

# District Goals 2017-2018

## FINAL UPDATE: June 26, 2018



# District Priorities 2017-2018

- *We believe that students should be independent problem solvers, challenged through comprehensive and cohesive programming, particularly in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.*
- *We believe that a culturally-sensitive school climate in combination with career exploration and real world experiences best prepares students for success.*
- *We believe that quality instruction for students is contingent on best practices in recruitment, professional growth, and empowerment of staff.*
- *We believe that student achievement increases with collaboration among all stakeholders.*
- *We believe that up-to-date and modern school facilities ensure learning environments that support the health and well-being of all staff and students.*

# Metuchen Public Schools 2017-2018 District Goals

## Healthy

Promote cultural sensitivity

## Safe

Integrate Social Emotional  
Learning Competencies

## Engaged

Implement homework guidelines

## Supported

Promote comprehensive career  
readiness

## Challenged

Enhance STEM programming

## Sustainability

Ensure systems for  
communication and  
collaboration

# Goals Summary: Scoreboard

Tenets →	Healthy	Safe	Engaged	Supported	Challenged	Sustainability
Priorities ↓	90%	95%	100%	90%	80%	97%
Problem Solving through STEM 88%					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8 year STEM Plan (100)</li> <li>• K-12 CompSci Curriculum (80)</li> <li>• Redesign STEM spaces (70)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science Labs (100)</li> </ul>
School Climate & Career Readiness 90%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Cultural Sensitivity (90)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate SEL Competencies (90)</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Comprehensive Career Readiness (90)</li> </ul>		
Instructional Quality 92%		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrate SEL Competencies (100)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HW Guidelines (100)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K-12 vision for Career Readiness (90)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NJSLS Learning Standards (80)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiring Action Plan (90)</li> </ul>
Collaboration & Communication 94%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote Cultural Sensitivity (90)</li> </ul>					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• District Website (90)</li> <li>• School Leadership teams (100)</li> </ul>
Facilities 90%					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Redesign STEM spaces (70)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science Labs (100)</li> <li>• LT Capacity Planning (100)</li> </ul>

Healthy: Each student enters schools healthy and learns about and practices a healthy lifestyle

# Promote Cultural Sensitivity

## Highlights

- DPDC Survey Question, 59 responses: “My principal promoted Cultural Sensitivity via building-based PD for staff.” On a scale of 1 (Strongly Agree) to 5 (Strongly Disagree): 1 = (22%), 2 = (16.9%), 3 = (37.3%), 4 = (16.9%), 5 = (6.8%)
- CES staff use of social media w/families: Sept=27%, Jan=38%, April=40%
- “Angst” – Movie, discussion about causes and resources to combat anxiety
- “Jim: The James Foley Story” – Movie and conversation about risks and rewards of teaching moral courage
- “The Power of Witness” – STREAM, student videos
- MHS use of Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter
- CES promising practice award for “Creating a Culturally Sensitive Community”

Safe: Each student learns in an environment that is physically and emotionally safe for students

## Integrate SEL Competencies

### Highlights

- DPDC Survey, 58 responses: “The District provided PD on SEL integration”:
  - 29.3% = Agree (I took part in the Professional Development offered).
  - 51.7% = Agree (I know that the district offered SEL, but I did not participate).
  - 5.2% = Disagree (I was not aware of PD offered, but I would have participated).
  - 13.8% = Disagree (I was not aware of PD offered for SEL integration).
- K-12 curricular integration of NJSLs for research and SEL competency for responsible decision making in. Done!
- EMS: integration of relationship building into Advisory
- DPDC Survey Question, 58 responses: “The district provided opportunities to participate in training to address anxiety.”
  - 25.9% = Agree (I participated in training to address anxiety).
  - 34.5% = Agree (I am aware that training was offered, but did not participate).
  - 39.7% = Disagree (I was not aware of any training to address anxiety)
- Year 2 of Quest (SEL assessment tool): expanded to grade 6, allows for year over year growth analysis.
- Forty (40) teachers participated in mindfulness training to address anxiety.

Engaged: Each student is actively engaged in learning and is connected to the school and the broader community

# Implement Homework Guidelines

## Highlights

- DPDC Survey Question: “Implementation of Homework guidelines was supported this year via PD at staff meetings.” Scale of 1 (Strongly Agree) to 5 (Strongly Disagree): 1 = (27.3%), 2 = (16.4%), 3 = (34.5%), 4 = (12.7%), 5 = (9.1%).
- Stakeholder survey on HW: 798 responses (54% parents, 34% students, 13% teachers).
  1. 89% say HW advances objective of the course
  2. 68% say HW is challenging. 56% say HW is meaningful to students.
  3. 85% say objective and purpose of assignment is apparent to student
  4. 96% say HW relates to current instruction
  5. 88% say standards of academic integrity apply to HW completion.
  6. 68% say meaningful feedback is provided to students
  7. 79% say grading criteria is made clear
  8. 76% say time to complete HW is appropriate
  9. 70% say efforts are made to “even out” HW loads for students
  10. 74% say additional time is provided around holidays and breaks

Supported: Each student has access to personalized learning and is supported by qualified, caring adults

## Promote comprehensive career readiness

### Highlights

- K-12 vision for career exploration developed. Presentation at July 17<sup>th</sup> BOE meeting. Integrates SEL. Aligned with 21st Century Life and Careers Standard 9.2 Career Awareness, Exploration, and Preparation. Highlights include: student self-awareness and questioning, goal setting, and work habits.
- 10 internships offered, 7 students placed
- 4 student interns with Mr. Cohen teaching social media
- Increased SEPAC opportunities, SE leadership team, new IEP system, expansion of co-teaching and behavioral supports.
- MEF grant for school store. Addition of transition coordinator, training for 2 structured learning experience teachers, and Metuchen Internship Learning Experience (MILE) added to MHS program of studies
- Research-based MHS advisory program developed. Individualized supports for at-risk students. Career exploration, community service, and SEL. Served 49 students this year. Initial positive feedback, including reduced code of conduct infractions and improved attendance.



Challenged: Each student is challenged academically, prepared for success in college, further study & for employment, participation in global environment

# Enhance STEM Programming

## Highlights

- 8-year STEM plan developed. Presentation at July 17<sup>th</sup> BOE meeting. Includes k-12 computer science curriculum. Highlights include: integration of problem-solving research loop, plan for intentional integration across multiple disciplines, focus on real world outcomes like internships and industry certifications/outside third party assessments, and exciting new courses.
- Expansion of Edgar program to infuse design-thinking
- Expansion of MHS woods program to include robotics and redesigned engineering class.
- Participation in year 2 of Rutgers Math/Science grant for NGSS implementation. Multiple trainings for teachers throughout the year. 2017 data showed gains. Benchmarks administered in Edgar and MHS grade 9.

Sustainability: Schools using whole child approach use collaboration, coordination, and integration to ensure long-term success

## Ensure systems for communication and collaboration

### Highlights

- Hiring action plan including:
  - >wider distribution of recruitment materials
  - >attendance at job fairs, Employment Showcase (over 100 candidates, community involvement, branding, and increase in substitute pool as a result)
  - >more consistency from observation to observation for targeted support for teachers
  - >administrative retraining on Stronge system: alignment of met/unmet recommendations
- SLTs – all four schools plus special education. Teams established, consistent meetings, results included multiple shared decisions to benefit schools and students. Recognized as a state and national model.
- New science labs approved. Work to begin shortly.
- Enhancement to website user experience based on stakeholder feedback
- Successful administrative preparations for growing student enrollment