PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

John Pierce School
School Improvement Plan Update (SIP)

March 24, 2022

School SIP Information

PUBLIC SCHOOLS of BROOKLINE

Teaching and Learning

District goal 1: Every Student Achieving - Ensure that every student meets or exceeds Brookline's high standards and eliminate persistent gaps in student achievement by establishing educational equity across all classrooms, schools, and programs.

Pierce goal: Ensure that Pierce educators have the training, resources, and support they need to achieve a high level of growth in MCAS for students who identify as Black or African American.

Professional Growth of Educators

District Goal 4: Every Educator Growing Professionally - Foster dynamic professional learning communities that inspire inquiry, reflection, collaboration, and innovation, and use data to improve teaching, advance student learning, and refine the programs and practices of the Public Schools of Brookline.

Pierce Goal: Continue the work of building staff capacity for RtI implementation, including the increased use of Professional Learning Communities (PLC's) that focus on leveraging the diverse expertise of our own staff, as well as a focus group to consolidate and build a robust bank of resources and strategies to most effectively implement RtI.

Communication and Collaboration

Pierce Goal: Establish systems of communication that allow families to remain actively engaged in the process of planning for a Pierce School renovation, including the temporary relocation of Pierce staff and students to an as yet not determined temporary school location.

SIP Goal #1

Teaching and Learning

- MCAS performance gap for students who identify as Black/African American is significant.

- In spring 2021:
  - 70% of students in grades 3-8 who identify as black/African American did not meet expectations on math MCAS
  - 40% did not meet expectations on ELA MCAS.

- MCAS is an imperfect measure, yet it remains a state graduation requirement. We are committed to ensuring that all of our students are well prepared to pass.

- We also acknowledge that MCAS is one of the most consistent district and state-wide measures for assessing student achievement over time.

GOAL: Ensure that Pierce educators have the training, resources, and support they need to achieve a high level of growth in MCAS for students who identify as Black or African American.

Increasing teacher supports

- Professional development in culturally responsive teaching practices built into the school day.

- Team approach to data review through the creation of a PLC.

- Support for teachers in determining best instructional steps, including support for progress monitoring and review of standards through the lens of MCAS question item analysis.

Increasing student opportunities

- Funding for after school tutoring and homework clubs that focus on building skills.

- Access to LEXIA and other technology based supports that have embedded progress monitoring.

- Focus on building confidence and competence through the use of culturally proficient teaching methods.

Monitoring Goal #1

- Student Growth Percentile (SGP) at or above 60% for students who identify as black/African American.

- Teacher feedback on job embedded Professional Development (survey driven).

- Student attendance and engagement in additional program offerings (attendance / usage driven).

SIP Goal #2

Professional Growth of Educators

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Building effective PLCs

- Creating time for this work through the use of faculty meeting time, with supports for collaboration time as requested.

- Consolidating and organizing existing resources to create efficiencies for staff.

Increasing access to RtI Supports

- Lexia training and ongoing support

- Access to other technology resources that support targeted intervention and progress monitoring.

- Utilizing experts on staff to provide job embedded Professional Development.

Monitoring Goal #2

- Completed bank of resources to support staff beginning on day one in 2022-2023 school year.

- Faculty meeting "paths" that target building teacher RtI skill and confidence at a "just right" level.

- Progress monitoring surveys to evaluate effectiveness of professional development.

Communication and Collaboration

GOAL: Establish systems of communication that allow families to remain actively engaged in the process of planning for a Pierce School renovation, including the temporary relocation of Pierce staff and students to an as yet not determined temporary school location.

Monitoring Goal #3

- Regular project updates to families

- Partnership with district staff in engaging neighborhood community members.

- Planning for and communication about relocation during construction.

Thank you!