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# Reading Public Schools

*Instilling a joy of learning and inspiring the innovative leaders of tomorrow*

**To:** Joshua Eaton Community  
**From:** Joshua Eaton School Council  
**Re:** Joshua Eaton School Improvement Plan  
**Date:** June 15, 2017

The Joshua Eaton School Council is proud to share information about our School Improvement Plan. Please see below for more information about the School Council and the back of this sheet for a summary overview of the School Improvement Plan goals.

## **What is School Council?**

A school council is a representative school building-based committee composed of the principal, parents, teachers, community members and, at the secondary level, students, required to be established by each school pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 59C.

## **What does a School Council do?**

The law outlines four major areas of responsibility for councils. School councils are to assist principals in:

1. Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards
2. Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school
3. Reviewing the annual school building budget
4. Formulating a school improvement plan

## **Who is on the Joshua Eaton School Council?**

The Joshua Eaton School Council for 2016-2017 is: Eric Sprung -- principal and co-chair, Christine Lusk -- co-chairperson, Ibrahim Al-Qamari – parent, Sandy Emery – grade 4, Anne Manna – grade K, Eileen Manning - parent, Michelle Ofilos – grade 3, Ed Orsini - parent, Jaime Quinn – grade 2, Julie Ross – parent

## **How did the School Council decide on the goal?**

Each year the school council aligns our school improvement plan with the district improvement plan goals. The School Council utilized surveys, interviews, group discussions, open coffee/feedback sessions, and data analysis to gather information. Information was gathered from staff, current

parents, and current students. The information gathered was reviewed and commonly identified themes across the various stakeholders were identified to create our three goal areas. We recognize being a level 3 school requires us to focus on how we will show continued academic improvement based on this distinction.

### **How can I find out more information?**

View the full Joshua Eaton School Improvement Plan here:

[http://www.reading.k12.ma.us/joshuaeaton/files/9214/9279/4866/school\\_improvement\\_plan.pdf](http://www.reading.k12.ma.us/joshuaeaton/files/9214/9279/4866/school_improvement_plan.pdf)

### **School Improvement Goal #1:**

**Joshua Eaton Staff will meet the academic needs of all students. The focus will be on closing the achievement gap for all students.**

### **What does this look like?**

This area has held significant growth for our school community. We have focused our energy on improving literacy and math instruction for all students. Some of the steps we have taken to accomplish this goal include:

- Completing the new Fountas and Pinnell benchmark assessments with higher standards and expectations
- Training for staff on new literacy program
- Collaboration with literacy coach conducting model lessons
- Allan Blume training with special education and regular education staff on working collaboratively to meet student needs
- Special Education training – PLEP A and PLEP B accommodations, IEP access through Esped, and the partnership between classroom and special education teachers
- After school MCAS program
- Coffee with SEPAC, special education director, team chair, and principal
- Scheduling to accommodate IEP's, interventions, and instructional needs
- Trainings for K-3 from Teacher Learning Alliance following up on reading program structures
- Money for additional books and teacher resources to institute reading instruction
- Teachers in grades K-2 received training on new AMC math program with interventions
- LLI intervention program provided for lowest level readers

We made significant progress accomplishing this goal in the area of literacy as more than 90% of our students in K-3 moved up 2 levels in reading since January.

### **What does the future hold for this goal?**

We will continue to use data to inform the effectiveness of our literacy (F&P) and math (AMC) instruction. Students receiving early interventions and receiving instruction with higher expectations in the classroom will be reflected in future MCAS data. The school will collect literacy and math data multiple times a year to ensure students are receiving appropriate instruction and/or interventions.

We will be reviewing our instruction, routines, and collaboration with our special education program. We hope to offer effective inclusive practices for students to access the general education curriculum.

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### **School Improvement Goal #2:**

**Joshua Eaton will improve our communication continuing to foster a positive partnership between the school and community.**

### **What does this look like?**

The Joshua Eaton community has done a lot to improve our communication with families. The steps we have taken to accomplish this goal include:

- Revised our school communication policy
- Improved our school wide weekly newsletter
- Created a web site with relevant school content
- Updated our school Facebook page
- Utilize our twitter account for relevant educational topics
- Respond in a timely manner to parent questions and concerns
- Share out relevant web site and apps for parent use
- Held parent coffees to share relevant school information and data
- Provided a parent survey to collect data on our school communication improvements

**What does the future hold for this goal?**

This area of focus and development will continue to grow and develop based on results of the data collected in the spring of 2017. We will be improving our school web site to make it more user friendly and information will be easier to locate. The weekly communication from the classroom will continue to happen in a more consistent manner. We will continue with the Jaguar Tracks weekly newsletter. We want all parents, teachers, and community member to be aware of our school-wide communication plan.

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