



**Date:** November 6, 2024  
**To:** Granby Board of Education  
**From:** Heather Tanis, Principal of Granby Memorial Middle School  
**Subject:** Annual Granby Memorial Middle School Report 2024-25

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### **1. What are some notable school successes that have occurred within the past year?**

- Seven students received the prestigious Young Writers Award, showcasing their exceptional writing talents.
- Fourteen choir students and two orchestra members were selected for the Middle School Northern Regional Festival Choirs, highlighting our strong music program.
- Over 15 afterschool clubs and activities are successfully up and running, providing students with diverse opportunities to explore their interests and build community.
- There was a 22% increase in standardized test scores in math, from grade 6 to 7.
- Implementing a “Culture of Crew” has created a positive school culture and has fostered a sense of belonging and collaboration among students and staff.
- The addition of a certified math interventionist allows for small groups of students identified through the support process to improve their math skills.

### **2. How is your school working to support the district goal of connection?**

- Bi-monthly communication in the Gazette keeps families informed and strengthens our school’s connection.
- Weekly Crew meetings focus on community building, fostering strong relationships and a sense of belonging among students and staff.
- Quarterly Principal’s Coffee Chats provide opportunities for parents and guardians to engage with the school, focusing on specific topics to keep them informed and involved.
- Family engagement events, such as the back-to-school picnic and trivia night, encourage school spirit and build meaningful connections outside of the school day.
- Curricular and extracurricular programs are being enhanced to reflect real-world connections, build community, and align with student interests.

### **3. How is your school working to support the district goal of believe?**

- Implementation of student-led conferences to help students take responsibility for their learning, build their confidence and belief in their abilities, and share with their families.
- Adding team leaders improves communication across the school, ensuring high expectations for staff and students.

- Teachers continue to work with experts from Illustrative Math and Teachers College (Advancing Literacy) to improve teaching practices and support student success.
- The office referral system has been updated to increase communication around minor behaviors between teachers and parents and help address any disciplinary concerns.
- The teacher evaluation system helps maintain high standards for staff and supports their professional growth.

#### **4. How is your school working to support the district goal of achieve?**

- The leadership team has been restructured to provide stronger support for teachers and improve student achievement.
- Frequent and focused leadership team meetings are driving more effective decision-making and instructional improvements.
- Reinforcing clear shared outcomes across classrooms and fidelity of instructional practices.
- Restorative instructional practices are being implemented to create a supportive, engaging learning environment for all students.
- Purposeful data conversations with students are regularly held, helping them understand their progress and set personal learning goals.

#### **5. Describe any challenges and unique school level considerations?**

- The need to modernize instructional spaces is a key challenge as we aim to create more flexible and engaging learning environments for students.
- Finding sufficient collaborative time for staff to plan and reflect on instructional practices remains a priority to enhance teaching and learning.
- The Crew program continues to grow, with a focus on building practices that positively impact both our school community and the broader community.
- We are working on scheduling improvements to better support academic interventions and enrichment opportunities.
- The addition of a Reading Interventionist is crucial to addressing literacy gaps and supporting struggling readers.
- Implementing a strong Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) is a focus to ensure all students receive the support they need to succeed.
- Department planning time is essential for teachers to collaborate and align instruction in addition to valuable team time.

#### **6. What are the long-term plans that support your school's interests and needs?**

- Ongoing enhancement of interventions and programming is essential to meet the specific academic, social, and behavioral needs of students, including the integration of interventionists and alternative programming options.
- Creating school-wide grading practices that support feedback cycles aligned to each subject area's standards.
- Fostering a Culture of Crew where students take the lead on student-led assemblies, spirit weeks, etc., and the overall climate of the school.