

Lincoln Public Schools 2009-2010 School Improvement Plan
Hanscom Middle School
Ent Road, Hanscom AFB, MA 01731

Introduction

The 2010-201001 School Improvement Plan has been developed by the Hanscom Middle School Council and presents goals and planned activities for the continual growth of our school. The goals and activity plans presented in this document are aligned with the goals of the Lincoln Public Schools.

Advisory Council Members

Erich Ledebuhr, Principal
Melissa Matos, Parent
Jennifer McSorley, Teacher
Gregory Kalesnik, Teacher
Loretta D'Alessandro, Teacher
Lt. Col. Randy Robertson, Community Representative

General School Statement

In accordance with the Massachusetts Education Reform Law, Chapter 71 of the Acts of 1993, the Hanscom Middle School Council is pleased to share our School Improvement Plan for the 2010-2011 school year.

The plan reflects the academic and cultural needs of Hanscom Middle School as determined by analysis of data from the previous school year as well as the district goals and Federal mandates.

The Hanscom Middle School is a part of the Lincoln Public Schools and educates Military dependents that reside on Hanscom Air Force Base. As a school that services a military community we turn over one third of our population every year.

At the beginning of the school year our enrollment was 197 students grades 4-8. There are 24 full time teachers, 15 part time teachers, 2 assistants, and 4 special education tutors. We currently have 6 classrooms at 4th and 5th grade and a three-member team at 6th grade and four-member team at 7th and 8th grade. Due to enrollment we have budgeted for only a two-member team at 6th grade for the 2010-2011 school year. We are a full inclusion school where all our special education students are a part of our regular education classrooms. Our goal as a school is to provide a challenging, standards-based curriculum that will provide students with the necessary means to advance their achievement to attain the highest possible level.

Hanscom Middle School's 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan contains three goals. The first goal is establishing a Professional Learning Community (PLC) at Hanscom Middle School. Our school operates under a team structure that needs to be further defined. It is our belief that if our teams have clearly defined visions, missions and norms this will lead to more success with student achievement and a stronger school culture.

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Hanscom Middle School also needs to further define the strategies that we use to intervene with our struggling students. The Instructional Support Team (IST) and the Response to Intervention (RtI) process are the vehicles through which we address this need. These models combine assessments and intervention strategies within a multi layer system to maximize student achievement and reduce behavior problems. This is achieved by identifying students at risk for poor learning outcomes, monitoring student progress, providing evidence based interventions and ultimately helping to identify students with learning disabilities.

Finally, Hanscom Middle School needs to raise its academic achievement level. We believe that our focus on the above-mentioned goals is a solid step in this direction. Our final goal strictly focuses on academic achievement in the area of language arts. We will continue and expand the work we started this year with Readers' Workshop in the 4th and 5th grade. Additionally, we will further our knowledge and use of data collection to inform our instruction. We will also place a heavy focus on writing tying into the district's goal of defining a writing curriculum K-8. Hanscom Middle School will also choose a school wide writing goal that we will be able to focus on as a school community to track our success and celebrate to help promote the idea of academic achievement.

We continue to place a strong emphasis on our two math programs. Next year we will be entering our third year of Everyday Mathematics at the 4th and 5th grade levels. We will continue to refine our instruction and skills at differentiating our instruction. We will also be looking at the data we have collected to improve and inform our instruction.

This past year we implemented the Impact Mathematics program for grades 6 through 8. Due to retirements, we will be hiring two new math teachers for the next school year. As a result, we will need to continue to provide a generous amount of professional development for these two new teachers to help them make a smooth transition to Impact Mathematics.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the Hanscom Middle School Council for their hard work and support of our school. Thank you to parent representative Melissa Matos, teacher representatives Loretta D'Alessandro, Gregory Kalesnik and Jennifer McSorley. I would also like to thank Lt. Col Randy Robertson for his willingness to serve on our school council.

