

# Burr School Improvement Plan 2018-2020

## EDUCATIONAL GOALS

### GOAL 1: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The Newton Public Schools are actively cultivating a culture of equity and excellence by creating and sustaining curriculum and instructional practices that lead to high-quality learning for each and every student. We build the capacity of our educators to meet challenges and opportunities of teaching and learning in a dynamic and evolving environment.

#### Objectives

- A. Provide curriculum and instruction that inspires and engages students.
- B. Foster a cycle of continuous instructional improvement through the use of data, collaboration and instructional support.

### GOAL 2: EDUCATIONAL EQUITY

Narrow achievement gaps with respect to race, ethnicity and socioeconomic status and increase the achievement of students with special needs.

#### Objective

- A. Create and build upon promising initiatives to meet the needs of all learners and ensure that all students succeed.

### GOAL 3: SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING INCLUDING HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Ensure all students become knowledgeable, responsible, caring and contributing members of society through evidence-based social and emotional learning from preschool through high school.

#### Objective

- A. Provide broad support for social and emotional learning for all students.

Improvement Strategies/Activities	Goal/Objective	Outcomes and Measurements
<p><u>Implement New Math Curriculum</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. District will provide professional development for staff in a staggered manner K-5.</li> <li>2. The Math coach will collaborate with PLCs to support teachers and students with implementation of new curriculum in specific grades.</li> <li>3. Teachers will design a schedule that includes district recommended periods for math and follow the recommended structure for math instruction.</li> <li>4. Teachers will use math assessments (formative and summative) to inform their teaching to meet the needs of each student, reflect on each unit and share best practices during their PLCs.</li> </ol>	<p>1A 1B 2A</p>	<p>Starting in the 2017-2018 school year and rolled out over a 2-3 year period, all students will participate in a developmentally appropriate, engaging, and comprehensive math curriculum K-5 as evidenced through student assessments, engagement and skill development.</p>

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<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Teachers will conduct peer observations of effective math practices.</li> <li>6. Students will engage in small group and partner work to improve math understanding and discourse.</li> <li>7. Parents will receive information and communication about new math curriculum.</li> </ol>		
<p><u>Make small group reading instruction more closely informed by reading assessments</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Teachers will meet with principal and literacy specialist twice a year to analyze students' ELA assessment data. We will work collaboratively to utilize data to inform instruction.</li> <li>2. The literacy specialist will select and order new guided reading sets to update our collection. The new books will represent a wide range of genres, reflect the diversity of our society, and be well aligned to our current reading assessments.</li> <li>3. Teachers will work in grade level teams and with the Literacy Specialist to become fluent with the <i>Fountas and Pinnell Literacy Continuum</i> and utilize it to differentiate instruction.</li> </ol>	<p>1A 1B 2A</p>	<p>Each student will receive target instruction that meets his/her needs using resources that are engaging and representative of our diverse community.</p>
<p><u>Improve Achievement for All Students</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal will meet with system-wide data specialist to dive deeper into the MCAS data to determine patterns and themes on which to focus.</li> <li>2. Principal will share recent assessment data with the families and staff.</li> <li>3. Data team will identify curriculum areas and specific concepts that school is performing below system/state</li> </ol>	<p>2A 1A 1B 3A</p>	<p>Over the next two years, students in the high needs categories will continue to improve in academic areas, as measured by the Newton ELA and Math benchmark assessments as well as the MCAS 2.0 data.</p>

