

**Franklin Public Schools
Franklin, Massachusetts 02038**

Action Required

Subject: District Strategy for Improvement **Date:** August 28, 2018

Dept: School Committee

Reason: Required Vote

Enclosure: yes

Recommendation:

Strategy for improvement Presentation – Dr. Ahern

I recommend approval of the District Strategy for Improvement for 2018-2019

Action Requested of the School Committee:

Majority vote of the School Committee is required.

<u>Vote Tabulator</u>	
A. Bergen: Y / N	D. Schultz: Y / N
C. Douglas: Y / N	MJ Scofield: Y / N
D. Feeley: Y / N	G. Zub: Y / N
M. Linden: Y / N	Action: _____



Vision

The Franklin Public Schools will foster within its students the knowledge and skills to find and achieve satisfaction in life as productive global citizens.

Core Values

- Social-Emotional Development
- High Expectations for Student Success
- Safe and Inclusive School Culture
- Collaborative Community

Theory of Action

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.

Strategic Objectives

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 to enable each student to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with the core competencies for social-emotional learning.

Strategic Initiatives

- Develop a cohesive plan for social-emotional learning, aligned to the FPS vision of SEL
- Continue to build educator capacity in developing students' SEL skills
- Complete a district-wide review of counseling services
- Create and implement a plan to provide staff with opportunities to focus on their well-being
- Develop a system-wide response to improve student attendance
- Continue to focus on school safety through collaboration with community partners

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.

- Expand upon rigorous standards-based curriculum units, which focus on the development of 21st-century skills
- Engage educators and community members in the development of Franklin Public Schools' *Portrait of a Graduate*
- Examine current curriculum and expand opportunities for student choice and voice
- Continue to examine homework practices and align to best practices/research

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.

- Develop and implement a continuum of services for enrichment and interventions
- Strengthen communication among teams of educators
- Refresh district-wide practices in elementary literacy instruction
- Strengthen personalized learning opportunities
- Continue to develop capacity in inclusive, culturally responsive instructional practices

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 seek to enhance opportunities for two-way communication between and among all students, families, staff, administrators, and the community.

- Revise and expand communication channels to enhance engagement with the community
- Strengthen the use of School Councils across the district's schools
- Develop and implement a parent education series
- Strengthen and grow community partnerships

FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STRATEGY FOR DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT 2018-2019

VISION			
The Franklin Public Schools will foster within its students the knowledge and skills to find and achieve satisfaction in life as productive global citizens.			
CORE VALUES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social-Emotional Development• Safe and Inclusive School Culture• High Expectations for Student Success• Collaborative Community	THEORY OF ACTION <p>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.</p>		
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES			
Social-Emotional Well-being of Students and Staff <p>To help students develop connections to school, support positive behaviors, and increase academic achievement, the Franklin Public Schools will enhance programs and practices to enable each student to acquire the knowledge, attitudes, and skills associated with the core competencies for social-emotional learning.</p>	Engaging and Rigorous Curriculum <p>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.</p>	High-Quality Instruction to Meet the Academic and SEL Needs of Each Learner <p>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.</p>	Effective Two-Way Communication to Support Student Learning <p>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.</p>

FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
STRATEGY FOR DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT 2018-2019

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a cohesive plan for social-emotional learning, aligned to the FPS vision of SEL <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Pilot Devereaux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA) to establish a baseline of students' SEL skills ◦ Implement Project Interface to promote connections with mental health providers • Continue to build educator capacity in developing students' SEL skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Implement PD with consultant Jessica Minahan to deepen practice on targeted interventions • Complete a district-wide review of counseling services • Create and implement a plan to provide staff with opportunities to focus on their well-being and self-care • Develop a system-wide response to improve student attendance • Develop new long term goals for SEL-focused committees: Substance Abuse Taskforce and Student Wellness Advisory Council • Complete School Start Times Advisory Committee study • Continue to focus on school safety through collaboration with community partners: physical enhancements; training; communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand upon rigorous standards-based curriculum units, which focus on the development of 21st-century skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ 2018-2019 Focus areas: Social Studies, Digital Literacy, Secondary Mathematics, Elementary Literacy • Engage educators and community members in the development of Franklin Public Schools' <i>Portrait of a Graduate</i> • Examine current curriculum and expand opportunities for student choice and voice • Continue to examine homework practices across the district and align to best practices/current research in fostering intended learning outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement a continuum of services for enrichment and interventions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Tiered system of instruction for SEL ◦ Tiered system of instruction for academics: e.g. iReady; specialized reading instruction ◦ Explore dual enrollment options ◦ Revise Kindergarten screening process • Strengthen communication among teams of educators: e.g. co-teaching partnerships; Team Chairs, principals, and central office; District Leadership Team; • Refresh district-wide practices in elementary literacy instruction • Strengthen personalized learning opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Partner with the Massachusetts Personalized Learning Network (MAPLE) ◦ Expand online/blended learning opportunities ◦ Teachers' "Design a Project" Challenge • Continue to develop capacity in inclusive, culturally responsive instructional practices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and communicate a Communication Plan for FPS Central Office • Revise and expand communication channels to enhance engagement with the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Continue to develop new websites ◦ Leverage social media to drive traffic to the district's new website ◦ Implement new Social Media Policy ◦ Expand Human Resources communications to enhance recruitment and employee services ◦ Revise Budget Book for FY 20 • Strengthen the use of School Councils across the district's schools • Develop and implement a parent education series: e.g. Homework, Adolescent Mental Health, Social Media, and Contemporary Education • Seek feedback on District's Strategy for Improvement • Develop a multi-year action plan consistent with District's Strategy for Improvement • Strengthen and grow community partnerships: e.g. YMCA, Franklin Food Pantry, Dean College, Homeless Council, SAFE Coalition, William James College, Franklin Cultural District