

# Office of Teaching and Learning 2020-2021 Highlights

#### Franklin Teaching and Learning

The Office of Teaching and Learning has worked to prepare for teaching and learning in the remote and hybrid settings as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic. We have had to rethink, replan, and reimagine every part of our work as we transitioned from typical classrooms to a school year unlike any other. It was necessary to create, develop, or implement new structures, routines, instructional practices, professional development, technology tools, etc. We were able to take advantage of the additional ten days of professional development time allowed by the state at the beginning of the year. Teachers engaged in PD related to teaching in a hybrid setting, utilizing new technology tools, and rethinking their curriculum, assessment, and instruction plans. Ongoing professional development time has been provided for teachers to continue the planning necessary to teach effectively in this environment. Teachers have risen to the challenge with grace and commitment, and for that, we are very grateful.

While we continue to address the Strategic Objectives from the District Improvement Plan, this year looks quite different as we adjust to the varied environments in which we are working. As a result of the need to reinvent instruction in many ways, we have been able to take advantage of new technology tools and efficiencies that will most certainly continue in the post-pandemic era. These tools have enabled teachers to connect with students in new and meaningful ways through Google Meet and provide meaningful and instant feedback by collaborating in real-time or using Go Formative platforms. Other frequently used tools have included Dreambox and Freckle for elementary math, Discovery Education for middle school social studies, IXL for middle school math, and in some cases, ELA. The high school has used a variety of platforms specific to the course work, as has the Music department. Funding from Coronavirus Relief Funds has been essential in establishing these platforms for our students to use in their learning.



The addition of Digital Learning Integrationists (DLI) has been critical to the district's success this year. The DLI team organized and delivered professional development to increase the staff's capacity to integrate digital tools into the curriculum for remote, hybrid, and in-person learning. In addition, the DLI's provided in the moment training and support to new and experienced staff on the use and integration of technology into the curriculum. They worked with teachers to co-plan and co-teach technology-infused lessons and give teachers guidance for troubleshooting. They are currently developing a multi-year district Digital Learning Integration Plan which will include the development of Digital Literacy curriculum, identification and mapping of the Digital Learning Standards, and a comprehensive plan for digital learning professional development. The DLIs have created and maintained a website to support the integration of digital tools, published biweekly newsletters, maintained a blog and a Twitter account, and host regularly scheduled live virtual sessions to support families and staff.

Another essential role of the DLI's is to curate, recommend, and support safe and secure digital tools that enhance and enrich the curriculum and increase student engagement. To that end, the DLIs developed a process that ensures digital tools protect student data privacy and educated the staff about this critical need. Well over 100 privacy agreements have been secured in an effort to bring the district into compliance with state and federal student data privacy laws. While overseeing the implementation of digital tools subscriptions, the DLI team has identified the need to gather analytics on the usage and effectiveness of digital tools in order to prioritize key digital tools to inform the budget process.

Committee work resumed this year in virtual settings. The district Social Studies Committee has been overseeing the implementation of the first year of the 2018 MA Frameworks and is researching additional resources needed for instruction. There is also a Middle School Grading Reform Committee that will be a multi-year effort to revise grading practices, rubrics, and, eventually, the report card. The goal is to achieve more consistent grading with calibrated results to focus on learning and not grading. There will be an important parent communication and education component of this work.



The Social-Emotional Learning Committee also continued this year and has supported both teachers and students during this unprecedented time. This year, the committee has developed more specific level-based SEL strategies PreK-1, Gr. 2-5, middle, and high school) for teachers to make resources more accessible and relative for teachers across all levels. Teachers can find these resources on the updated SEL district website. The committee has also been curating SEL strategies that each school is currently implementing to identify, support, and monitor students' SEL needs for the second half of the school year. During Spring 2021, the SEL committee will focus on supporting end-of-year supports and the 2021-2022 opening.

With the advent of a vaccine, we look forward to having our students return, in person, to school next year. We anticipate that there will be learning losses that will need to be addressed and plans are underway. Additionally, we expect that students' social-emotional needs might be significantly higher than pre-pandemic and are preparing for that eventuality.

#### **Professional Development**

In 2020-2021 professional development activities focused on the transition and adaptation to the new instructional models of remote learning or hybrid learning with a remote component. These changes have required significant changes to classroom instructional strategies which have in turn, necessitated substantial professional development in both pedagogy and the effective use of digital technologies. Many new technology platforms have been adopted for use within the district and each has had a learning curve associate with it.

Other professional development efforts continue across the district for all professional staff. Offerings include but are not limited to: graduate courses, content and instructional workshops, instruction in the use of technology, professional learning communities, book clubs, and many others. The Office of Teaching and Learning continues to strive to achieve our goal of excellence in all aspects of teaching and learning for every teacher and student.

#### 2021-2022 Preview

The FY22 budget for the Office and Teaching and Learning will continue and extend some of the previous year's initiatives. Below is a summary of highlights from 2020-2021:

