

Chelmsford School Committee Goals 2021-22

Mission Statement

To support the mission of the Chelmsford Public Schools to cultivate inspired, creative, and well-rounded lifelong learners who possess the integrity and self-direction necessary to be contributing community members, the school committee and superintendent propose the following goals for the 2021-2022 school year.

District Wide Goals

The following goals for the 2021-2022 school year are intended to support and reinforce the districtwide goals outlined in the strategic plan.

School Committee Goals and Action Steps Midyear Progress Toward Goals

Supporting Academic Programs

During the 2021-22 school year, the school committee will support the district plans to provide educational programming in such a way as to re-establish traditional school and classroom climates and norms, while providing the safest and most appropriate learning environment given available health metrics and guidance from state and local agencies. This goal will be measured by successful implementation of traditional scheduling, classroom and school configurations, academic pacing guides and assessments to monitor student progress and remediate deficiencies due to learning loss in previous years, as well as established safety guidelines and protocols that maintain a learning environment in which the health and safety of students and staff are prioritized.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Communicate with stakeholders including faculty, administration, parents, and student's elements of the learning schedules, classroom and school procedures and safety protocols being implemented to minimize disruption to traditional school climates while maintaining a safe learning environment.
 - Return to school guidance and planning/curriculum and instruction – August 9th and 24th
 - Report on school opening – September 7th and 21st, October 5th
 - Enrollment updates/class size reports – October 5th, December 7th
 - Close contact definition change – January 4th
 - In-school COVID testing/close contact change – February 1st
 - Masking Policy – February 17th
 - Work with local and state health and education agencies to monitor and evaluate up-to-date health metrics in making decisions about whether to modify learning models and/or safety protocols
2. Adjustments made in school schedules to accommodate all academic and non-academic needs (i.e., MS and HS changes)
 - Report on Health and Safety Protocols for school year 2021-22 – August 21st
 - COVID Updates (testing, case incidence) – October 19th, November 16th, December 21st, January 18th, and February 8th
 - Close contact definition change – January 4th
 - In-school COVID testing/close contact change – February 1st
 - Masking Policy – February 17th

3. Evaluate reports of academic progress generated from district wide testing instruments to determine the effects of past and present changes to academic programs necessitated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and allocate funding for the implementation of additional supports when deemed necessary.
 - Academic update – October 15th
 - Report on Paper Tutoring Service – October 15th, December 21st
 - MCAS schedule Spring 2022 – February 8th



School Committee Goals and Action Steps Midyear Progress Toward Goals

Maintaining a Positive, Inclusive, Prosocial Learning Environment

During the 2021-22 school year, the school committee in collaboration with the superintendent, assistant superintendent, director of student support services, and other stakeholders, will monitor programming that promotes the social emotional well-being and mental health of all students and staff and assist in cultivating positive, inclusive, safe learning environments for all. This goal will be measured through reports to the committee on established SEL programming, guidance and counseling services, special education and ELL programming and service updates, and programs offered to promote equitable and inclusive environments within the Chelmsford Public Schools.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Receive updates on current social emotional programming, along with guidance and counseling services, to evaluate recommended changes or additional supports for students and staff throughout the school year.
 - South Row Elementary School Presentation – February 1st
 - SEL/Guidance Presentation – February 8th
 - Byam Elementary School Presentation – March 1st
2. Monitor the progress of students in specialized educational programs, such as special education and ELL, to make sure that allocated resources are available and utilized that specifically address these subgroups when deemed necessary.
 - TFI and ELL Review In progress with DESE
3. Inform and engage the school and broader community regarding the vision of the school district in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusivity of all groups by reviewing policies and allocating resources for educational programming and professional development for students, staff, and parents to increase awareness of these issues.
 - Discussion on proposed DEI professional development 2021/22 – August 8th
 - School Committee DEI training sessions – October 26th, November 23rd, December 14th
 - Update on districtwide DEI initiatives – January 4th



School Committee Goals and Action Steps Midyear Progress Toward Goals

Maintaining Aligned Financial and Facility Resources

During the 2021-22 school year, the school committee will work with the superintendent, school personnel, and town officials, to develop an aligned, sustainable financial foundation that supports the needs of the district including current and future budget requirements, and current and future facility needs, and will clearly communicate these with all stakeholders in the district. This goal will be measured by financial reports, budget documents, capital plans, and reports from consultants on facility needs within the district.

