

Franklin Public Schools

District Improvement Update

2021-2022

School Committee Meeting May 24, 2022

Strategic Objectives



I. Social-Emotional Well-being of Students and Staff

To help students develop connections to school, support positive behaviors, and increase academic achievement, the Franklin Public Schools will enhance programs and practices, while promoting the well-being of staff, to enable each student to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with the core competencies for social-emotional learning.

II. Engaging and Rigorous Curriculum

To ensure that students are provided with rigorous learning opportunities that foster the development of the knowledge, skills, and dispositions they will need in their future college, career, and civic endeavors, the Franklin Public Schools will offer an engaging and rigorous curriculum that focuses on preparing students for a rapidly changing, technologically advanced, globally interdependent future.

III. High-Quality Instruction to Meet the Academic and SEL Needs of Each Learner

To ensure that each student is supported and challenged to reach their full potential, the Franklin Public Schools will align curriculum, instructional practices, and varied assessment opportunities to personalize learning and meet individual needs.

IV. Effective Two-Way Communication to Support Student Learning

To ensure that all stakeholders are engaged with the school community in support of student achievement, the Franklin Public Schools will enhance opportunities for two-way communication between and among all students, families, staff, administrators, and the community.

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If we nurture a safe, supportive, inclusive, and collaborative learning environment; provide children with an engaging and rigorous curriculum with exemplary instructional practices that support and challenge students to reach their full potential through personalized learning opportunities; and engage the community in effective two-way communication in order to support student learning, then each Franklin student will develop the necessary social-emotional, academic, and career skills to be a productive citizen in an ever-changing world.”

Franklin Public Schools

Portrait of A Graduate



#1: Social-Emotional Well-Being of Students and Staff

Update on Strategic Initiative #1

Continued implementation of recommendations from Counseling Review

- Continued to provide professional development for counseling staff
 - Ex. Supporting LGBTQIA+ Youth through DESE
- Continued and strengthened community partnerships
 - Expanded to Wellesely Centers for Women to expand suicide prevention and mental health screening to grades 8 and 10
- Additional counselors through operating and grant funds
 - 1.0 FTE added to Oak St. in FY22
 - BRYT program planned for MS and HS in FY23
- Implementation of strategies to improve staff professional well-being
 - PD Committee met regularly during 2021-2022 to provide input/feedback on full day PD
 - Expanded choice and voice in professional development
 - Expanded staff communication through quarterly newsletter: *Painter's Palette* and [Digital Learning Newsletter](#)
 - Expanded sharing of resources to support difficult conversations in classrooms (Learning for Justice, Anti-Defamation League)

Update on Strategic Initiative #1

Continued implementation of SEL/Community-based committees: Substance Abuse Task Force (SATF) and Student Wellness Advisory Council (SWAC)

- SATF
 - Instituted “Critical Conversations” community engagement series for families
 - Focused on Mental Health, Substance Abuse Prevention/Intervention, and Social Media
- SWAC
 - Conducted comprehensive review the school wellness policy with recommended enhancements
 - Participated in DESE Wellness Coaching (Year 1 of 2)

Update on Strategic Initiative #1

Affirm diversity within the school community, promote equity and accountability, foster a safe and inclusive environment

- Recruiting a Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Continued of *Speak Up at School* PD for faculty/staff
- Consulted with PCG on Equity Audit - projected completion in June 2022
- Reaffirmed commitment to A World of Difference Peer Leader program
- Established resource groups for students at middle school and high school
- Updated Committee and community on DEI efforts - February 8, 2022
- Shift towards Restorative Justice in school handbooks - presentation on May 12, 2022
- Unified Basketball team representing MA in Special Olympics


DEI Committee subcommittees working on:

- Building a calendar for awareness of holidays and recognitions
- Revising registration process to make it more inclusive, especially for families for whom English is not their primary language
- Providing guidance on reducing bias in hiring practices
- Providing principals with brief DEI topics for faculty meetings
- Providing educators with guidance on reducing bias when selecting curriculum materials
- Providing educators with support on inclusive practices
- Celebrating Diversity: Project Rain Check

#2: Engaging and Rigorous Curriculum

Update on Strategic Initiatives #2

- Revise and develop guaranteed and viable curriculum units aligned to Franklin's *Portrait of a Graduate*
 - Concentrated area of focus of HS on early release days in 2021-2022
 - Illustrative Math implementation in elementary schools
 - Established foundation for ELA curriculum review in 2022-2023
 - Supported implementation of revised Social Studies standards
 - HS History/Social Studies department piloted and evaluated new text books for fall implementation
 - Selection of middle school science curriculum aligned with MA standards
- Formalize curriculum planning using a backwards design approach
 - Established a DRAFT curriculum review cycle - to be finalized summer 2022
- Adjusted central office administration to include two K-12 Directors of Curriculum in specific content areas
- Expanding curriculum leadership at the middle school level with two dedicated positions in FY23 budget

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#3: High-Quality Instruction to meet the SEL and Academic Needs of Each Learner

Strategic Initiatives 2021-2022

Formalize Multi-tiered Systems of Support across all levels for both academic and SEL instruction

- Implemented NWEA-MAP for literacy and mathematics in grades K-8
 - Supported educators interpretation of results through PD in data teams
- Provided literacy and math interventions across all 5 elementary schools
- Expanded Title I supports to Keller Elementary School
- Supported elementary roll-out of DESSA across all K-5 schools to screen students for SEL development and supports
 - School-based interventions for social-emotional well-being
- Expanded advisory to all three middle schools
- Exploring Panorama as SEL-based tool for grades 6-12

Continue to strengthen Digital Learning through implementation of the Digital Learning Plan

Focused on:

- Professional Development and Instructional Support
 - District endorsed tool-kit
- MA Digital Literacy and Computer Science Standards
- Digital Resource Management
 - Leveraged web-based resources, as appropriate to support student learning
 - Follows all data privacy laws through partnership with the Student Data Privacy Alliance
- Technology Infrastructure and Collaboration
 - Touchscreens

Strategic Initiatives 2021-2022

- Expanded specific resources through the FY 22 and 23 budgets development process in a fiscally responsible way
 - Transition Coordinator in Special Education in FY 22 budget
 - Additional English Language Development educators (teachers and ESP) in FY22 and FY23 budgets
 - Digital Learning Integrationists incorporated into operating budget
 - Educators for expanding student needs in specialized programs in FY22 and FY23 budgets at all levels
 - Addition of Wilson language educator for elementary schools in FY 23 budget

#4: Effective Two-Way Communication

Strategic Initiatives 2021-2022

- Continue to expand Human Resources communication to enhance recruitment and employee services
 - Participated in DESE sponsored Professional Learning Community on Diversifying Educator Workforce
 - Incorporated DEI recruitment language into job postings
 - Compensation and class study for non-administrative, non-union personnel
- Continued to strengthen and grow community partnerships: William James College, SAFE Coalition, Franklin Freedom Team, Hockomock YMCA, Wellesley Centers for Women
- Begin and communicate Master Facilities Plan process
 - Supported subcommittee, established in the spring 2022
 - Presentation to full Committee/community on June 14, 2022
- Communicate long-term budget forecast with Franklin community
 - Continued budget communication efforts in collaboration with Marketing and Communications Specialists: Budget Flyer, Budget Poster, Newsletter articles (District and Town newsletters), Budget Book, radio show
- Expand two-way communication with faculty/staff
 - Newsletter, Mid-Year Survey, PD Committee, “Coffees” with the Superintendent and Central Office staff

Thank you!
Comments/Questions