

# **Woodsdale School:**

## *School Improvement Plan*

2017-2018

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**School Council Members –**  
**2016-2017 \*Developed with**  
**Beaver Brook School Council**

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) Amy Fedrick (for transition) Lori Corner (for transition)
Community 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: Implement practices to challenge, support, and celebrate the achievement of students and staff**

- Implement Morning Meeting school-wide
- Develop a culture of collaboration through the establishment of professional learning community
- Continue Good Character initiative
- Analyze student performance and identify students in need of interventions
- Continue technology integration

### **Goal # 2: Create opportunities for increased community connections**

- Use community focus groups to inform Woodsdale School Council
- Establish community partnerships and connections, such as Career Week
- Effectively communicate with the community through varied streams of communication

### **Goal # 3: Provide a healthy and safe learning environment through effective leadership and operations**

- Provide meaningful enrichment programs
- Spread positive messages of citizenship, social responsibility, and respect
- Address physical space needs such as classroom utilization and beautification

## Woodsdale School Improvement Plan

With the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade transitioning from Beaver Brook to the Woodsdale School, this plan was developed with overarching elementary school philosophies and school climate & culture in mind. The School Improvement Plan outlines the most pressing needs of the school community, highlighted this year by a transition to a new building and new leadership. This plan establishes the building blocks of school culture, school climate, instruction, and collaboration- all of which are facets necessary for a successful first school year in a new setting. All goals/action steps, although specific to the Woodsdale School, are consistent with the vision, mission, goals, and objectives of Abington Public School District's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. This plan identifies the following goals as primary areas of focus for the 2017-2018 school year:

<b>Goal # 1</b>	Implement practices to challenge, support, and celebrate the achievement of students and staff
<b>Goal # 2</b>	Create opportunities for increased community connections
<b>Goal # 3</b>	Provide a healthy and safe learning environment through effective leadership and operations

## Woodsdale School Improvement Goal #1

<b>Goal #1</b>	<i>Implement practices to challenge, support, and celebrate the achievement of students and staff</i>
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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. Shift focus of staff meetings to reflect a professional learning community (PLC) and establish a culture of collaboration, focused on both students (Morning Meeting) & staff (Clarity Concepts- RBT).	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff will collaborate &amp; share Morning Meeting activities, progress, and student impact with each other monthly during staff meeting time</li> <li>• Staff will share examples from practice &amp; highlight each other's successes around the Clarity Concepts</li> </ul>	Monthly, throughout 2017-18 school year
2. Examine practices of local districts for implementation of Morning Meeting.	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit local districts to observe Morning Meeting, with a focus on take-aways and ideas for varied implementation</li> <li>• Debrief visits with each other during monthly PLC</li> </ul>	Fall 2017
3. Continue and enhance the use of the Woodsdale Good Character initiative.	Principal, Cafeteria Staff, Custodial Staff, Paraprofessionals, Classroom Teaching Staff, Specialists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highlight Respect, Citizenship, and Responsibility throughout the year, helping students to recognize how their actions in these areas should be celebrated.</li> <li>• Recognize &amp; praise students daily for their actions through continuation of the Coins for Character initiative</li> </ul>	Ongoing
4. Continue to identify, design, and implement common assessments, aligned to Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks.	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify, design, and deliver common assessments in all curricular areas</li> <li>• Analyze to determine if assessment collects relevant data, and make adjustments as necessary</li> </ul>	Ongoing