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Goals

Goal: To define and implement the use of Professional Learning Communities (PLC)			
Prepared by: Erich Ledebuhr		Date: May 2009	
Results to be Anticipated:		<i>Teachers and staff working together with a united sense of beliefs and norms to enhance student achievement.</i>	
Relationship to District Goals		<i>Curriculum, Assessment & Instruction Teacher Excellence & Professional Development Leadership & School Culture</i>	
Benchmark Events and Timeline		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Introduce the idea of Professional Learning Communities</i> ○ <i>Exploration of the "middle school model" for grades 6-8</i> ○ <i>Begin to build the foundation of a PLC including vision and mission.</i> ○ <i>Creation of norms for teams</i> ○ <i>Creation of team identities</i> ○ <i>Create more avenues for both teacher and student leadership</i> ○ <i>Continue to enhance communication between home and school</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>September 2010</i> ○ <i>September 2010</i> ○ <i>September 2010</i> ○ <i>September 2010</i> ○ <i>September 2010</i> ○ <i>September 2010</i> ○ <i>Ongoing</i> ○ <i>Ongoing</i>
Individual's Involved		<i>Principal Team Leaders HMS Teachers and Staff Hanscom School Community PTO Parent Liaison</i>	Resources Needed <i>Monday and Wednesday faculty meeting time Team Planning time Professional Development</i>

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Assessment Criteria	<i>Fully define PLCs from grades 4-8 Increased effectiveness of PLCs Increased academic achievement measured by school assessments, district common assessments, MCAS Enhanced opportunities for both student and teacher leadership Enhanced communication between home and school community Stronger school culture</i>
Looking ahead:	<i>Developmental Design for grades 6-8 Responsive classroom levels 2 and 3 for 4th and 5th grade teachers This goal will continue into year 2</i>

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Goal: To fully implement the IST Model			
Prepared by: Erich Ledebuhr		Date: May 2010	
Results to be Anticipated:		<i>Effective implementation of the IST (Instructional Support Team) Model to meet student needs.</i>	
Relationship to District Goals		<i>Curriculum, Assessment & Instruction Teacher Excellence & Professional Development</i>	
Benchmark Events and Timeline		<i>Professional Development about the IST process</i> <i>Review of the RtI (Response to Intervention) model and its connection to the IST process. Particular attention will be given to Tier 1 strategies.</i> <i>Identifying strategies that can be used as interventions on an individual and team-wide basis.</i> <i>Creation of a system for easy and seamless access for teachers to access the defined strategies.</i> <i>Creation of a protocol for teachers and teams to follow when taking a student through the RtI and IST process</i> <i>Continue to define differentiation strategies</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>September 2010 and ongoing</i> o <i>September 2010 and ongoing</i> o <i>October 2010 and ongoing</i> o <i>December 2010</i> o <i>October 2010 and ongoing</i> o <i>Ongoing</i>
Individual's Involved		Resources Needed	<i>District & School Wednesdays Team Planning Times Professional Development</i>
		<i>Principal Mathematics Specialist Literacy Specialist Interventionist Technology Integration Specialist HMS Team Leaders/HMS Teachers/HMS Paraprofessionals Special Education Coordinator</i>	

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	<i>School Social Worker</i> <i>School Psychologist</i>		
Assessment Criteria	<i>Increased effectiveness of program implementation</i> <i>Increased student achievement due to defined interventions measured by school, district and state assessments</i> <i>Creation and implementation of RtI Plan</i> <i>Create system for teachers to access strategies</i>		
Looking ahead:	<i>This goal will continue into year 2</i>		

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Goal: Improving Literacy instruction to improve student learning			
Prepared by: Erich Ledebuhr		Date: May 2005	
Results to be Anticipated:		<i>Improved learning in language arts</i>	
Relationship to District Goals		<i>Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Teacher Excellence and Professional Development Leadership & School Culture</i>	
Benchmark Events and Timeline		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Teachers will be involved in district effort to develop writing curriculum K-8</i> o <i>Creation of school wide writing goal to help promote the idea of academic excellence</i> o <i>Continue use of data collection and analysis to inform ELA instruction between department and grade level teams</i> o <i>Continue implementation of Readers' Workshop at the 4th and 5th grade level.</i> o <i>Refine and establish new reading expectations for classroom teachers and literacy specialists grades 4-8</i> o <i>Redefine the summer reading program</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>District Wednesday afternoons</i> o <i>School based meeting and CPT</i> o <i>Team times, faculty meetings</i> o <i>Ongoing</i> o <i>Ongoing</i> o <i>Spring 2011</i>
Individual's Involved		<i>Principal Literacy Specialists HMS Team Leaders/HMS Teachers Technology Integration Specialist Judy Merra, Content Specialist</i>	Resources Needed <i>Monday and Wednesday faculty meeting time Team Planning time Professional Development</i>

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Assessment Criteria	<i>Writing Curriculum aligned with standards Increased knowledge in writing assessed through district writing samples Increased knowledge in reading assessed through Fountas and Pinnell, QRIs, district and state assessments Higher academic achievement measured by district, school and state assessments</i>
Looking ahead:	<i>This goal will continue into year 2</i>