

Beaver Brook Elementary School:

School Improvement Plan
2023-2024

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Beaver Brook Elementary School (BBES)
School Council Members 2022-2023

Co-Chairs:	Julie Thompson – Principal Melanie Savicke– Assistant Principal
Parent Representatives:	Kristi Ericson Katie Cox Brooke Woodford
Staff Representatives:	Kelly DeSantes, Grade 1 Rebecca Pulkinen, Wellness Adrienne Whalen, Reading Specialist
Community Representative:	NA
School Committee Representative:	Heidi Hernandez, Abington School Committee

Mission Statement

The mission of the Abington Public Schools is to provide all students with relevant, challenging educational experiences to prepare them to be engaged, responsible citizens and members of the global community.

District Guiding Beliefs:

We believe in:

- ❖ making decisions in the best interests of students.
- ❖ supporting all students in achieving success.
- ❖ fostering the physical, intellectual, technological, social, emotional, and artistic development of our students.
- ❖ creating a safe, tolerant, supportive, organized, and equitable learning environment.
- ❖ providing challenging educational experiences that build character.
- ❖ developing self-discipline and personal responsibility.
- ❖ promoting creativity, problem solving, effective communication, and critical thinking skills.
- ❖ cultivating the educational partnership among home, school, and community.
- ❖ nurturing a culture of collaboration, collegiality, and mutual respect.
- ❖ encouraging staff initiative and innovation.
- ❖ implementing professional development that is essential for effective instruction and improved student learning.
- ❖ reviewing and updating curriculum, instruction, and assessment in a regular cycle.
- ❖ recognizing that effective and appropriate technology is essential for teaching and learning.
- ❖ inspiring all students to become life-long learners.

District Goals and Objectives:

Teaching and Learning

1 To improve student performance through curriculum, instruction, and assessment.

- 1.1 Provide rigorous and relevant curriculum and instruction in an optimal learning environment.
- 1.2 Analyze student performance data from a variety of sources to make informed decisions.
- 1.3 Commit time and resources for meaningful collaboration and high-quality professional development.

Technology

2 To maximize opportunities provided by technology to transform teaching and learning.

- 2.1 Provide all staff and students access to current hardware and software, achieving a one-to one computing ratio.
- 2.2 Develop technology literacy curriculum for all students.
- 2.3 Continue to provide professional development in instructional technology.
- 2.4 Provide appropriate instructional technology support.
- 2.5 Commit to a regular plan to evaluate, consider, and acquire emerging technology.

Finance and District Operations

3 To obtain and responsibly manage equitable, predictable, and sustainable funding for educational programs, facilities, and operations.

- 3.1 Collaborate with the community, local, state, and federal officials to obtain sustainable and predictable financial support.
- 3.2 Provide transparency and encourage community participation in the budgetary process.
- 3.3 Plan and secure funding through traditional and alternative sources, in order to provide state-of-the-art facilities, infrastructure, technology, and other capital projects.
- 3.4 Provide relevant professional development in the area of technology to maximize data management and business continuity.

Facilities

4 To provide state-of-the-art facilities.

- 4.1 Secure the necessary votes to support the renovation, expansion, and /or construction of school facilities.
- 4.2 Present required Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) applications and have them accepted and funded.
- 4.3 Begin work on MSBA and town funded projects as soon as possible.
- 4.4 Continue to avail ourselves of alternative funding sources for maintenance and upgrades to school facilities.

Community Support

5 To generate strong community support for the school district.

- 5.1 Create and implement a plan to effectively communicate the achievements of the students and staff of the Abington Public Schools.
- 5.2 Increase family and community participation in the educational process and the life of the schools.
- 5.3 Broaden our students' awareness of their responsibility to participate in their community.
- 5.4 Build strong community support for education through the approval of the annual budget and special budget requests at town meeting.

Summary of 2022-2023 Goals:

- **Goal # 1: Improve reading proficiency of all students**
 - New phonics resources implemented for all students in grades K-2
 - Kindergarten and Grade 1 teachers continue to implement Heggerty Phonemic Awareness program
 - Teachers continue to implement reader's workshop as a literacy structure
 - "Jump start" caseload of reading interventions put in place immediately following September DIBELS assessment.
 - Reading intervention provided to students through the SST (Student Support Team) process
 - WIN model allows for individualized instruction twice per week with grade level teachers
- **Goal # 2: Improve supports and outcomes for students with disabilities as well as English Learners**
 - Implemented a foundational EL classroom for grade 1 and 2 EL newcomers to provide comprehensive language services
 - ELE Department held a family meet and greet at Beaver Brook allowing for families to learn about our school, ask questions, and socialize.
 - Orton-Gillingham reading program training/implementation by Special Educators to provide a multi-sensory approach to reading instruction to help students connect language with letters and words
 - Special Education model at BBES adjusted to support all students with disabilities in their least restrictive environment
 - All teachers received professional development focused on strategies to best support EL students.

