Foxborough Public Schools

Strategic Plan

2014 – 2017

Vision

In collaboration with the community, the Foxborough Public Schools will provide students with intellectual, artistic, and character building educational experiences to inspire them to achieve in an ever-changing global society.

Mission

The mission of the Foxborough Public Schools, guided by its core values, is to engage students in a rich, diversified education, thereby empowering them to challenge themselves as they become productive, responsible citizens.

Values

- *C*hallenging and innovative educational experiences promote academic excellence by meeting the needs of students in ways that engage them in their learning.
- *A* safe, supportive, and collaborative environment fosters positive attitudes among students and school staff.
- *R*espect for the diversity and dignity of individuals and cultures enriches learning and supports the development of responsible citizenship.
- *E*nsuring a quality education, cultivated by ongoing communication and shared resources among parents, teachers, town organizations, and residents, is the responsibility of the entire community.

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Objective 1:
To continue to offer dynamic learning experiences within a rigorous curriculum that promote critical thinking, creativity, communication, and collaboration, and that foster high levels of achievement for all students by preparing them to be responsible global citizens.

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3-Year Goals:

1. Narrow the achievement gap for the identified high needs student group (as designated by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – DESE) by monitoring, analyzing, and reporting achievement gap data each year, and developing strategies to close the gap.

2. Increase the percentage of students who feel challenged at school by 6%. (In 2014, 74% of all students in grades 3-12 reported that they feel challenged by the work at school - Culture and Climate Survey.)

3. Include developmentally appropriate global curriculum connections in all content areas at all grade levels.

4. Define the expectations for students' technology proficiency and implement technology into the curriculum according to the ISTE-S.*
   *ISTE-S = International Society for Technology in Education Standards for Students

Strategies:

- Increase ELA and math support for students in high needs groups
- Add a third elementary math specialist to provide consistent support in all schools
- Evaluate the model of service delivery in special education, including educational assistants, at all grade levels (e.g. co-taught classes, inclusion services)
- Plan specific training for educational assistants to support students in high needs groups
- Investigate alternative schedules or other structures to increase collaboration time for teachers to share strategies and effective practices
- Provide staff training in cultural proficiency
- Identify structures that would support enrichment and challenge opportunities within the classroom curriculum
- Establish a baseline that indicates where global connections are already incorporated in the curriculum
- Increase opportunities at all levels for students and faculty to participate in global learning experiences
- Incorporate additional global connections into curriculum documents where appropriate
- Provide professional development in the ISTE-T and ISTE-S standards to ensure that staff members responsible for the ISTE standards deliver instruction that meets those standards
  (ISTE-T= International Society for Technology in Education Standards for Teachers)

Objective 2:
To continue to strengthen school culture, ensuring that students, staff, parents and all stakeholders feel valued, safe, and have a voice.

3-Year Goals:

1. By spring of each school year, collect and analyze perception data about school culture and climate from students, staff, and parents/guardians using a variety of data sources.

2. Continue to foster and extend opportunities for teacher collaboration to improve instructional practice and enhance student performance. (In 2014, 63% of teachers district-wide reported that they have time available to collaborate with colleagues - Culture & Climate Survey.)

3. Evaluate guidance and mental health services at all levels to better meet the psychological, social and emotional needs of students.

Strategies:

- Use perception data to inform school and district improvement goals.
- Collect baseline data on how much formal time teachers have to collaborate with colleagues at each level, and evaluate how the time is used.
- Based on the information collected, develop a plan for improving the quality of teacher collaboration.
- Improve outcomes of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to promote vertical and horizontal articulation and effective instructional strategies.
- Provide professional development in online collaboration tools.
- Adjust mental health services to address the emerging needs of students and families.
- Offer parent workshops to share information about students' mental health needs.
- By November 2014, develop district entry plan for successful integration of school resource officer.

Objective 3:
*To enhance district technological capabilities and infrastructure
to provide an increasingly safe and supportive physical and academic school environment.*

3-Year Goals:

1. Enhance safety and security measures in the school environment to offer our students progressively safe and sound facilities.

2. Continue to improve and expand the functionality and capacity of our infrastructure to support teaching and learning and to enable students to utilize dynamic technology within the classroom environment.

3. Continue the maintenance and modernization of school buildings and facilities/grounds to promote a positive educational environment.

Strategies:

- By June 2015, improve school security measures to help ensure the safety of students and staff in buildings throughout the district.
- Engage all public safety staff on a tour of all school buildings for emergency preparedness.
- Improve collaboration through the implementation of an updated communication platform.
- Increase student and teacher access to technology tools and resources to enhance technology integration and promote student learning.
- Create a full campus at FHS including outdoor athletic and recreational facilities to enhance the quality of school life and contribute to a positive culture.
- Develop a modernization plan for Burrell School to assure a safe and equitable educational environment.
- Address operating inefficiencies and physically outdated systems within all school buildings.

Objective 4:
To maintain strong support for public education
within the town of Foxborough.

3-year Goals:

1. Continue to be fiscally responsible annually by reviewing per pupil expenditures with regard to the state average, while maintaining high levels of student achievement.

2. Continue to foster mutually beneficial partnerships with local businesses and community agencies as evidenced by financial and resource support for existing and new initiatives.

3. Maintain strong citizen/taxpayer support for education as evidenced by the approval of the annual budget and special budget requests at town meeting.

4. Continue to promote the Foxborough Public Schools within the town.

Strategies:
- Continue to make the budget process transparent and increase accessibility to the public.
- Refine the District Report Card and share with stakeholders on an annual basis (e.g., add per pupil expenses graphic).
- Increase public awareness of student achievement data and district successes through the media and local realtors.
- By June 2015, enhance the Foxborough Public Schools website to regularly post current photos, videos, and information about academic, extra-curricular, and social news from the district.
- Recognize local community and business partnerships (e.g. via FPS website and other vehicles for recognition).
- Continue to develop intergenerational connections within the community.
- Develop relationships with parents and community members who have expertise in real-world experiences that connect to curriculum (e.g. Speaker's Bureau).

School Committee approved: August 18, 2014