

Woodsdale Elementary School



School Improvement Plan 2023-2024

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WES School Council Members

Chairperson/Principal: Jennifer Barresi

Staff Representative: Andrea Doyon, Meghan Eddy (Year 1)

Parent Representative: Shawna Torpey, Vicki Graham (Year 1)

School Committee 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 a 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 2022-2023 Goals

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

- Implemented Reading Workshop as our Tier 1 core curriculum for ELA. Staff received in-depth monthly training and coaching sessions from Jen Yaeger – a consultant from Teaching Learning Alliance (TLA.)
- Promoted the effective integration and use of technology in classrooms, lessons, and other applications; a ratio of one technology device to one student, or 1:1, was achieved.
- Utilized data driven decision making to ensure students have what they need to achieve success within the domains of behavior and academics.
- Adjusted service delivery/cohorting to better meet the academic needs of our students.

Goal 2: Create opportunities for increased community connections

- Continued providing consistent communication through a variety of mediums, such as bi-weekly, translated newsletters to families via Constant Contact and social media.
- Continued to foster community involvement at Woodsdale through Open House, Parent Conferences, Curriculum Night and MCAS Information Night.

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

- Woodsdale Owl Awards - highlighted the positive social culture and behavioral supports students achieved in response to a monthly core value focus.
- Implemented ALICE emergency response protocols and provided student and staff training.
- Expanded on SEL offerings, including monthly school meetings with individual grade levels, *Morning Meetings*, snack groups and lunch bunch.

Woodsdale School Improvement Plan

The Woodsdale School Improvement Plan aligns with the mission statement, guiding principles, goals, and objectives of Abington Public School's 2020 Strategic Plan. This plan identifies the following goals as the primary areas of focus for the 2023-2024 school year:

Goal 1	Teaching and Learning: To improve student performance in reading and math through curriculum, instruction, and assessment. (District Goal 1)
Goal 2	Facilities: To provide state-of-the-art facilities that promote a healthy and safe learning environment. (District Goal 4)
Goal 3	Community Learning: Broaden our students' awareness of their responsibility to participate within their school community and build strong partnerships with the Abington Community. (District Goal 5.3)

Woodsdale School Improvement Goal 1

Teaching and Learning: To improve student performance in reading and math through curriculum, instruction, and assessment. (District Goal 1.)

Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Continue implementing Reading Workshop to help students develop a love of Reading, while providing a tailored responsive approach to reading and talking about authentic, complex texts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Lucy Calkins Units of Study in Reading – Units 1-4 in Grades 3 and 4. Continue coaching staff by strengthening their small group instruction and assessment. Classroom teachers will continue participating in bi-weekly Peer Observation cycles to showcase best practices and receive feedback for improvement. Curriculum is aligned to Massachusetts English Language Arts and Literacy Framework - Reading Standards 1-10 for Reading Literature (RL) and Reading Informational Texts. (RI) 	June 2024
2. Implement an explicit phonics and spelling program (i.e., Foundations) that provides critical foundational skills in reading to complement higher level skills taught during Reading Workshop.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completion of Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruction in chosen phonics and spelling program. Woodsdale staff to participate in explicit training and coaching to strengthen their teaching of foundational reading skills. Curriculum is aligned to Massachusetts English Language Arts and Literacy Framework - Reading Standards 3 and 4 for Foundational Skills. (RF) 	June 2024

3. Use data driven decision making to inform instruction - examine statewide testing data, benchmark data, and ongoing student performance data to create goals, provide intervention cycles, and progress monitor performance for at-risk students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff ○ Reading Specialists ○ Math Interventionists 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schedule and host fall, winter, and spring data meetings for ELA and math, including two additional sessions to analyze MCAS and ACCESS results. • Identify students falling below benchmark and progress monitor based on data through the use of the following supports: IST, LAT, Reading and Math intervention. 	Ongoing
4. Continue to integrate 21 st century skills in every subject to creatively use technology to solve problems.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Director of Technology ○ Technology Staff ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued utilization of technology integration by classroom teachers. • Students continue to create and collaborate using Microsoft365 products and Canvas. 	Ongoing
5. Continue to use processes & protocols to support the academic needs of all Woodsdale students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Director of ELE ○ Director of SPED ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize block scheduling so students are not removed from core curriculum instruction to participate in Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions/supports. • Continue to use ESL staffing to support EL levels effectively (combination of push-in and pull-out services) • Continue to maximize Partial Inclusion and TLC integration to the extent possible (based on success & capacity of the individual student.) 	Ongoing