ACTION STEPS:

1. Work with the superintendent and business administrator to monitor the current year budget, including all grants from federal, state, and local agencies related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and make necessary adjustments as needed, and to develop a budget for the 2022-23 school year considering current and future financial needs within the district.
 - Quarterly Budget Updates – October 19th, January 18th
 - Discussion on Capital Plan Prioritization for 2022/23 – November 2nd and 16th, December 21st
 - Budget Calendar Established – December 7th
 - Triboard Meeting – December 13th
 - Discussion on ARPA funds – January 18th
 - FY2022/23 Budget Presentation – February 1st
 - Budget Q + A – February 8th
 - FY2023 Public Budget Hearing – March 1st
2. Collaborate with and review reports from Dore and Whittier Architects to assess progress in addressing previous capital plan recommendations, analyze enrollment projections and possible grade level realignments, guide future prioritization of capital needs in our current facilities, as well as continuing to pursue new facility options to meet projected future needs within the confines of the town's financial realities.
 - Approval of Contract/Overview of scope of work to be performed by Dore and Whittier – August 24th
 - Presentations by Dore and Whittier – September 21st, November 16th, December 21st, January 4th, February 1st
 - Public Visioning Sessions on Facilities – October 7th, November 9th
3. Work with the superintendent, director of personnel, legal counsel, and labor unions on new labor agreements that align with the needs and desires of both the staff and the district.
 - Triboard Meeting – December 13th
 - School Committee Negotiations Workshop – January 11th
 - Union/School Committee working session – March 7th
 - Review and Approval of CAA contract – March 15th



School Committee's Professional Practice Goals Midyear Progress Toward Goals

Mission Statement

The following school committee professional practice goals for the 2021-22 school year are intended to improve communication and functioning among and between the members of the school committee, superintendent, and Chelmsford community.

Communication Strategy

During the 2021-22 school year, the school committee will continue to discuss ways to improve communication with all stakeholders. Said strategy may include but is not limited to monitoring the district website to make sure it provides the most up-to-date information and resources for parents, students, and staff, continuing to solicit public input on school related topics through the public input portion of school committee agendas, public forums, workshops, or surveys, and improving protocols and procedures for responding to information and/or questions from the public.

- School Committee Professional Practice Workshop – October 14th
- Public Visioning Sessions on Facilities – October 7th, November 9th
- FY2023 Public Budget Hearing – March 1st

Committee Involvement in Strategic Plan Development

During the 2021-22 school year, the school committee will continue to work with all stakeholders to help to develop a district wide strategic plan to guide the work of the committee, administration, faculty, and staff for the 2022-23 academic year and beyond. The committee will consider the merits of soliciting an outside contractor to help direct and guide this process and, if deemed appropriate, contract with such an organization. Successful completion of this goal will be evidenced by the finalization and approval of a multi-year strategic plan aligned to the approved district budget.

- Discussion of Strategic Planning Process – August 9th
- Introduction of District Management Group/Overview of scope of work – November 16th
- Presentation by District Management Group – January 4th
- Interviews of School Committee Members by DMG – February 7th, 8th, 9th

Establishment of an advisory committee to examine and report on school climate

During the 2021-22 school year, the school committee will discuss the merits of establishing an advisory committee to gather and review information and data on the diversity, equity, and inclusivity (DEI) practices within the district and make recommendations for positive changes to adopt. If the committee decides that such an advisory committee may be beneficial to the continued success of the district, it will agree-upon the goals of such committee work, the scope of the work, the timeline of the work, the makeup of the committee, and how the committee may gather information and data about school climate pertaining to DEI within the schools. Should the committee decide to create such an advisory committee, successful completion of this goal would be evidenced by the establishment of such a committee to begin work during the 2022-23 school year.

- Review work towards this goal will start when all surveys are completed and analyzed at the conclusion of the strategic plan.

