

Celebrating Beecher 2021-22

Woodbridge Board of Education

June 20, 2022

Jonathan S. Budd, Ph.D., Superintendent

Analisa Sherman, Beecher Road School Principal



District Goals 2021-22



District Goal 1: The WSD will engage in a comprehensive strategic planning process to review and update mission, guiding principles, and goals to guide the district from 2022-2027.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Initial presentation by strategic planning consultant occurred at the BOE October 2021 meeting
- ✓ Strategic planning Core Team worked in May to develop three goals presented to the BOE in May 22:
 - Building Diverse Alliances / Building Healthy Alliances
 - Academic Framework
 - Contemporary Learners

Building Diverse Alliances / Building Healthy Alliances

We will strengthen the learning experience for all students by advancing the following work PreK-6:

- **Building Diverse Alliances / Building Healthy Alliances**

Create and support an inclusive environment that embraces awareness of and deepens appreciation of diversity and individuality while promoting the social-emotional wellness of all students.

Academic Framework

We will strengthen the learning experience for all students by advancing the following work PreK-6:

- **Academic Framework**

Develop and support a coherent, research-based curriculum that fosters students' inquiry skills and builds students' intellectual confidence.

Contemporary Learners

We will strengthen the learning experience for all students by advancing the following work PreK-6:

- **Contemporary Learners**

Develop and integrate project-based learning opportunities into the curriculum to promote student choice and critical thinking as we prepare our students for future learning and responsible global citizenship.

District Goal 2: The WSD will begin a process of assessing climate related to diversity, equity, and inclusion and implementing policy and programs to address any unmet needs.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ The WSD Community & Diversity Committee implemented a DEI Survey presented to the Board in February 2022
- ✓ The Town Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion has just completed its own DEI Survey
- ✓ See Strategic Plan Goal 1 on prior slide

Future Anticipated Focus Areas

- Increased attention to groups represented disproportionately in student attendance statistics and special education statistics
- Continued schoolwide lessons and activities (Black History Month, Women's History Month, etc.)
- Continued ongoing curriculum work (Social Studies and ELA)
- Continued professional development based on March 2022 staff feedback
- Ongoing collaboration with Town DEI Committee
- Pursuing the needs of each and every BRS community member who does not yet feel they belong
- Development of BOE policy related to DEI
- Continued website development related to DEI

District Goal 3: The WSD will continue to implement enhanced protocols and procedures related to human resources.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Streamlined onboarding and hiring documentation has been proceduralized, including with personnel of Extended School Day programs, through the Superintendent's Office
- ✓ Frontline Absence Management software has been implemented to replace paper forms and processing, thus increasing administrative & clerical efficiency, and providing speedier response to leave requests

District Goal 4: The WSD will update and revise its capital plan with transparency and feedback from Town leaders and community constituents.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Ad Hoc Capital Plan Committee successfully convened this fall, with report to BOE at its November 2021 meeting
- ✓ Revised Capital Plan presented to Town in December 2021
- ✓ Critical Facilities elements (e.g., Jace) have been addressed proactively
- ✓ FY23 WBOE Capital Budget, & other funding sources, significantly advance BOE's needs

District Goal 5: The WSD will review and update protocols and procedures for assessing the academic, social, and emotional achievement and growth of students with identified special needs, including enhanced communication of assessment results with families.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Implementation of DALs assessment and scoring, with supplemental hard-copy assessments based on student need
- ✓ Phasing-in of multidisciplinary reports for families has emerged across staff providers

District Goal 6: The Board of Education of the WSD will effectively engage in professional development necessary for its effective functioning to achieve Board of Education roles and responsibilities.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Formal professional development for all Board members from the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) & the Freedom of Information (FOI) Commission
- ✓ Additional professional development for Board members as offered by CABE (e.g., CABE Summer Leadership Institute, CABE/CAPSS Convention)
- ✓ Continued professional development for Board members as linked to teacher negotiations



School Goals 2021-22



School Goal 1: BRS will assess and address effectively the social and emotional needs of all students, including those returning from fully remote learning.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Student Culture & Community Committee
- ✓ Social and emotional learning tied into teacher evaluation program as a goal option
- ✓ Implementation of Choose Love lessons at each grade level
- ✓ Additional school psychology & social work FTE linked to student SEL needs

School Goal 2: BRS will expand and develop best practices for teaching and learning literacy.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Academic achievement tied into teacher evaluation program as a goal option
- ✓ Utilization of literacy specialists and special education teachers to continue coaching and supporting classroom teachers in best literacy practices, led by cross-disciplinary team focused in part on evolving research on the science of reading & dyslexia, leading to online keynote speaker on dyslexia
- ✓ Enhanced utilization of ELL teacher, including in professional learning
- ✓ See Strategic Plan Goal 2 on prior slide