Woodsdale School Improvement Goal 2

Facilities: To provide state-of-the-art facilities that promote a healthy and safe learning environment. (District Goal 4)

Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Partner with the new district-wide Safety Team, comprised of parent volunteers, to keep Woodsdale a safe place to learn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Central Office ○ District Safety Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New gates to be installed in the back of the school to keep the campus playground safe. • Volunteer Greeters are present at the front entrance to reduce the number of people in the building and to ensure all visitors check-in at the main office. 	Ongoing
2. Collaborate regularly with members of the Police and Fire Departments to ensure Woodsdale School participates and practices Fire and ALICE drills.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Staff ○ Woodsdale Students ○ School Building Maintenance Foreman ○ SRO Officers c/o Abington Police Department ○ Abington Fire Department 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all classrooms have signs that are up-to-date for directing students out of the building in case of an emergency. • Create universal materials for teaching ALICE drills so all students have access to the same information and vocabulary. • Use Morning Meeting as a space to discuss the purpose of both types of drills – fire and ALICE – to keep students safe in the event of a dangerous emergency. • Participate in pre-scheduled fire and ALICE drills two times per year. 	Ongoing
3. Collaborate with families to ensure transportation routines are safe for all students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ First Student Bus Service ○ Woodsdale Families ○ Woodsdale Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create Bus Behavioral Expectations, including Bus Evacuation drills in the fall and spring. • Communicate regularly with parents to help message the importance of safety during arrival and dismissal. 	Ongoing

Woodsdale School Improvement Goal 3

Community Learning: Broaden our students' awareness of their responsibility to participate within their school community and build strong partnerships with the Abington Community. (District Goal 5.3)

Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Establish core values as the foundational underpinnings for fostering a positive culture and climate at Woodsdale School.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff ○ Woodsdale Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use school meetings in grade level teams to identify and embody core traits of an Outstanding Owl. • Use classroom daily <i>Morning Meetings</i> to reinforce core values and positive behavioral expectations. • Daily recognition by staff, with follow-up/outreach extended to families through social media – e.g., Woodsdale Facebook page. 	Ongoing
2. Develop social emotional and behavioral supports to encourage Woodsdale students to be positive role models and outstanding school citizens.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ School Psychologist ○ BCBA ○ School Nurse ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff ○ Woodsdale Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly SST meetings with behavioral support team to provide social emotional and behavioral interventions for all students as needed. • Weekly offerings of Lunch Bunch and Snack Club to all students as needed to strengthen social skills. • Check-ins with the School Psychologist as needed. 	Ongoing
3. Prioritize communication with families to foster strong parent engagement, break down barriers, and provide support for all students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Support Staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Classroom teachers will provide weekly/biweekly communication to families. • Create biweekly, digital Woodsdale School newsletters, which are translated for families whose primary language is not English. • Utilize the School Messenger phone system to keep families updated with important dates and events at Woodsdale. • Host information sessions to help families learn about teaching and learning at Woodsdale. Events 	Ongoing

		include Open House, Curriculum Night, and MCAS Night.	
4. Collaborate with outside organizations to promote family support and community engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ Woodsdale Families ○ Abington Community Members ○ Woodsdale Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with <i>Care Solace</i> to boost familial connections with mental health supports. • Grade 3 and 4 classrooms partner with <i>The Colony Center for Health & Rehabilitation</i> and create cards and crafts to bring joy to the elderly. • Partner with Massachusetts General Hospital to collect new bedding to support <i>The Sheets from Home Organization</i>. • Abington Public Schools has partnered with a translation agency for those families in need, whose first language is not English. 	Ongoing
5. Partner with PTO to strengthen connections between home, school and the Abington community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Principal ○ PTO ○ Woodsdale Teachers and Staff ○ Woodsdale Students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with <i>The Abington Food Pantry</i> to feed the homeless. • Connect with DCF to provide toys to children in need during the holiday season. • Host enrichment activities, such as <i>Amazing Hero Art</i> with Rob Surette to change the way kids look at the world. 	Ongoing