

# **Woodsdale School:**

## *School Improvement Plan*

2019-2020

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**School Council Members** –  
**2018-2019**

Chairperson/Principal	Jonathan Hawes
Parents	Lorena MacNeil-Berry (Year 2) Nicole Clark (Year 1)
Staff Members	Pam Safrine (Year 1) Thea Showstack (Year 1)
Community Representative	Chris Coyle

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 2018-2019 Goals:

## **Goal # 1: Implement practices to challenge, support, and celebrate the achievement of students and staff**

- Hands-on, student-centered learning happening throughout the school
- Balanced literacy initiative well underway and progressing (materials/budget updates, strategy training, peer coaching, modeling, etc)
- Developing a culture of reading through reading-related events (March Madness, author visits, staff book-talks via videos)
- Advanced technology integration (sharing documents, utilization of staff for coaching and training, student collaboration) and awareness developing (SAMR recognition and monthly examples of evidence). Help from PTO to provide hardware for student-use.
- Targeting struggling performers for interventions

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

- Continued use of community focus groups to inform Woodsdale School Council (leading to SIP changes and changes in building practices)
- Establish new community efforts, such as information sessions for SPED, School-to-Home supports within newsletter, assessments (including MCAS)
- Effectively communicate with the community through varied streams of communication

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

- Provided meaningful enrichment programs (Skype sessions with authors/illustrators, Young Authors programs, Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downs presentation to the school, Pete Bouchard from Ch10 )
- Implement ALICE emergency response protocols (reverse evacuation, barricade, school-wide evacuation)
- Address physical space needs (classroom utilization, security) and beautification (new signs coming, consolidation of SPED service spaces, etc)

# Woodsdale School Improvement Plan

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 2019-2020 school year:

<b>Goal # 1</b>	Implement practices to challenge students, support student needs and further technology utilization
<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 students, support student needs and further technology utilization</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. Support, evaluate, and implement the balanced-literacy approach to English Language Arts.	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For continued calibration, observing local districts and reporting out on findings</li> <li>• Phonics instruction is formalized as well as development of writing workshop strategies</li> <li>• Provide training and coaching for staff to continue to build toolkits (strategies, conferencing, writing, phonics, etc)</li> </ul>	Ongoing
2. Continue the development of a culture of reading at the Woodsdale School	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators, Reading Specialists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Authors visit (via Skype or school visits)</li> <li>• Highlight reading at All-School Meetings</li> <li>• Global Read Aloud (September-October) participation</li> <li>• Book Clubs and Book Tastings and other themed events via Reading Specialists &amp; staff</li> <li>• Develop student interests in multiple genres and aide in just-right text selection</li> </ul>	Ongoing
3. Examine statewide testing performance and develop action plan to target High Needs population	Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators, SPED Team Chair	<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> <li>• Monitoring student performance for MCAS tutoring program (spring)</li> </ul>	Ongoing

<p>4. Promote the effective integration and use of technology in classrooms, lessons, and other applications.</p>	<p>Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Technology staff, Educators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building-wide technology use charted using SAMR model</li> <li>• Technology needs assessed with staff and Dir. of Technology</li> <li>• Utilization of technology integrationist by classroom teachers</li> <li>• Creation studios utilized to develop interactive multimedia products (student videos, Woodsdale School podcast, etc)</li> <li>• Students create, refine, and collaborate using Office365 products</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>5. Examine homework and assessments at the Woodsdale School to determine the impact on our students and provide options for all learners.</p>	<p>Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment, Educators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate to analyze homework practices, research alternative options, etc.</li> <li>• Maintain adherence to district guidelines for homework</li> <li>• Develop alternative assessments that are student-centered and allow for creativity and higher-order applications</li> </ul>	<p>January 2020</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. Utilize community connections for participation, support, and input	Principal, Educators, School Resource Officer, community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus Group data from and community responses shared with school council in an effort to inform areas of our next SIP</li> <li>• Continue Career Week at Woodsdale School to deliver presentations relative to workplace experiences, career opportunities, requisite training, etc.</li> </ul>	February 2020
2. 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 &amp; social media regularly</li> <li>• All school-published information is accurate, current, and translated appropriately</li> <li>• Online extensions of each classroom in place</li> <li>• Use sources such as Constant Contact, newsletters, notices, and social media to promote Woodsdale School happenings</li> </ul>	June 2020
3. Encourage community partnerships that benefit the Woodsdale school community.	Principal, Educators, community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host Woodsdale parents &amp; community for Welcome to Woodsdale picnic in August</li> <li>• Representation at Curriculum Night (Sept/Oct)</li> <li>• Host information sessions such as School-to-Home Supports (homework, online resources, math/reading support), SPED services &amp; SST/IST, Bullying, MCAS</li> <li>• Alternative methods for engagement are explored (Facebook Live, dial-ins, broadcast/podcasts, etc)</li> </ul>	June 2020

### Woodsdale School Improvement Goal #3

<b>Goal #3</b>	<i>Provide a healthy and safe learning environment through effective leadership and operations</i>
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Implement a system of positive behavior and citizenship recognition.	Principal, Educators, PTO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Core qualities and monthly traits defined</li> <li>• System of recognition in place for students</li> <li>• Impact measured via student and staff survey</li> <li>• Spread positive messages of citizenship, social responsibility, and respect through Morning Meetings/ All-School Meetings</li> <li>• Staff uses Morning Meeting implementation to establish a culture of respect amongst all members of Woodsdale community</li> </ul>	June 2020
2. Increase student & parent awareness of bullying, harassment, and conflict resolution	Principal, Educators, School Psychologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scheduling speakers &amp; assemblies, providing parent information</li> <li>• Focus on the dynamic over time and track student conflicts</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for School Psych &amp; classroom teacher input</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 (Repair/update curbing, re-line crosswalks &amp; replace/install parking signs as needed)</li> <li>• Establish committee for updating the Woodsdale School playground</li> <li>• Host Spring and Fall cleanups (plantings, mulch, etc)</li> <li>• Recess equipment refurbished and replenished</li> <li>• Front-entry monitoring and security addressed</li> </ul>	June 2020

<p>4. Continue to implement ALICE emergency response protocol</p>	<p>Principal, Educators, Abington Police Department</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop training procedures and drill schedules throughout the year (reverse evacuation, evacuation, barricade)</li> <li>• Continue to train and empower staff and students</li> <li>• Host parent information sessions re: ALICE protocols at the Woodsdale School</li> </ul>	<p>Ongoing</p>
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