<p>5. 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.</p>	<p>Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate to analyze student work and apply consistent strategies for improving performance and differentiating instruction</li> <li>• Promote student achievement through implementation of best-practices across grade levels</li> <li>• Implement balanced-literacy approach within Reading, peer-to-peer accountable talk, vocabulary development in all subjects</li> <li>• Consistently review local curriculum alignment with Massachusetts Frameworks</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>6. Examine statewide testing performance and develop action plan to target High Needs population</p>	<p>Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators, SPED Team Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schedule &amp; hold data meetings</li> <li>• Develop goals to address High Needs performance</li> <li>• Identify students falling within the High Needs subgroup and track individual academic progress throughout the school year</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7. Enhance “Read Across America Week” at Woodsdale School</p>	<p>Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators, SPED Team Chair</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee formed to explore local authors and presenters</li> <li>• Community Guest Readers scheduled</li> <li>• All-School reading focus for the week established</li> </ul>	<p>March 2018</p>
<p>8. Promote the effective integration and use of technology in classrooms, lessons, and other building applications.</p>	<p>Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Director of Technology, Educators, PTO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide coaching and opportunities for staff collaboration</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for staff to share applications with each other</li> <li>• Assess building-wide use using SAMR model</li> <li>• Assess technology needs with staff and Rich Bykowski (Dir. of Technology)</li> <li>• Address technology needs using available funds generated by PTO fundraising efforts</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>

## Woodsdale School Improvement Goal # 2

Goal #2	<i>Create opportunities for increased community connections</i>		
Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Integrate community focus groups as a function of the Woodsdale School Council.	Principal, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote for focus groups in January via school-wide communication</li> <li>• Refine focus areas &amp; collect data from community responses to share with school council in an effort to inform areas of our next SIP</li> </ul>	February 2018
2. Establish Career Week at Woodsdale School.	Principal, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community members &amp; parents deliver presentations relative to workplace experiences, career opportunities, requisite training, etc.</li> </ul>	June 2018
3. Effectively communicate with the community through electronic means.	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update website regularly</li> <li>• All school-published information is accurate and current</li> <li>• Use sources such as Constant Contact, newsletters, notices, Remind 101, Facebook, Twitter, Cable, etc.</li> </ul>	Ongoing
4. Encourage community partnerships that benefit the Woodsdale school community.	Principal, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate &amp; beneficial partners identified</li> <li>• Partnership programs created or integrated</li> <li>• Host Woodsdale parents community for Welcome to Woodsdale picnic in August</li> <li>• Curriculum Night, September 27th</li> </ul>	June 2018

### Woodsdale School Improvement Goal #3

<b>Goal #3</b>	<i>Provide a healthy and safe learning environment through effective leadership and operations</i>		
<b>Activity and/or Professional Development</b>	<b>Person(s) Responsible</b>	<b>Indicator of Accomplishment</b>	<b>Expected Completion Date</b>
1. Schedule enrichment programs that provide positive messages about self-respect and good citizenship	Principal, Educators, PTO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan and schedule enrichment programs that focus on good citizenship or curricular areas throughout the year</li> </ul>	Ongoing
2. Spread positive messages of citizenship, social responsibility, and respect through Morning Meetings school-wide	Principal, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff uses Morning Meeting implementation to reiterate school/class rules weekly</li> <li>• Staff uses Morning Meeting implementation to establish a culture of respect amongst all members of Woodsdale community</li> </ul>	Ongoing
3. Work with the DPW, Facilities Manager, and Custodial Staff to attend to safety and aesthetics.	Principal, DPW, Custodial staff, Educators, Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facility focus on parking lot repairs and painting for crosswalks (Repair broken and cracked pavement in blacktop playground area, re-line crosswalks &amp; replace/install parking signs as needed)</li> <li>• Focus on school grounds beautification (flagpole illumination, maintain landscaping efforts, etc)</li> </ul>	June 2018
4. Continue to assess the use of space within the school so that all available space is used efficiently and effectively	Principal, Custodial staff, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All available space within the school is used efficiently</li> </ul>	Ongoing
5. Improve the appearance and functionality of the interior of the school	Principal, Custodial staff,	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replace/ shorten the office counter</li> <li>• Replace/ repair hallway shelving as necessary</li> <li>• Continue to replace classroom floor tiles</li> </ul>	Ongoing