

PSB Mission, Vision, Core Values

8.3.23 School Committee Meeting
~ draft for discussion ~

Mission

Original: Our mission is to ensure that every student develops the skills and knowledge to pursue a productive and fulfilling life, to participate thoughtfully in a democracy, and succeed in a diverse and evolving global society.

Proposed: The mission of the Brookline Public Schools is to educate and inspire every student to lead a fulfilling life and make positive contributions to our world.

Vision

Original: Brookline provides an extraordinary education for every child. Each child's unique path to achievement is supported in academically exciting and programmatically rich environments. A dynamic, diverse community of teaching professionals works collaboratively, innovating and inspiring each other and their students. Staff gets to know students intellectually, developmentally and culturally. Students are encouraged to question and challenge ideas and participate as active citizens. Schools use a variety of assessments to get the fullest picture of student learning and growth over time. These data are shared regularly with the community, and they form the basis of how we understand and improve student, teacher and administrator performance. Parents are partners with the schools in supporting their children's education, and schools communicate effectively so that parents are confident of the response to their child's circumstances and needs. The community, well informed and involved in the schools, supports these efforts that continue a tradition of challenging ourselves to do better, efforts that ensure the enduring value of a Brookline education.

Proposed: Brookline provides every student with an extraordinary education, through enriching learning experiences and a supportive community, so that they may develop to their fullest potential.

Goals

Goal 1 (Original): High Achievement for All

Our schools are dedicated to teaching students to be involved, active learners who work hard, think critically and creatively, and communicate effectively. We emphasize high expectations for all students, and support them to reach their full potential in all aspects of achievement, especially in academics, arts, sports, social skills and civic participation, all of which prepare students for success in their lives after high school.

Goal 1 (Proposed): Joy in Learning

Our schools are dedicated to teaching students to be involved, active learners who work hard, think critically and creatively, and communicate effectively. We emphasize high expectations for all students and seek to instill a lifelong joy in learning through a rich curriculum that will allow students to find and succeed at what they love, and flourish in their lives.

Goal 2 (Original): Excellence in Teaching

Passionate, knowledgeable, skillful teachers are the core strength of our school system. We expect our faculty and staff to provide a dynamic and rewarding learning experience for students. Excellent teaching begins with strong relationships between faculty and students and is nurtured by collaboration among colleagues. We are committed to supporting a professional community that creates and sustains an atmosphere of intellectual excitement, innovative instruction and personal growth.

Goal 2 (Proposed): Excellence in Teaching

Passionate, knowledgeable, skillful teachers are the core strength of our schools. Our educators provide a dynamic and rewarding learning experience for students. We are committed to supporting a professional community that creates and sustains an atmosphere of intellectual excitement, innovative instruction, personal growth, and strong relationships between faculty and students.

Goal 3 (Original): Collaboration

Through collaboration we find new sources of learning and strength. The Public Schools of Brookline actively promote collaborative relationships. We seek out partnerships with community organizations that add value to our school system. We urge and support collaboration and exchange within and across our school community.

Goal 3 (Proposed): Fostering Collaboration

An extraordinary education requires the coordinated efforts of many. Towards this end, we strive to solicit and foster collaboration between and among educators, administrators, community organizations, government institutions, private companies, and other interested parties, with the best interest of students serving as our guiding principle.

Goal 4 (Original): Respect for Human Difference

We are committed to acknowledging and celebrating the diversity within our community while affirming the importance of our common humanity. By promoting a safe environment for questioning and challenge, we foster the growth and value that comes from different perspectives, cultures and experiences. Our commitment is to create an atmosphere of safety in which to acknowledge and express difference while advancing true acceptance and respect for all.

Goal 4 (Proposed): Celebrating Difference

The Brookline student body is presently and historically diverse. We celebrate this diversity, and we commit to providing an education that authentically and deeply reflects the different perspectives, cultures, and experiences of our community. We strive to include the full range of Brookline voices, past and present, not just our academic curriculum but in all school-based activities.

Goal 5 (Original): Educational Equity

The Public Schools of Brookline are committed to identifying and eliminating barriers to educational achievement in our schools. To this end, we create policies and practices that are fair and just and provide educational opportunities to ensure that every student, regardless of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, disability, or economic status, meets our standards for achievement, participation, and growth.

Goal 5 (Proposed): Ensuring Equity

We are committed to eliminating barriers to educational achievement in our schools. To this end, we create policies and practices so that every student, regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, or socioeconomic status, experiences a safe and welcoming environment in our schools, and receives the resources and support they need to take fullest advantage of the opportunities a Brookline education offers. We recognize the existence of great disparities in private means among PSB students, and will do everything possible to ensure that private resources do not determine student outcomes.

Goal 6 (Proposed, New): Individual and Collective Wellness

For our students and the world around them to thrive, our schools must help to instill an ethic of wellness. At the individual level, PSB will attend to the social and emotional development of its students, so that they may thrive personally, build positive relationships, become lifelong learners, and contribute to a more caring and just world. At the collective level, PSB will teach and adopt sustainable practices, inspiring and empowering students to be good stewards of the Earth and its people.