



LINCOLN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

REBECCA E. MCFALL, ED.D.
SUPERINTENDENT

To: School Committee
From: Rebecca McFall
RE: Strategic Plan 2014 – 2015
Date: June 4, 2014

On May 13, 2014 the School Committee and the Administrative Team, including new administrators hired for the 2014 – 2015 school year, met to review and discuss the Lincoln Public Schools Strategic Plan for 2013 – 2015. As a result of this session, it was agreed that the Lincoln Public Schools 2013 – 2015 Strategic Plan continues to reflect the priorities of the district and the areas that need to be addressed and continue to be a focus. It is my recommendation that the School Committee approve the Lincoln Public Schools Strategic Plan 2013 – 2015 for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

During our session on May 13, 2014, we discussed the need to further prioritize our work and focus our resources in order to gain greater positive impact for students. We acknowledged that there are several mandated initiatives that we must carry out related to the Educator Evaluation system including the use of District Determined Measures (Growth Measures), and Student Feedback as well as other mandated initiatives such as RETELL (ELL training) and MKEA (kindergarten early assessment system). There are several other state mandates that we will continue preparing for such as alignment of curriculum to the Common Core Standards and preparation for the transition from MCAS to PARCC.

The outcome of our discussions about priorities demonstrated that we have strong agreement regarding the focus of our efforts in the area of Curriculum and Instruction. In particular, we will focus our work on the “5 Key Questions for Learning” and establishing shared understanding of the vision of effective teaching and learning. As part of this work, we will focus on cognitive demand and ensuring that teaching and learning provides students with opportunities to develop higher order thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and creation. Work in these areas is connected to the following Strategic Priorities:

- B1 - Provide Professional Development aligned with the 5 Key Questions for Learning (16 dots)
- B2 - Analyze instruction and student assignments for the level of demand and engagement (12 dots)

Secondary areas of focus identified during our workshop include:

- A3 - Peer Observation as part of Develop team expertise in focusing on student learning goals and growth (5 dots)
- C3 - Support educator use of data to monitor student growth and inform instruction (8 dots)
- D1 - Provide professional development opportunities to refine the Differentiation of instruction (5 dots)
- D2 - Monitor progress of students identified with “high needs” and adjust instruction to narrow achievement gaps (7 dots)

During the administrative retreat this summer, the Administrative Team will continue to discuss the work to be carried out given the available time to work with teachers and our capacity to balance the district priorities with the mandates established by the DESE. In the fall, I will provide you with a specific plan that outlines our action steps related to the areas of focus identified above.