

Draft March 30, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: D-1

JUN 07 2023

COHASSET MIDDLE SCHOOL
IMPROVEMENT PLAN
2023-2024



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John P. Mills, Principal/Chair
Lance Dial, School Committee Liaison
Alison Bryan, Parent Representative
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Amanda Kennedy, Parent Representative
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Gabriella Lima, Teacher Representative
Barbara Stefan, 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 Cohasset Middle 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

2021-22 Student Enrollment		2022-23 Student Enrollment		2023-24 Student Enrollment	
Grade 6	94	Grade 6	111	Grade 6	98
Grade 7	104	Grade 7	87	Grade 7	111
Grade 8	120	Grade 8	98	Grade 8	87
Total	318	Total	296	Total	296

2021-22 Average Class Size		2022-23 Average Class Size		2023-24 Average Class Size	
Grade 6	18.8	Grade 6	22.2	Grade 6	19.5
Grade 7	20.8	Grade 7	17.4	Grade 7	22.2
Grade 8	17.1	Grade 8	19.5	Grade 8	17.4
School Avg.	18.9	School Avg.	19.7	School Avg.	19.7

2021-22 Student-Teacher Ratio (includes classroom teachers, special education teachers, specialists, and curriculum specialists)	2022-23 Student-Teacher Ratio (includes classroom teachers, special education teachers, specialists, and curriculum specialists)	2022-23 Student-Teacher Ratio (includes classroom teachers, special education teachers, specialists, and curriculum specialists)
10.25:1	9.25 : 1	8.96 : 1

2022 MCAS Data

ELA (state data shown in parenthesis for comparison)

	Meeting + Exceeding	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
School	80%	33%	47%	15%	5%
Grade 6	80% (41%)	33% (8%)	47% (33%)	15% (36%)	5% (22%)
Grade 7	72% (41%)	5% (5%)	67% (36%)	23% (40%)	5% (19%)
Grade 8	79% (42%)	11% (7%)	68% (35%)	20% (40%)	1% (18%)

Math (state data shown in parenthesis for comparison)

	Meeting + Exceeding	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
School	41%	8%	33%	36%	22%
Grade 6	63% (42%)	4% (5%)	59% (37%)	35% (43%)	2% (15%)
Grade 7	63% (37%)	7% (7%)	56% (31%)	32% (44%)	6% (19%)
Grade 8	50% (36%)	3% (7%)	47% (29%)	49% (47%)	2% (17%)

Science (state data shown in parenthesis for comparison)

	Meeting + Exceeding	Exceeding	Meeting	Partially Meeting	Not Meeting
Grade 8	63% (42%)	8% (6%)	55% (36%)	37% (41%)	0% (18%)

2023-2024 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 2023-2024 school year, CMS will continue to implement rigorous and standards-aligned curricula that lead to high-quality learning for each and every student. This goal will be accomplished through ongoing evaluation of curriculum, instruction, and assessment across all content areas throughout the year.

CPS Strategic Plan Alignment:

- Compass Point #1-Teaching and Learning; Strategic Initiative 1, 2, 3, 6

MA SIP Elements: #3, 6, 8, 9

Responsible Parties:

- Principal
- Assistant Principal
- Department Heads
- Faculty
- Asst. Superintendent
- Dir. of Data, Curriculum, and Evaluation

Resources:

- Curricular resources as identified in Curriculum Review Process
- Professional Development time for inter-departmental collaboration and curricular self-study
- Implementation of professional development on Project-Based Learning for faculty

Success Measures:

- Enhancement of curriculum that leads to high-quality learning for each and every student
- Development of cohort of PBL teacher-leaders

Action Plan:

- CMS Departments will develop, redesign, or enhance their curriculum utilizing the CPS Curriculum Review Cycle.
- The Math Department will explore the development and redesign of their curriculum (Curriculum Review Cycle-Phase 2).
- The Wellness and Counseling Departments will participate in an analysis of the current curriculum and development of an action plan (Curriculum Review Cycle-Phase 1).
- The Visual & Performing Arts Department will explore the development and redesign of their curriculum (Curriculum Review Cycle-Phase 2).
- Faculty will receive training on Project-Based Learning in order to develop a cohort of PBL teacher-leaders.

SMART Goal #2: During the 2023-2024 school year, CMS will implement at least four strategies focused on promoting equitable opportunities for, and social-emotional wellness of all of our students.

CPS Strategic Plan

Alignment:

- Compass Point #2 Social & Emotional Wellness-SI 2, 4

MA SIP Elements: #3, 5, 6. 7. 8

Responsible Parties:

- Principal
- Assistant Principal

Resources:

- PEAR Institute *Holistic Student Assessment* (2 administrations)
- Planning/data analysis time
- Ongoing support for inclusiveness practices based on needs
- Schoolwide equity initiative program

Success Measures:

- Implementation of four or more strategies focused on promoting equitable opportunities for, and social-emotional wellness of our students.

Action Plan:

- Administer the *Holistic Student Assessment* to identify aggregated strengths and challenge areas for students' social and emotional development (SED). The *HSA* is partially funded by Cohasset SafeHarbor.
- Examine other data including faculty observations to identify to potential areas in which student SEL, wellness, and equity can be enhanced
- Identify classroom, grade-level, and school-wide strategies for addressing challenge areas for students' social and emotional development
- Explore and establish strategies to promote inclusiveness and promote student emotional welfare throughout school

SMART Goal #3: During the 2023-2024 school year CMS will identify three new methods for promoting more effective communication, engagement, and partnerships between home, school, and community.			
CPS Strategic Plan Alignment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compass Point #4: Communication & Engagement-SI 1, 2, 5 MA SIP Elements: #4, 6, 8	Responsible Parties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal School Council PSO Liaison 	Resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google tools (i.e., Forms, Docs) Planning time Resources as required for fundraising event 	Success Measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased parent/teacher contact Establishment and effectiveness of PSO fundraising event Administration and analysis of parent opinion survey on CMS
Action Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop opportunities for parents and teachers to meet to discuss/support continued student growth. Collaboratively plan a fundraising event with the PSO to create a new source of financial support for the PSO. CMS School Council will administer and analyze the CMS School Council/Parent Survey in order to identify areas of success and ideas for continued school improvement. 			