- **Goal # 3: Increase family engagement in student learning experiences**
 - Beaver Brook Broadcaster sent to families on weekly basis with content and links translated and posted on the APS website
 - Teachers continue to use platforms such as Remind, Talking Points, Classroom Dojo, email, phone calls and meetings to continue collaboration with families
 - Beaver Brook staff planned and held several events through this school year providing opportunities for families to visit our school and interact with each other and/or Beaver Brook staff members.
 - Open House
 - Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Family Math Night
 - Pirate Literacy Night
 - Kindergarten Veteran's Day Event
 - Grade 1 Spring Show
 - Grade 2 Vocabulary Parade and Celebration
 - Volunteer Classroom Readers
 - In collaboration with the PTO, several events and activities were held during the year focused on increasing opportunities for families to participate in student experiences at BBES
 - Kindergarten popsicle party
 - Bowling night
 - Booster Fun Run
 - Providence Bruins
 - Special Someone Dance
 - Boo Bash
 - Holiday shop
 - Thanksgiving and Holiday Drives

BBES 2023-2024 School Improvement Plan

The Beaver Brook Elementary School (BBES) School Council is a representative building-based group that meets regularly to discuss important issues related to the overall needs of BBES. In addition to monitoring all factors related to the educational needs of children and reviewing the school's annual budget, the School Council is responsible for the development of the BBES School Improvement Plan. The School Improvement Plan is an annual document that outlines the most pressing needs of the school community. All goals/action steps, although specific to the Beaver Brook Elementary School, are consistent with the vision, mission, goals, and objectives of Abington Public School District's Strategic Plan. This year, the BBES School Council has identified the following goals as primary areas of focus for the 2023-2024 school year:

Goal # 1	Improve writing proficiency of all students
Goal # 2	Improve supports and outcomes for students' social emotional needs
Goal # 3	Increase opportunities for all families to engage in school community

Beaver Brook Elementary School Improvement Goal #1

Goal #1	Improve writing proficiency of all students
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Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Prioritize writing instruction and opportunities for writing for all students	Principal/Assistant Principal, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, Educators, Support Staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicate professional development time to MA ELA/Writing Standards • Staff to collaborate on grade level writing expectations and rubric • Implement benchmark writing prompts Fall, Winter, Spring • Writing across content areas is implemented following recommended model (delivery method, minutes per day, etc.) 	Ongoing

Beaver Brook Elementary School Improvement Goal #2

Goal #2	Improve supports and outcomes for students' social emotional needs.		
Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Prioritize social emotional needs of all students.	Director of Student Services, Principal/ Assistant Principal, Special Education Team Chair, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire full time School Adjustment Counselor • Create opportunities for collaboration between educators and SAC • Create Second Step pacing guide for each grade level • Streamline and update processes of Mental Health Committee 	Ongoing

Beaver Brook Elementary School Improvement Goal #3

Goal #3	Increase opportunities for all families to engage in the school community		
Activity and/or Professional Development	Person(s) Responsible	Indicator of Accomplishment	Expected Completion Date
1. Increase family engagement opportunities	Principal/Assistant Principal, Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase interactivity of all educators at Open House • Implement Welcome to Kindergarten event for parents • Host school wide curriculum nights • Host ELE Department Meet and Greet • Collaboration with PTO on in-school and after-school events/activities/fundraisers 	Ongoing

Appendix

Acronyms/Definitions

BBES – Beaver Brook Elementary School

Class DoJo, Remind – phone and computer applications for communication between home and school using text and or photo/video

CPT – Common Planning Time

DESE – Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

DIBELS – Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills is a set of procedures and measures for assessing the acquisition of literacy skills.

ELE – English Learner Education

EL – English Learner

ESL – English as a Second Language

PD – Professional Development

PTO – Parent Teacher Organization

RtI – Response to Intervention

SAC – School Adjustment Counselor

SEI – Sheltered English Immersion is an approach to teaching academic content in English to ELs. Generally, but not always, ELs are in the same classrooms as native English-speaking students.

SEL – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) is an integral part of education and human development. SEL is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions

SST – Student Support Team- educator team who review student academic, social, emotional, or behavior challenges then assist with intervention options

SY – School Year

WIN – What I Need (WIN) is a universal intervention period for all students in each grade level. Students are mixed between 3 or 4 classrooms based on their academic needs/strengths in reading and math to receive targeted instruction 2x per week for 30-minutes