

# ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

## 2021-2022



## IMPROVEMENT PLAN

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# 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.

## 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 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 community.

### ***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 we 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 out 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.

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Abington High School adopted Bridge Block scheduling, a block of daily flexible time used for extra help, intervention, support, engagement, or extra time. Bridge Block is a student driven, targeted, academic time to reinforce what students are learning in their classes.
2. Abington High School distributed laptops to all students for the 2019-2020 school year.
3. Many Abington High School students will take Advanced Placements tests in May 2020 in Biology, Calculus AB, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Psychology, Statistics, and US History.
4. Abington High School hosted a Career Day for sophomores, juniors, and seniors with forty different community members.
5. Two Abington High School students were elected as student representatives to the Massachusetts Student Advisory Council.
6. Eight non-traditional athletes participated in Unified Sports basketball games as members of Abington High School athletic teams.
7. One Abington High School senior met all requirements to be named a Commended Student in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program.
8. The National Honor Society inducted thirty-six new members in recognition of their outstanding qualities of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.
9. Thirty-three Abington High School seniors qualified for the prestigious John and Abigail Adams Scholarship. The Adams Scholarship provides a tuition waiver for four years of undergraduate education at Massachusetts state colleges and universities for students who are accepted.
10. The Green Wave Gazette was awarded the title of SNO Distinguished Site status.
11. Six Abington High School students won the Best of SNO awards for Green Wave Gazette articles.
12. The Abington High School Wellness Department in conjunction with the senior class and a local church organized a massive food packaging community service project.
13. Many Abington High School students saw their work of nonfiction, fiction and poetry published in the Green Wave Gazette and the Student Arts Magazine.
14. Five students earned Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards in 2019 in Drawing, Painting and Photography.

15. Seven Abington High School students auditioned and were selected to represent the high school in the 2019 Southeastern Massachusetts Scholastic Bandmasters Association (SEMSBA) Festival.
16. Five Abington High School students were selected to Bridgewater State University Honors Band.
17. One Abington High School student was selected to participate in the Jr. District Orchestra.
18. One AHS student was selected by audition for the Southeastern District Percussion Ensemble.
19. A number of co-curricular events and activities continue to support the diverse interests and needs of students beyond the school day.
  - ❖ The Abington High School Football Team won the MIAA Division 7 Superbowl Championship.
  - ❖ The Abington High School Boys' Basketball Team played at the TD Garden Andrew Lawson Foundation Basketball Invitational Tournament, won the Division 4 South Champions, MIAA State Semi-Finals and were named the co-State Champions.
  - ❖ One Abington High School boys' basketball player recorded only the second triple double in school history.
  - ❖ Two Abington High School student-athletes signed National Letters of Intent to attend college and play softball.
  - ❖ The Abington High School girls' soccer team completed a service project of cleaning up the community playground.
  - ❖ The Abington High School Cheerleading won the South Shore League Tobin Championship.
  - ❖ An Abington High School student was honored for exemplary service with a President's Volunteer Service Award.
  - ❖ Abington High School students sponsored and supported several community service projects such as collection of gift cards for the Department of Children & Families, partnering with My Brother's Keeper to adopt a family and providing them with holiday gifts and conducting a Food Drive for St. Vincent de Paul's Food Pantry.
  - ❖ Twenty-two Abington High School students participated in Math Team and finished a successful season.

**Summary of 2019-2020  
Abington High School  
School Improvement Plan**

Goal #1	Improve student performance and the acquisition of content knowledge and <i>college and career ready</i> skills through engaging instructional practices and a relevant and rigorous curriculum.
*Implemented a 1:1 technology program with Canvas	

Goal #2	Analyze student performance data to inform program, policy and staffing decisions.
*Piloted the Bridge Block intervention period	
*Created indicators of proficiency for each domain of the Vision of the Graduate	

Goal #3	Support programs and policies that maintain an environment that is safe, substance-free, tolerant, respectful, and conducive to education.
*Trained all students in ALICE safety protocol	

Goal #4	Continue the New England Association of Schools and Colleges Self-Study Process
*Completed a working draft of the Vision of the Graduate	

## ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

### School Improvement Goals 2020-2021

<b>Goal 1</b>	Improve student performance and the acquisition of content knowledge and <i>college and career ready</i> skills through engaging instructional practices and a relevant and rigorous curriculum.
<b>Goal 2</b>	Analyze student performance data to inform program, policy and staffing decisions.
<b>Goal 3</b>	Support programs and policies that maintain an environment that is safe, substance-free, tolerant, respectful, and conducive to education.
<b>Goal 4</b>	Host NEASC Decennial Accreditation Visit in March 2021.

**ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL -- SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #1**

<b>Goal #1</b>	<b>Improve student performance and the acquisition of content knowledge and <i>college and career ready</i> skills through engaging instructional practices and a relevant and rigorous curriculum.</b>
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<b>Activity and/or Professional Development</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Indicator of Accomplishment</b>	<b>Expected Completion Date</b>
1. Review, align and complete curriculum guides for all courses.	Faculty Department Heads/Directors	Curriculum guides completed and posted to network	March 2021
2. Implement a 1:1 technology program and remote learning model.	Administration Faculty	Students increase use of Canvas	October 2020
3. Promote standards based and project-based assessments.	Administration Faculty	Professional Development provided	September 2020

**ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL -- SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #2**

<b>Goal #2</b>	<b>Analyze student performance data to inform program, policy and staffing decisions.</b>
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<b>Activity and/or Professional Development</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Indicator of Accomplishment</b>	<b>Expected Completion Date</b>
1. Develop a process to measure individual and school-wide progress in meeting core values, beliefs about learning and Vision of the Graduate.	Administration Faculty Community Students	Process developed Process implemented	June 2021
2. Create grading mechanisms to increase retention	Administration Faculty	Minimum numerical grades of 50% established	September 2020
3. Identify individual students and subgroups at risk and provide appropriate tiered intervention and remediation.	Administration Faculty	Tiers of academic and social-emotional intervention identified. Bridge Block participation. 3- and 4-day extended learning access for higher need students.	September 2020 - Ongoing

**ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL -- SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #3**

<b>Goal #3</b>	<b>Support programs and policies that maintain an environment that is safe, substance-free, tolerant, respectful, and conducive to education.</b>
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<b>Activity and/or Professional Development</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Indicator of Accomplishment</b>	<b>Expected Completion Date</b>
1. Research and implement best practices to support social-emotional wellness of students.	Student Support Team	Practices recommended and implemented	June 2020
2. Voluntary discussion groups on literature related to race in America.	Community Faculty	Scheduled discussion groups created with staff and community participation.	August 2020 - Ongoing
3. Develop and implement a plan to ensure the daily cleanliness and climate control.	Administration Facilities Department	Building is clean and temperature appropriate. Bi-weekly meetings with AHS/AMS administration and head of custodians.	September 2020- Ongoing

**ABINGTON HIGH SCHOOL -- SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GOAL #4**

Goal #4	Host Decennial NEASC accreditation visit in March 2021.		
Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Review the domains of the Vision of the Graduate, core values and beliefs about learning.	Administration Faculty Community	Identify behaviors of students who exhibit proficiency in each domain.  Determine what supports are needed for students who do not yet demonstrate proficiency.	February 2021
2. Use NEASC Decennial visit to inform best practices related to school-wide use of common assessments, data analysis, rubrics, and retest/retake policies, as it relates to Bridge Block interventions.	Administration Faculty Students	Formal process for identifying non-negotiable standards of learning for each course related to the Vision of the Graduate. Formal and consistent use of Bridge Block periods to intervene with students who have not yet met proficiency indicators.	June 2021
3. Share the Vision of the Graduate with District Administration and Community stakeholders.	Administration Department Heads/Directors	Vision of the Graduate forms the basis of vertical articulation for district schools.  Vision of the Graduate takes forefront in school wide publications and presentations.	January 2021-Ongoing

## APPENDIX A

### SCHOOL COUNCIL BY-LAWS

#### **Article I**

The purpose of the Abington High School Council is to provide students with the opportunities to attain their highest level of achievement.

#### **Article II**

The make-up of the Council shall consist of the principal, three (3) parents of students attending the school, two (2) teachers, one (1) community representative at large and two (2) students. Regardless of the size of the Council, the number of parent representatives should be equal to the number of teachers who serve on the Council plus the principal. The number of community representative(s) at large cannot exceed fifty (50) percent of total membership of the Council.

#### **Article III**

The officers of the Council shall consist of two (2) co-chairpersons, the principal and one other member of the Council and a secretary. One-co-chairperson and a secretary will be elected by the Council

#### **Article IV**

Parent representatives to the Council will be elected by the parents of students attending Abington High School. The election will be held by the Abington High School Parent-Teacher Organization. Teacher representatives to the Council will be elected by the teachers at Abington High School. Student representatives to the Council will be elected by the Abington High School student body. The community representative to the Council will be appointed by the principal.

#### **Article V**

Parents, teachers, and students will be elected to two-year terms. If for any reason a member of the Council cannot complete his or her term, an election will be held to replace that member until the original term expires. The community representative at large will be appointed by the principal to a two-year term.

## APPENDIX B

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL GROUND RULES**

- To schedule meetings a semester in advance.
- To post agenda for meetings in advance.
- To establish definitive meeting times.
- To establish an attendance policy (members are asked to contact one of the co-chairpersons if unable to attend a meeting.)
- To commit to focus on topic.
- To participate in active listening.
- To listen respectfully (members welcome public input when relevant to the topic under discussion.)
- To adhere to consensus decision making.

## APPENDIX C

### Vision of the Graduate Proficiency Indicators

#### **Critical thinker**

Proficiency- I can:

- Seek new knowledge without support
- Gather information from a range of perspectives
- Reason through and weigh evidence before making a decision
- Demonstrate an open-minded thought process
- Construct arguments and articulate my own conclusions

#### **Engaged Participant**

Proficiency- I can:

- Seek new knowledge
- Collaborate towards personal and common goals
- Use feedback to adjust my behavior
- Express my thoughts, ideas, and emotions meaningfully and creatively
- Actively contribute to school community
- Advocate for myself and others
- Persevere through daily tasks

#### **Socially Competent Contributor**

Proficiency- I can:

- Exhibit tolerance and empathy
- Learn about and value cultural differences
- Advocate for needs beyond myself
- Be physically and intellectually present in daily interactions
- Successfully navigate social situations
- Build and maintain healthy relationships
- Use technology to learn and share ideas

#### **Self-Aware Individual**

Proficiency- I can:

- Prioritize tasks and manage time effectively
- Make and model healthy lifestyle choices
- Manage Stress and persevere through obstacles
- Bounce back from setbacks and use self-reflection and feedback from others to improve myself
- Advocate for my self
- Evaluate opportunity and take intellectual risks

