

Approved by the Arlington School Committee, June 8, 2017

ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
2017-2018 DISTRICT GOALS

**Goal One – Student Achievement**

The Arlington Public Schools will ensure that every graduate is prepared to enter and complete a post-secondary degree program, pursue a career, and be an active citizen in an ever-changing world by offering a rigorous, comprehensive, standards-based and data-driven K-12 system of curriculum, instruction, and assessment that integrate social, emotional and wellness support.

1.1 During the year, the vision of students as learners and global citizens will be aligned with a coherent connection between standards, transferable skills, and relevant educational experiences. This alignment will also ensure that all students have access to achieving this vision.

Evidence of success:

- A broad-based process will be developed to review, understand, and adopt a vision of students as learners and global citizens to be reviewed by the School Committee by October 2017.
- *The following will be aligned with the vision:*
  - ❖ The development of power standards by discipline.
  - ❖ The identification of key transferable skills.
  - ❖ An inventory of personalized educational experiences
  - ❖ The development of a priority list of curriculum materials.

By April 30, 2018

1.2 For the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Feasibility Study, the high school administrators and teachers will refine the educational vision and programs of the high school, integrating its core values and identified essential habits of mind to meet the needs of all students to prepare them for college and career in a globally connected world in order to make space recommendations to MSBA.

Evidence of success:

- The report submitted to and accepted by the Massachusetts School Building Authority, to be reviewed by the School Committee by April 30, 2018.

1.3 Develop a comprehensive academic, operations, and cultural plan for the Gibbs School opening in 2018-2019.

Evidence of success:

- Reports to the School Committee and community regarding the plan will be periodic throughout the 2017-2018 school year with a written report submitted in June 2018.

### **Goal Two – Staff Excellence and Professional Development**

The Arlington Public Schools will recruit, hire, retain, and build the capacity of a diverse staff to be excellent teachers and administrators by providing high quality professional development aligned to needs, instructional support, coaching, and an evaluation framework that fosters continuous improvement.

2.1 To ensure the success of *all* students, Arlington Public Schools will continue to enhance, refine and communicate its comprehensive multi-tiered system of supports as a framework to improve student outcomes PK-12 in academics, social emotional competencies, cultural competency and college and career readiness. This will provide universal high-quality core educational experiences in a safe and supportive learning environment with supplemental and targeted interventions/supports for students who experience academic and/or behavioral difficulties identified through a refined student support team process.

Teachers and staff will have professional development in topics of cultural competency as part of the district's overall focus on social-emotional growth.

Evidence of success:

- Creation of the Safe & Supportive Schools (SASS) District-wide Committee by October 30, 2017.
- Report on early implementation of each (K-8) school's SASS action plans developed in 2016-2017 by October 30, 2017.
- A report outlining the consistent SST practices, procedures, and documentation across the district by March 30, 2018.
- The number and position of educators who complete Youth Mental Health First Aid and Trauma Sensitive Practices Endorsement by June 2018.
- Report on cultural competency professional learning for teachers and administrators. Interim report by December 2017 and final report by June 2018.
- Plan for including cultural competency professional learning in our new teacher induction program by March 31, 2018.

2.2 Increase the diversity of the APS staff over the 2016-2017 staffing levels to better reflect the diversity of our students.

Evidence of progress:

- Hiring report presented to the School Committee in October 2017.

2.3 Provide on-going and regular professional development in technology to support teachers in using technology to enhance teaching and learning in their classrooms.

Evidence of success:

- Dates and focus of technology professional development submitted to the School Committee in June 2018

### **Goal Three – Resources, Infrastructure and Educational Environment**

The Arlington Public Schools will offer a cost effective education that maximizes taxpayer dollars and utilizes best practices, academic research, and rigorous self-evaluation to provide students and staff the resources, materials and infrastructure required for optimum teaching and learning in a safe and healthy environment.

3.1 Complete the schematic and constructions plans for the six-classroom addition for the Hardy Elementary School for opening in September 2018.

3.2 Complete the schematic and constructions plans and renovation of the Gibbs Middle School for opening in September 2018.

3.3 Open the new six classroom addition at the Thompson Elementary School in September 2017.

3.4 Develop a space use reconfiguration plan for the Ottoson Middle School in preparation for the sixth grade moving to the Gibbs School in September 2018. Report to the School Committee by March 1, 2018.

Evidence of success 3.1 – 3.3:

- Regular reports on building construction projects at 2017-2018 School Committee meetings.

Evidence of success 3.4:

- OMS reconfiguration plan presented to the School Committee in March 1, 2018.

### **Goal Four - Operations, Communications and Stakeholder Engagement**

The Arlington Public Schools will be run smoothly, efficiently and professionally. The district will operate transparently and engage in effective collaboration and responsive communication with all stakeholders. It will provide timely, accurate data to support financial decision-making, envisioning of the district's future, and long-range planning in partnership with other Town officials. Through these actions it will create broad support for a high quality education system, that is the community's most valuable asset.

4.1 Provide all stakeholders opportunities for input into the Feasibility Study for the high school and the academic and operational plan for the Gibbs School.

Evidence of success:

- Dates of all meetings and focus group sessions for stakeholder groups (faculty, parents and community) for both the high school and Gibbs School submitted to the School Committee in June 2018. A report on feedback collected from parents and community members who attended the meetings will be given to School Committee members.
- Summaries of these meetings will be given as a report to School Committee members.

4-2 Expand the dashboard of district metrics to provide the community with a quick overview of key metrics of the Arlington Public Schools.

Evidence of success:

- Improvements to the district dashboard from baseline of 2016-2017 by September 30, 2017.

The goals shall be revised from time to time by the School Committee to reflect the changing strategies of the Arlington Public Schools