School Goal 3: BRS will expand and develop best practices for culturally responsive teaching and learning, including in the social studies.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Formal professional learning for teachers in August 2021, November 2021, & March 2022
- ✓ Cultural responsiveness tied into teacher evaluation program as a goal option
- ✓ Faculty Meeting and PLC work around DEI

School Goal 4: BRS will expand best practices for using technology to enhance teaching and learning and to strengthen student engagement.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Formal professional learning for teachers in August 2021 & November 2021
- ✓ Student engagement tied into teacher evaluation program as a goal option
- ✓ Creation of vibrant MakerSpace in Library Technology Center
- ✓ Continued use of technology specialist teachers in supporting strong technology integration practices

School Goal 5: BRS will expand professional sharing of best instructional practices, and data-based decision-making, linked to improved student outcomes.

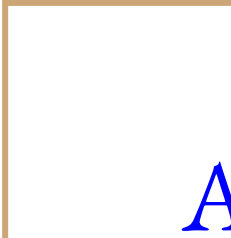
Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Continued assured PLC implementation, including curriculum specialist teachers, with sharing of best practices through team leaders
- ✓ Cross-disciplinary team focused in part on evolving research on the science of reading & dyslexia


School Goal 6: BRS will expand and develop best practices for effective engagement of, and communication with, families.

Evidence of Attainment

- ✓ Professional learning for new teachers on effective family communication
- ✓ Ongoing faculty, and team leader, discussions around best practices for family engagement and communication
- ✓ Administrative improvement of strategies for timely, responsive, two-way communication, including in the complexities of the current pandemic



Additional
Professional
Learning &
Evaluation



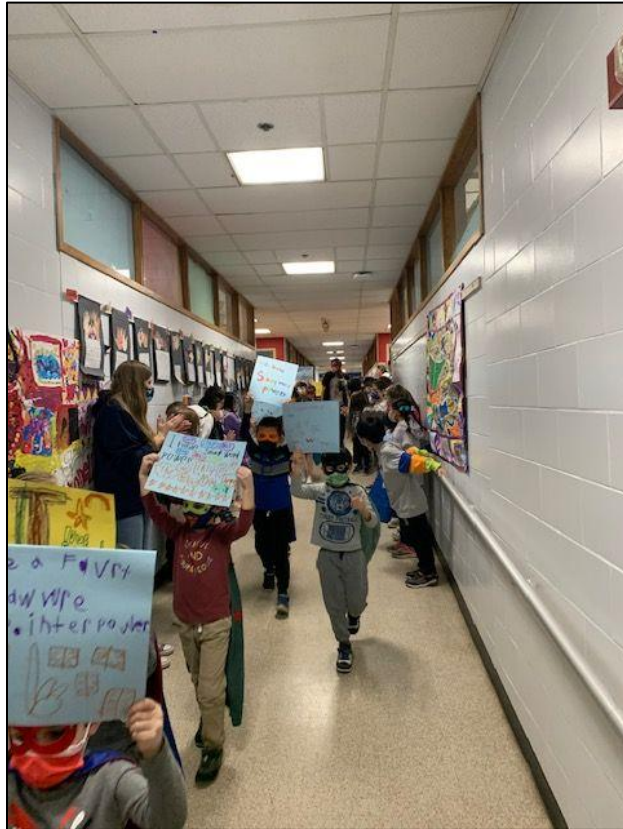
Additional Professional Learning & Evaluation Elements

- Ongoing discussions of best practices for mitigation strategies
- Discussion of, and alignment with, Section 504 and Special Education services
- Outside consultant sharing best practices involving Assistive Technology
- Discussion of key elements of *CT Code of Professional Responsibility for Teachers*
- All certified staff evaluated in accordance with C.G.S. Section 10-151b(a), and the *Flexibilities for Implementing the CT Guidelines for Educator Evaluation 2017 for the 2021-2022 School Year*, as approved by the BOE



Additional
Beecher
Celebrations

Super Readers, Arts Night, & Field Day!



Instrumental Music Returns to Beecher!



DARE Graduation 2022



Beecher Teacher of the Year!

- Maria DePalma, Beecher's PreK teacher since 2001
- An evaluator: "Maria's strengths include her leadership in the department. This year, as team leader, Maria took on the responsibility of ensuring that all documents are accurate and timely for the entire Special Services Department. Her efforts went above and beyond!"
- Her nominator: "Maria immediately puts nervous children and parents at ease with her calm and friendly demeanor. Beginning on the very first day of school, she takes our youngest students under her wing and nurtures them with compassion and care. She teaches them the building blocks of literacy and math, as well as critical social skills to help set them on their way."



Questions?