

Report of the Superintendent

May 18, 2017

Innovation Schools – End-of-Cycle Report

Since 2010, when the Act Relative to the Achievement Gap introduced the Innovation Schools model, the Worcester Public Schools has expanded the number of schools and programs participating in the Innovation Schools model from five to nine schools and programs.

Innovation Schools' period of authorization cycle ranges from three to five years and the School Committee must approve the renewal status at the end of each cycle. In 2017, seven schools have reached the end of their authorization cycle. They are as follows:

- Five schools are seeking renewal of their Innovation Status: Chandler Magnet Elementary School, Goddard Scholar Academy at Sullivan Middle School, University Park Campus School, Woodland Academy, and Worcester Technical High School.
- The Goddard School of Science and Technology Innovation Status was approved by the School Committee on April 27, 2017.
- The Lincoln Street School's Innovation School status cycle also ends this year and the administration, in conjunction with the school administration, have decided not seek renewal of the Lincoln Street School status.

The two remaining schools, Claremont Academy and Worcester East Middle School, will seek renewal of their status in 2021 and 2018, respectively.

According to the Innovation Schools statute (MGL. Chapter 71, Section 92):

- (o) At the end of the period of authorization of an Innovation School approved under subsection (m), the leadership of the school may petition the school committee to extend the authorization of the school for an additional period of not more than 5 years.
- Schools must convene stakeholder group through end of school year
- School leadership present proposed changes, if any, to the superintendent for review and feedback. The proposal must comply with the statute requirements
- School leadership and superintendent must present renewal plan to the School Committee for approval

The Superintendent and School Leaders from the five schools seeking renewal of their Innovation Status propose a three-year renewal cycle, commencing in July 2017 and ending in June 2020.