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<p>level and examine school-based assessments and current interventions for students in high needs category.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Teachers will meet in PLCs to examine Tier 1 practices to ensure that all students are receiving quality instruction and opportunities.</li> <li>5. The Cultural Proficiency Team will continue to train and engage staff in collaborative, courageous conversations around race and equity.</li> </ol>		
<p><u>Becoming a Responsive School</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All staff will continue to deepen understanding and develop practices towards using the Responsive Classroom approach to foster learning in all aspects of school life.</li> <li>2. All teachers will commit time each morning for Morning Meeting and will follow the recommended structure on a regular basis at least 3 times a week.</li> <li>3. All teachers will deepen understanding, self evaluate, and share best practices around:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective Teacher Language</li> <li>• Student Engagement</li> <li>• Academic Choice</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Staff will communicate elements of the Responsive Classroom approach with families via email, newsletters, and/or inviting families into the school.</li> <li>5. The Responsive School Team will evaluate progress and identify areas for continued professional growth.</li> <li>6. Students in grades 3-5 will respond to the School Connectedness Survey and the resulting data will be used</li> </ol>	<p>3A</p>	<p>Over the next few years, all teachers will become proficient in implementing the Responsive Classroom model in their classrooms; providing common language and opportunities for students’ increased school connectedness and engagement.</p>

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<p>to determine improvement strategies.</p> <p>7. Staff will continue to teach the Burr School Core Values to support the development of engaged positive community involvement and citizenship.</p> <p>8. The Responsive School Team will collaborate with the Cultural Proficiency Team in order to develop a common and inclusive approach to social and emotional learning.</p>		
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### MANAGERIAL GOALS

#### GOAL 1: SCHOOL FACILITIES

As the long-range planning for improved school facilities continues in the implementation phase, it is critical to continually update the plan including the current needs for preschool and student services educational space both short-term and long-term. This goal includes the implementation of the student assignment plan to reduce overcrowding at some schools and to match the student population to the newer, enlarged schools.

##### Objectives

- A. Continue to update Teaching and Learning facilities.
- B. Approve and Implement a plan for student assignment in order to relieve space at overcrowded schools.
- C. Implement protocol for elementary school transitions to new facilities.

#### GOAL 2: TECHNOLOGY

Promote and support effective use of technology for curriculum and instruction, and ensure reliable and efficient technology infrastructure.

##### Objectives

- A. Curriculum and Instruction: Promote and support effective use of technology.
- B. Infrastructure: Ensure reliable and efficient technology infrastructure.

Improvement Strategies/Activities	Goal/Objective	Outcomes and Measurements
<p><u>Promote Effective Use of New Technology</u></p> <p>1. Staff will continue to explore and share ideas around the use of interactive boards, iPads, and Chrome books to increase student engagement.</p> <p>2. Students will use the Keyboarding Without Tears in program in grades 3-5 to develop proficiency in typing and use of technology.</p>	<p>2A</p>	<p>Teachers will use technology to enhance teaching and learning across the curriculum.</p> <p>Students will be comfortable typing by the end of 5<sup>th</sup> grade.</p>

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### COMMUNITY GOALS

Share information with families and larger Newton community on strategic district initiatives. Engage families and community in creative and meaningful ways to increase support for schools and district.

**Objectives:**

- A. Share information with families and the community aligned with goals of district. Respond to external events with impact to school communities.
- B. Engage families in school and district initiatives to increase involvement, connectedness and support.

Improvement Strategies/Activities	Goal/Objective	Outcomes and Measurements
<p><u>Building and Engaging with our Community</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PTO will increase opportunities for families to connect with one another through school events.</li> <li>2. Teachers will hold classroom events that highlight students' learning and grade level curriculum.</li> <li>3. Principal and the PTO will develop structures to welcome new families, such as creating a buddy system for new families (including ELL and METCO) to the community.</li> <li>4. School community will provide opportunities for students to engage in meaningful community service projects.</li> <li>5. Principal and PTO will provide support to school-based parent groups (FORJ) in their work to engage the community in conversations around issues of race and cultural competency.</li> <li>6. Staff and PTO will recruit diverse community members to participate in the planning and organization of school events.</li> </ol>	<p>1A</p>	<p>Maintain and deepen our close school community relations and our meaningful parent-teacher collaboration and partnership.</p> <p>Increased presence of diverse community members at school events.</p>