curriculum Director Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule created and implemented • Review teaming practices and provide feedback and suggestions for the 2020-2021 school year 	June 2020
6. Investigate options for an intervention period to be included in the 2020-2021 school year schedule	Principal Assistant Principal Guidance Elementary Curriculum Director Guidance Instructional Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form committee to plan intervention period • Identifying options for IP schedule • Possible trial period during 19-20 SY 	June 2020

Abington Middle School Improvement Goal #2

Goal #2	Create a positive school climate, inclusive of grades 5-8, that builds on existing strengths, and encourages academic, social and emotional growth.
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Provide for student leadership opportunities at all grade levels	Principal Assistant Principal Instructional Staff Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Leadership Opportunities are offered through activities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Daily announcement team. ○ Participation in weekly newsletters. ○ Care Center. ○ Student Council. ○ Peer Leaders. 	Ongoing
2. Fully Implement W.A.V.E. PBIS Program	Principal Assistant Principal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAVE Awards 	June 2020

	Instructional Staff Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student of the Month • Monthly WAVE Theme Activities • Consistent classroom behavioral intervention practices 	
3. Work towards the development of Middle School Interscholastic Sports	Principal Assistant Principal Athletic Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Abington Athletic Director to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Determine a timeline for the establishment of an MIAA middle school sports program. 	June 2020
4. Continue to build capacity around Social Emotional Learning	Principal Assistant Principal Guidance Elementary Curriculum Director Guidance Instructional Staff School Psychologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for SEL professional development opportunities for staff • Continue to refine and develop tier 2/3 Compass SEL program • Investigate/implement tier 1 SEL classroom strategies and approaches 	Ongoing

Abington Middle School Improvement Goal #3

Goal #4 Family and Community Engagement	Provide home/school communication opportunities that provides relative news, information and curricular support.
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Encourage and foster community partnerships that benefit the Abington Middle School community	Principal Assistant Principal Instructional Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community partnerships are identified • Partnership activities and events are held 	Ongoing
2. Clearly and broadly communicate school curricular activities and home supports	Principal Assistant Principal Secretaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achievements and events are communicated through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Abington Public Schools Website ○ Weekly Mail Day ○ Weekly Email Newsletter ○ Constant Contact Emails ○ Paper Mailings ○ Local Cable ○ Social Media 	Ongoing
3. Utilize Parent Portal and Canvas to provide up to date student progress information.	Principal Assistant Principal Guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Portal open in August 2019 • Student class placement and schedules delivered through Portal • Provide parents and families with instructions for accessing Portal and Canvas 	Ongoing

<p>4. Create opportunities for parent involvement within the school community</p>	<p>Principal Assistant Principal Guidance Elementary Curriculum Director Guidance Instructional Staff Secretaries</p>	<p>Opportunities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art festival • Career Day • International Week Presentations • National Education Week Observations 	<p>Ongoing</p>
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