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- Adaptation to the remote and hybrid setting for all teaching and learning endeavors
- Professional development for teachers regarding teaching and learning in the remote and hybrid setting, including new uses of technology
- Implementation the MA Social Studies Frameworks (year 1 of 2)
  - Implementation of curriculum from Discovery Education for grades 6-8, funded by capital funds
- MS Grading Reform Committee worked on drafting a new report card for future approval and use
- A group of K-1 educators met and developed support resources for grades K and 1 families and staff in the remote/virtual setting
- Almost 500 students and their teachers participated in a pilot of Illustrative Math at the elementary level which will continue into 2021-2022

| FY18 Actual       | FY19 Actual       | FY20 Actual<br>(unaudited) | Office of Teaching and Learning                               |                            | FY2021 School<br>Committee<br>Approved<br>Budget | Committee<br>Revised<br>Budget | FY2022<br>Superintendent's<br>Recommended<br>Budget | Dollar Change<br>FY21 to FY22 | Percent<br>Change FY21<br>to FY22 | FTE |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----|
| 146,848           | 156,245           | 166,785                    | 2110 Curriculum Directors                                     | 10-Salaries                | 164,391  | 164,391                        | 274,073   | 109,682                       | 66.72%                            | 2.3 |
| 3,500             |                   |                            |   | 10-Travel Stipend          | 3,500  | 3,500                          |   | (3,500)                       | -100.00%                          |     |
| 53,579            | 55,099            | 56,068                     |   | 20-Salaries Secretarial    | 31,971   | 31,971                         | 32,610  | 639                           | 2.00%                             | 0.5 |
| 48,142            | 59,460            | 31,907                     |   | 40-Contracted Services ELI | 50,000   | 50,000                         | 50,000  | 0                             | 0.00%                             |     |
| 5,296             | 2,968             | 439                        |   | 50-Materials and Supplies  | 1,500  | 1,500                          | 1,500   | 0                             | 0.00%                             |     |
| 3,018             | 8,374             | 8,839                      |   | 60-Other Expenses          | 10,000   | 10,000                         | 5,000   | (5,000)                       | -50.00%                           |     |
|                   |                   |                            | Less Revolving Fund Life Lo                                   |                            |  |                                | 0   |                               |                                   |     |
| 260,383           | 282,146           |                            | 2110-District Wide Teaching                                   |                            | 261,362  | 261,362                        | 363,183   | 101,821                       | 38.96%                            | 2.8 |
|                   | 3,900             |                            | 2130-Instr. Tech. Leadership                                  |                            | 8,000  | 8,000                          |   | (8,000)                       | -100.00%                          |     |
| 0                 | 3,900             |                            | 2130- Instr. Tech. Leadership                                 |                            | 8,000  | 8,000                          | 0   | (8,000)                       | -100.00%                          | 0.0 |
| 2,408             | 1,674             | 2,928                      |   | 50-Materials and Supplies  | 2,000  | 2,000                          | 2,000   | 0                             | 0.00%                             |     |
| 2,408             | 1,674             | 2,928                      | 2352-Instructional Coach To<br>2354-Instructional Coach Stipe |                            | 2,000  | 2,000                          | 2,000   | 0                             | 0.00%                             | 0.0 |
| 118,371           | 115,201           | 69,584                     |   | 61-Curriculum Teams/Com    |  | 43,232                         | 47,000  | 3,768                         | 8.72%<br>4.37%                    |     |
| 26,788<br>145,159 | 58,600<br>173,801 | 28,797                     | 2354-Instructional Coach Sti                                  |                            | 82,000<br>162,000                                | 57,488<br><b>100,720</b>       | 60,000<br><b>107,000</b>                            | 2,512<br>6.280                | 4.37%<br>6.24%                    | 0.0 |
| 145,159           | 9,010             |                            | 2356-Professional Developme                                   |                            | 102,000  | 100,720                        | 5.000   | (5.000)                       | -50.00%                           | 0.0 |
| 18,304            | 9,010             |                            | 2356-Professional Developme                                   |                            | 10,000   | 10,000                         | 5,000   | (5,000)                       | -50.00%                           | 0.0 |
| 52,578            | 56,283            | 30.093                     |   |                            | 40,000   | 40,000                         | 40,000  | (3,000)                       | 0.00%                             | 0.0 |
| 2.370             | 00,200            | 4.800                      |   | 50-Materials and Supplies  | 1.000  | 1.000                          | 1.000   | Ő                             | 0.00%                             |     |
| 54,948            | 56.283            |                            | 2358-Vendor Professional De                                   |                            | 41,000   | 41.000                         | 41.000  | Ŏ                             | 0.00%                             | 0.0 |
| 20,964            | 9,329             | 13.048                     |   |                            | 15,000   | 15.000                         | 15.000  | 0                             | 0.00%                             |     |
| 20,964            | 9,329             | 13.048                     |   |                            | 15.000   | 15.000                         | 15.000  | 0                             | 0.00%                             | 0.0 |
| 4,762             | 7,162             | 8,330                      |   | 50-Materials and Supplies- | 2.000  | 2,000                          | 4.000   | 2.000                         | 100.00%                           |     |
| 4,762             | 7,162             | 8.330                      | 2430-General Supplies Total                                   | •                          | 2,000  | 2,000                          | 4,000   | 2,000                         | 100.00%                           | 0.0 |
| 734               | 945               |                            | 2440-Other Instructional Service                              | 60-Other Expenses ELL      | 1.000  | 1.000                          | 1.000   | 0                             | 0.00%                             |     |
| 734               | 945               | 674                        | 2440- Other Instructional Ser                                 | rvices Total               | 1.000  | 1.000                          | 1.000   | 0                             | 0.00%                             | 0.0 |
|                   | 15,113            | 4,487                      | 2455-Instructional Software                                   |                            |  | 61,280                         | 75,000  | 13,720                        | 22.39%                            |     |
| 0                 | 15,113            | 4,487                      | 2455- Instructional Software                                  | Total                      | 0  | 61,280                         | 75,000  | 13,720                        | 22.39%                            | 0.0 |
|                   |                   |                            |   |                            |  |                                |   |                               |                                   |     |
| 507,662           | 559,363           | 456,121                    | Total Teaching and Learning                                   |                            | 502,362  | 502,362                        | 613,183   | 110,821                       | 22.06%                            | 2.8 |