

COHASSET MIDDLE SCHOOL  
IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2021-2022



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Cohasset, MA 02025  
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[www.cohassetk12.org](http://www.cohassetk12.org)

John P. Mills, Principal/Chair  
Mark Eagles, Teacher Representative  
Paul Kearney, School Committee Liaison  
Gabriella Lima, Teacher Representative  
Barbara Stefan, Parent Representative  
Kathy Sullivan-Sanges, Teacher Representative  
Kathryn Williams, Parent Representative  
Sarah Williams, Parent Representative

### **CPS Non-Discrimination Policy**

The Cohasset Public Schools policy of nondiscrimination shall apply to the District's students, staff, and families, and shall extend to the District's dealings with the general public and those with whom it does business, in accordance with applicable law. No individual shall be discriminated against in admission, employment, or access to educational opportunities, courses of study, programs, activities, or facilities of the Cohasset Public Schools on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, immigration status, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or expression, genetic information, veteran status, U.S. uniformed military service member status, disability, age (student age eligibility requirements excepted), homelessness, marital or parental status, pregnancy or pregnancy related condition, or any status or characteristic protected under applicable federal, state or local law. Cohasset Public Schools is an equal opportunity employer. Any complaint of a violation of the District's nondiscrimination policy should be directed to the Superintendent of Schools or to the relevant District Officer or Coordinator.

## **Cohasset Public Schools Mission**

Cohasset Public Schools places students first. We provide an optimal teaching and learning environment by cultivating empathy, global citizenship, agency, inclusivity, and community engagement to empower students to realize continuous personal growth and achievement.

## **Cohasset Public Schools Vision**

Empower students to improve communities.

## **Cohasset Public Schools Core Values**

### **Placing Students First**

- Create and maintain an environment that places students first and is focused

### **Continuous Personal Growth and Achievement**

- Encourage students to achieve their full potential socially, emotionally, and academically
- Empower students to embody equity, cultural responsiveness, inclusivity, empathy, and global citizenship
- Support students in developing agency (to act independently and make their own free choices) with an innovative and creative mindset

### **Creating an Optimum Teaching & Learning Environment**

- Provide personalized learning experiences that foster student voice, advocacy, and real-world application
- Create a safe, compassionate, and empathetic learning environment to ensure every student feels included, valued, and respected in the school

### **Strong School - Community Engagement**

- Cultivate an environment of open communication, engagement, and collaborative learning opportunities among home, school, and community

#### **Utilization of Resources to Support the Teaching, Learning, & Leading**

- Support optimal teaching, learning, and leading through responsible funding that provides academic excellence, appropriate staffing, state of the art facilities, and quality instructional materials

### **Cohasset Public Schools Equity Vision Statement**

We believe that educational equity means that every child receives what she/he/they need to develop her/his/their full academic and social potential in order to thrive in a global community. We are committed to ensuring that every individual who enters Cohasset Public Schools feels included, valued, and respected.

### **School Council Mission Statement**

Our mission as the School Council is to responsibly assess all factors affecting the educational needs of the children in Deer Hill School. Based upon this assessment, the Cohasset Middle School Council will review and develop goals annually that address our educational policies that maximize students' academic performance, encourage the talents and creativity of educators, and provide consistency throughout the Cohasset School System. In addition, the School Council assists the principal in the following:

1. Reviewing the annual school budget
2. Identifying the educational, social, and emotional needs of the students
3. Adopting educational goals for the school
4. Promoting an awareness of state and local initiatives
5. Developing and formulating a school improvement plan for Deer Hill School.

### **Alignment to Cohasset Public Schools Vision & District Goals**

Our school improvement plan goals are aligned to the Cohasset Public Schools Strategic Plan 2021-2024 and are based upon current performance levels, data analysis, and feedback from staff and parents.

## **Cohasset Middle School Vision**

Cohasset Middle School is a safe, inclusive, supportive, and engaging learning community dedicated to developing and celebrating individuality, independence, and curiosity. Students are empowered, empathetic, and collaborative learners, committed to personal growth and to being respectful and responsible global citizens.

## **School Improvement Plan Elements**

The school improvement plan (SIP), as described in the legislation (MGL Ch 71, Sec. 59C) has the following elements:

1. An assessment of:
  - a. The impact of class size on student performance
  - b. Student-to-teacher ratios
  - c. Ratios of students to other supportive adult resources
2. A scheduled plan for reducing class size, if deemed necessary
3. Professional development for the school's staff and the allocation of any professional development funds in the school budget
4. Enhancement of parental involvement in the life of the school
5. School safety and discipline
6. Establishment of a school environment characterized by tolerance and respect for all groups
7. Extra-curricular activities
8. Means for meeting, within the regular education programs at the school, the diverse learning needs of as many children as possible, including children with special needs currently assigned to separate programs
9. Any further subjects the principal, in consultation with the school council, shall consider appropriate

### School Data

<b>2021-22 Student Enrollment</b>	
Grade 6	94
Grade 7	104
Grade 8	120
Total	318

<b>2021-22 Average Class Size</b>	
Grade 6	18.8
Grade 7	20.8
Grade 8	17.1
Total	18.9

