

Summary of Evidence
June 19, 2014

Professional Practice

Goal: By September 2014, the superintendent will study, research and attend professional development opportunities with a focus on public communication resulting in a 20% increase in the number of positive media reports about the Worcester Public Schools

- Professional Development:
 - Broad Center Forum – January 2014
 - USDOE – May 2014
 - MASS – Winter & Spring Conferences - 2014

- Positive Media Reports
 - Meritorious Budget Award
 - Eos Foundation Award – 80% breakfast participation rate
 - Eagle Award – MASBO
 - Attendance Matters Campaign
 - Governor Patrick visits: Innovation Schools Initiative - Competitive Grants + Fellowship Grant
 - Quest for Success
 - Science Fair – Ecotarium
 - Arts Festival
 - Celebration of Writing
 - Robotics
 - VEX Robotics World Competition– WEMS 32nd place
 - BHS Green Reapers – 8th place Qualifying for District Championship
 - BHS Green Reapers – first place at Mayhem in Merrimack
 - Athletics
 - DMHS 2013 MIAA Division 4 Champions
 - Crew Team lightweight men’s double – Bronze medal at the National Schools Championship Regatta in Saratoga Springs
 - Co-op Ski Team – winner of Alpine State Championship
 - One City One Library
 - NASSP - Principal of the Year Award
 - WTHS – National Blue Ribbon Award
 - Secretary Duncan’s visit to WTHS
 - President Obama - WTHS Graduation Speaker
 - MassPort/Jet Blue Recognition of High School Valedictorians
 - CPPAC Parent Expo
 - Bullying Prevention and Education Conference

Student Learning

Goal: Worcester Public Schools will achieve a 2% reduction in the proficiency gap in English Language Arts as evidenced by 2014 MCAS Scores and CPI Ratings.

- Initiatives to support narrowing the proficiency gap in ELA:
 - Continue work with Curriculum Renewal Cycle
 - Curriculum Mapping, ROS – 9-19-13
 - Curriculum Model Units
 - Model Literacy Project: Grades 2, 3, and 4
 - Foundations Implementation
 - Course Pathways Alignment and Enhancement: Mass Core
 - ESL Secondary Pathways: Sheltered Language and Content
 - AVID Implementation at the elementary level
 - ELL Academy, ROS – 9-19-13
 - District Literacy Plan
 - Professional Development Institute – grades K, 1, 2, 3, 9
 - RETELL: SEI Endorsement
 - WIDA Standards Alignment

Goal: Worcester Public Schools will achieve a 2.7% reduction in the proficiency gap in Mathematics as evidenced by 2014 MCAS Scores and CPI Ratings.

- Initiatives to support narrowing the proficiency gap in Mathematics:
 - Elementary Math Pilot
 - Curriculum Mapping, ROS – 9-19-13
 - Curriculum Model Units
 - Course Pathways Alignment and Enhancement: Mass Core
 - ESL Secondary Pathways: Sheltered Language and Content
 - AVID Implementation at grade 6 level: expanding to grade 5 next year
 - Professional Development Institute – grades K, 1, 2, 3, 9
 - RETELL: SEI Endorsement
 - WIDA Standards Alignment

District Improvement

Goal: By July 2014, the superintendent will review and revise, as appropriate, the Worcester Public Schools Comprehensive Accountability System to ensure alignment with current district improvement targets and practices.

- Systems of support to ensure alignment with district improvement practices:
 - Create WPS Compass
 - Seven Point Financial Plan for Advancing Student Achievement and Program Sustainability, ROS – 5-1-14
 - K-12 Arts Magnet Evaluation
 - Alignment and Enhancement of CTE Pathways
 - Alignment and Enhancement of CVTE Pathways
 - Enhancement of AP Course Selection
 - Dual Enrollment Opportunities
 - Laying the Foundation Initiative – Elementary/Middle Science
 - Development of the Mass Model Curriculum – Guidance Counselors
 - Graduation Improvement Teams, ROS – 3-6-14
 - Middle and High School Transition Teams, ROS – 3-6-14
 - College Connections Mapping
 - Alternative Programs Evaluation, ROS – 3-6-14
 - District Literacy Plan
 - Professional Development Institutes, ROS – 3-6-14
 - Reorganization of Head Start and Re-competition Grant
 - Early Childhood and Care Initiative
 - PARCC Pilot, ROS – 10-3-13
 - DDMs Planning and Development
 - Educator Evaluation – Teach Point
 - WAZ Services, ROS – 4-3-14
 - EMS Committee
 - Data Wall Guidelines
 - Initiated Revision/Creation of Electronic Elementary Report Card
 - Level 4 Schools – Progress and Exit Protocol, ROS – 9-5-13 and ROS – 11-7-13
 - Innovation Schools Success and Renewal Process, ROS – 5-15-14

Goal: By June 2014, the Worcester Public Schools attendance rate will improve 1% from 95% to 96% as targeted in our RTTT Wraparound goals. Truancy Forum

- Systems of support targeting student attendance:
 - Truancy Forum
 - Attendance Matters Campaign
 - Partnership with WCCC – Liaison to work on grade 1 attendance in selected schools

Other

Goal: By January 2014, the superintendent will provide a proposal to the School Committee and Community for a 2014-15 school year pilot for a specialized high school program/academy focusing on the liberal arts. The proposal will include program of studies, admission criteria, admission process, recruitment and enrollment plan and timelines, and budget including facility, staffing and technology needs.

- Steps Accomplished:
 - Researched models and practices of Exam and IB Schools
 - Researched blended models
 - Met with external providers
 - Researched criteria for admission