

Council's School Improvement Plans/Educational Goals

The Principals, in consultation with School Councils, shall adopt educational goals for the schools and shall formulate a Council's School Improvement Plan to advance such goals. The school's educational goals must include the student performance standard adopted by the Massachusetts Board of Education and, consistent with any educational policies established for the system, shall assess the needs of the school in light of their goals. The Council's School Improvement Plan shall address the system-wide goals/core values adopted by the School Committee each year.

The plan shall include an assessment of the impact of class size on student performance and shall consider student to teacher ratios and other factors and supportive adult resources, and may include a scheduled plan for reducing class size.

The plan shall address all of the following items:

1. Professional development for the school's professional staff.
2. Allocation of any professional development funds in the annual school budget.
3. Enhancement of parental involvement in the life of the school.
4. Safety and discipline.
5. Establishment of a welcoming school environment characterized by tolerance and respect for all groups.
6. Extracurricular activities.
7. Development of means for meeting the diverse learning needs of as many children as possible, including children with special needs currently assigned to separate programs, within regular education programs at the school.
8. Such other subjects as the principal in consultation with the school council shall consider appropriate.

Relationship to School Committee

Each Council's School Improvement Plan is to be submitted to the School Committee for review and approval each year. If the plan is not reviewed within thirty days of its submission, it is considered to be automatically approved.

School Planning, Assessment, and Accountability

Each School Council must develop and implement an annual Council's School Improvement Plan. Each school's objectives must be framed in the context of the Education Reform Act of 1993 elements and the priorities identified by the Superintendent and School Committee.

Planning Process

The planning process followed by the School Councils in the writing of each Council's School Improvement Plan is critical to the development of a successful plan, one that addresses the needs of the students, staff and parents, that is, the entire school community. It is critical that the plan be built on a documented needs assessment that has had input from staff and parents, and possibly students at the high school level.

Massachusetts General Law References:

M.G.L. 71:59C – School Councils

Westford Public Schools Policy References:

P1601 – School Councils

Policy Adopted: April 9, 2001

Policy Reviewed:

Policy Revised:

WESTFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Westford, Massachusetts 01886