

WARE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
2008 – 2009

I. Assessment of student-teacher ratios as they impact on student performance both academically and behaviorally.

Goal: Maintain student-teacher ratios in academic classes at an average class size of 25:1 whenever possible.

Strategies:

- Maintain or increase current staff.
- Ensure equity for students and staff whenever possible.

Responsibility: School Committee, Superintendent, Principal, Faculty

Budget: School

II. Identification of resources and programs that support and/or enhance the School District's Professional Development Plan.

Goal: Through the regular budget and grant funding we must commit to high quality professional development as indicated through student data and comprehensive needs assessment.

Strategies:

- Analyze assessment data
- Survey staff needs
- Analyze student needs

Responsibility: Curriculum Director, Director of Accountability, Principal, Faculty

Budget: School, grants

III. Enhancement of parental and community involvement in the school.

Goal: Establish greater involvement of parents, guardians, and community organizations in the school and students in the community.

Strategies:

- Expansion of community partnerships
- Continue use of the WHS website to enhance the image of the school
- Improve communication between the home and school
- Expand use of the public access channels to bring the schools to the community
- Increase the numbers of parents, teachers, and students involved in the PTSSA.
- Include the parents of Junior High School students in the school community.
- Continue Job Shadow project
- Cooperate with offices of curriculum and accountability regarding parent events and community outreach
- Continue public relations efforts

Responsibility: Administration, Director of Curriculum, Director of Title I and Accountability, Superintendent, Parents, Faculty, Technology Department

Budget: School

IV. Strategies to maintain and insure School Safety and Discipline.

Goal: Provide a safe and supportive environment.

Strategies:

- Explore alternatives to external suspension
- Keep a full-time assistant principal position
- Clarify and continue improvement of the Structured Learning Class
- Cooperate with outside agencies for support
- Develop strategies and policies to increase student attendance
- Update and practice safety procedures

Responsibility: School Committee, Superintendent, Administration, Guidance Staff,

Budget: School, grants

V. Establishment of school environment characterized by respect and tolerance for all.

Goal: Provide a safe and supportive environment of mutual respect where students can achieve academic success.

Strategies:

- Keep full-time assistant principal position
- Continue partnerships with community support organizations

- Establish an anti-bullying program at the high school which would be a continuation of Second Step
- Continue improvement of the Advisor Program
- Explore options of providing additional administrative support to the Junior High School.

Responsibility: School Committee, Administration, Faculty

Budget: school

VI. Assessment and development of extra-curricular/enrichment activities.

Goal: Establish extracurricular activities that will provide a well-rounded educational experience for our students.

Strategies:

- Provide extra-curricular opportunities offered in the teachers' contract
- Maintain National Honor Society Chapter
- Support student initiated extra-curricular activities

Responsibility: School Committee, Superintendent, Administration, Faculty

Budget: School

VII. Description of the means for meeting the diverse learning needs of all students, including students with special needs currently assigned to separate programs, within the regular education programs at the school.

Goal: Work to insure that all staff uses teaching strategies that meet the needs of diverse learners.

Strategies:

- Implement the district curriculum
- Monitor implementation of curriculum pacing guides
- Through the evaluation process, encourage and enforce the use of multi-modal teaching and differentiated instruction to better meet the needs of all students.

Responsibility: Director of Curriculum, Director of Special Education, Administration

Budget: School

VIII. Identification and description of other areas of school improvement if they are appropriate.

1. Goal: Use data to drive instruction

Strategies:

- Continue use of pre-algebra readiness assessment tool
- Administer GMADE and GRADE assessments each fall to 7th, 8th, and 9th graders
- Provide professional development activities in analyzing and using MCAS data to drive instruction
- Administer the PSAT to all 10th graders

2. Goal: Maintain full NEASC accreditation status

Strategy:

Continue to monitor and work on all Standards of the NEASC report.
Implement use of Competency Report Cards

3. Goal: Retain quality teaching staff

Strategies:

- Use mentoring program
- Share leadership
- Shared decision making
- Provide support
- Keep lines of communication open

4. Goal: Ensure all students are challenged academically

Strategies:

- Increase offerings of Honors and Advanced courses
- Continue Dual Enrollment program
- Review high school graduation requirements so that they are more closely aligned to the Massachusetts Core Curriculum.

5. Goal: Reduce the drop out rate

Strategies:

- Maintain NEASC recommended guidance counselor/student ratio
- Cooperate with outside agencies for support
- Increase student attendance rate
- Continue work on the Advisory program
- Research options for the non-traditional student
- Implement Educational Proficiency Plans

6. Goal: Monitor and implement the grades 7 – 12 curriculum and curriculum pacing guides.

Strategies:

- Review draft of subject area curriculum pacing guides.
- Monitor implementation through department chairs and staff evaluations

Responsibility: School Committee, Superintendent, Administration, School Council, Faculty

Budget: school