<b>2021-22 Student-Teacher Ratio</b> (includes classroom teachers, SPED teachers, specialists, and curriculum specialists)
10.6:1

## MCAS Data

### ELA (state data shown in parenthesis for comparison)

	Meeting + Exceeding	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
School	72%	15%	57%	24%	3%
Grade 6	84% (47%)	23% (12%)	60% (35%)	15% (31%)	2% (22%)
Grade 7	60% (43%)	7% (6%)	52% (37%)	37% (37%)	3% (20%)
Grade 8	75% (41%)	15% (6%)	60% (34%)	21% (41%)	4% (18%)

### Math (state data shown in parenthesis for comparison)

	Meeting + Exceeding	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
School	46%	2%	44%	49%	5%
Grade 6	48% (33%)	3% (5%)	45% (29%)	48% (44%)	3% (23%)
Grade 7	45% (35%)	0% (6%)	45% (29%)	50% (47%)	5% (18%)
Grade 8	45% (32%)	3% (4%)	42% (28%)	49% (46%)	6% (21%)

### Science (state data shown in parenthesis for comparison)

	Meeting + Exceeding	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
Grade 8	57% (41%)	17% (8%)	40% (33%)	39% (43%)	4% (16%)

## 2021-2022 Cohasset Middle School Improvement Plan SMART Goals

**SMART Goals are:**

**S: Specific and Strategic**

**M: Measurable**

**A: Action Oriented**

**R: Rigorous, Realistic, and Results-Focused**

**T: Timed and Tracked**

**SMART Goal #1: During the 2021-2022 school year, CMS will increase student learning by implementing strategies to personalize learning and increase student engagement. This improvement in student learning will be evidenced by improvement in the Reading i-Ready assessment of at least 10% school-wide.**

**CPS Strategic Plan**

**Alignment:**

- Compass Point  
#1-Teaching and Learning;  
Strategic Initiative 4, 5, 6

**MA SIP Elements: #3, 7, 8**

**Responsible Parties:**

- Principal
- Assistant Principal

**Resources:**

- Establishment of Reading Specialist position at CMS
- Reading assessment and support resources
- i-Ready benchmark assessment implementation including PD on administration, analysis, and application
- Tiered support measures including after-school academic help center
- Ongoing PBL professional development

**Success Measures:**

- Improvement in student reading skill-level as measured by i-Ready

**Action Plan:**

- Implement i-Ready benchmark assessment three times during the school year to measure progress
- Support grade-level team in the creation and facilitation of at least one Project Based Learning experience for students
- Provide targeted and general literacy support through the establishment of a Reading Specialist position/program
- Analyze benchmark data and use to inform instruction utilizing CMS Multi-Tiered Support System (MTSS)



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<p><b>SMART Goal #2: During the 2021-2022 school year, CMS will implement at least four strategies focused on promoting equitable opportunities for, and social-emotional wellness of our students.</b></p>			
<p><b>CPS Strategic Plan Alignment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compass Point #2 Social &amp; Emotional Wellness-SI 2, 4</li> </ul> <p><b>MA SIP Elements: #3, 5, 6. 7. 8</b></p>	<p><b>Responsible Parties:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principal</li> <li>Assistant Principal</li> </ul>	<p><b>Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PEAR Institute <i>Holistic Student Assessment</i> (2 administrations)</li> <li>Planning/data analysis time</li> <li>Ongoing support for inclusiveness practices based on needs</li> </ul>	<p><b>Success Measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of four or more strategies focused on promoting equitable opportunities for, and social-emotional wellness of our students.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Action Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Administer the <i>Holistic Student Assessment</i> to identify aggregated strengths and challenge areas for students' social and emotional development (SED). The <i>HSA</i> is partially funded by Cohasset SafeHarbor.</li> <li>Identify classroom, grade-level, and school-wide strategies for addressing challenge areas for students' SED</li> <li>Explore and establish strategies to promote inclusiveness and promote student emotional welfare throughout school</li> </ul>			

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**T: Timed and Tracked**

<p><b>SMART Goal #3: During the 2021-2022 school year CMS will identify three new methods for developing effective communication, engagement, and partnerships between home, school, and community.</b></p>			
<p><b>CPS Strategic Plan Alignment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compass Point #4: Communication &amp; Engagement-SI 1, 2, 5</li> </ul> <p><b>MA SIP Elements: #4, 6, 8</b></p>	<p><b>Responsible Parties:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Principal</li> <li>School Council</li> <li>PSO Liaison</li> </ul>	<p><b>Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Google tools (i.e., Forms, Docs)</li> <li>Planning time</li> <li>Resources as required for fundraising event</li> </ul>	<p><b>Success Measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creation of Parental Guest Speakers Directory</li> <li>Establishment and effectiveness of PSO fundraising event</li> <li>Implementation and analysis of parent opinion survey on CMS</li> </ul>
<p><b>Action Plan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a Parental Guest Speakers Directory in which parents' experiences and professional knowledge is catalogued and shared with faculty who then can ask a parent to speak to students on curriculum-related topics of expertise.</li> <li>Collaboratively plan a fundraising event with the PSO to provide support for it.</li> <li>CMS School Council will design, implement, and analyze a parent survey in order to identify areas of concern and ideas for continued school improvement.</li> </ul>			