

Rockland High School Improvement Plan 2017-2018

As developed from District Strategic Initiative

Student Learning

Ensure all students have equal access to a high-quality curriculum that meets individual student needs.

1. Review, revise, align and implement a rigorous standards-based curriculum.

- Create *Curriculum Inventory* for each course.
- Revise Curriculum (as needed) in *Common Format Template* established by Staff.
- Design and implement *Curriculum Alignment Tracking Process*.
- Develop plan to review, revise, align, and implement rigorous standards-based curriculum that is horizontally and vertically aligned.
- The Guidance Department will develop and implement a Naviance-based curriculum for Sophomores focusing on career awareness and exploration (host Credit for Life Fair), as well as individual strengths and interests. Revise written, developmental guidance program.
- Have each department complete *Master Schedule Planning Document* to identify needs and proposed changes to *Program of Studies*.
 - Design curriculum to offer AP Computer Science during the 2018-2019 school year.
 - Design curriculum for AP Junior Seminar and AP Senior Research Courses; prepare to implement during the 2018-2019 school year.
 - Add 2 Year World Language Graduation Requirement to *Program of Studies* for the 2018-2019 school year.

2. Develop, expand and sustain a comprehensive assessment system.

- Review Senior Exit Survey; SAT, PSAT, ACT, AP MCAS Results; attendance rate, course failures, conduct trends annually to determine school-wide needs and support at-risk students.
- Continue to use the SST team meetings to determine meaningful interventions for at-risk students.
- Maintain records of the success of interventions including the Alternative Program, Saturday School, and Homework Club.
- Create spreadsheet of all students within school and identify if they are involved in extracurricular activities.
- The Guidance Department will use Naviance data on post-secondary planning to refine curriculum and practice related to future planning for all students.
- Analyze PD survey results from 2016-2017 school year to determine needs.

3. Measure and monitor behavioral health by providing supports and interventions along with appropriate social-emotional curriculum to all students.

- Continue monitoring and measuring behavioral health of student populations and providing interventions to support students.

4. Optimize technology to personalize learning and develop higher order thinking skills.

- The Social Studies Department will continue and consistently use open-response writing, project-based learning, and presentation assignments that provide opportunities for use of inquiry, problem-solving, higher order thinking skills, authentic learning opportunities, and technology that is differentiated across grade and ability levels.
- The Science Department will have students work in small groups and discuss current science issues using a series of media (podcast, documentaries, NY Times articles, scientific journals, TED talks etc) and disseminate that information to others in the class by using a series of media. Create a common rubric to be used to assess this current science issues journal do 2-3 times per term.
- The Math Department will look at PSAT and SAT data to adjust instruction to better prepare students for these College Board tests.
- The English Language Arts Department will explore project based authentic based assessments for midterms and final exams, including the research, writing, and beginning the implementation of the roll-out.
- The World Language Department will roll-out new ways to incorporate technology into their curriculum.
- Start Robotics Club.

5. Provide a safe learning environment for all students.

- Train staff and students in ALICE.

Persons Responsible for Implementation: Administration, Department Heads, Faculty, and Staff

Resources Needed: Curriculum Inventory Template; Curriculum Common Format; Curriculum Alignment Tracking Format; Standards; Early Release, faculty, and department meeting time

Instructional Practice

Promote and sustain high-quality instruction that engages and challenges all students.

1. Implement PD that ensures a safe and supportive learning environment.

- Provide professional development (with coaching and support throughout year) to staff in the areas of setting clear expectations, high expectations, and a high level of quality of effort and work for students.

2. Create and implement a rigorous, standards-based curriculum.

- *See Student Learning Goal #1*

3. Use data to refine instructional practices.

- Create and align *Vision of the Graduate* to Common Assessments (Midterms/Final Exams).
- Adjust instructional practices and collaboratively revise common assessments based on prior year analysis data.
- Design rubrics with specific and measurable criteria for success to define targeted high levels of achievement aligned to *Vision of the Graduate*; shared with students in advance.
- Implement common assessments aligned to *Vision of the Graduate* at midterms and final exam points in year.
- Analyze data (including student work) from common assignments collaboratively during common planning time using *Data Analysis Form*.
- The Social Studies Department will revise and implement their department-wide rubric.

4. Differentiate instructional practices to meet student needs.

- Provide PD and coaching to co-teaching teams.

5. Align resources to support instructional practices.

- Find resources to hire Librarian for 2018-2019 school year..

Persons Responsible for Implementation: Administrators, Department Heads, Faculty, and Staff

Resources Needed: Early Release, Faculty, and Department Meetings

Communication and Relationships

Strengthen communication within Rockland Public Schools and between the district and community to enhance and expand relationships.

1. Develop and enhance recurring and consistent two-way communication with families and community members on district news, events and accomplishments.

- Organize quarterly recognition luncheon for high-achieving students.
- Recognize 2 outstanding seniors each Friday as members of the *Top Dog Club*.
- The Music Department will send out a quarterly newsletter via email to students, families, and community organizations using this website: <https://rocklandmusic.wixsite.com/music>.
- WRPS/Veritas will produce monthly, 5 minute newscasts aimed at local and area audiences (as opposed to internal RHS student audience), carrying the message of RHS and the RPS system to the wider community.
- Redesign Arts Festival to make it more of a *Fine and Performing Arts Week*.
- Add descriptions to Department Recognition Awards.
- Create an AP Scholar Plaque; Recognize AP Scholars annually at Senior Banquet and Underclassmen Awards Ceremony.
- Expand school exposure by utilizing the district public relations firm with 1- 2 school news stories a month.
- Improve involvement from Families of English Language Learners within the school.

2. Use current and emerging technology to strengthen communication.

- Continue to use Naviance, Aspen X2, Weekly RHS Community Newsletter, and twitter to communicate information.

3. Develop a system to engage members of the community in achieving the vision of the Rockland Public Schools.

- Create with student and staff input a senior privilege.
- Increase school-wide exposure to *Core Values, Beliefs About Learning, and Vision of the Graduate*.
- Create *Vision of the Graduate* with input from all stakeholders.
- Assist English Language Learner students in their transition to high school by increasing their involvement in school-wide activities and events.

4. Enhance and foster school-to-community partnerships.

- Support One Rockland, Athletic Boosters, Music Boosters, and other outside organizations to promote Rockland pride.

5. Develop systems and relationships that support programs and services to address student health and wellness

- See *Student Learning Goal #3*.

Persons Responsible for Implementation: Administration, Department Heads, Faculty, Staff, Parents, and Students

Resources Needed: Sponsorships, Technology, Early Release, Faculty, Department Meetings

Resource Allocation

Strategically manage resources to support programs, infrastructure and initiatives that reflect our district's core values.

1. Examine and analyze the existing organizational structure to best serve our students.

- Assess class sizes and program offerings to meet needs of students.

2. Adopt and fund a professional development plan to address the diverse needs of the district.

- Revise Professional Development plan as a result of data sources, input from staff, and other feedback outlets to ensure the implementation of best instructional practices in the classroom.

3. Sustain and expand our current technology plan

- *See District Technology Plan.*

4. Upgrade and maintain our facilities and infrastructure.

- Monitor cleanliness of bathrooms.

5. Fund the Rockland Public Schools curriculum and programming review and revision plan.

- Have each department complete *Budget Requests Form* to identify needs; meet with department heads individually to finalize individual plan for curriculum and programming review and revisions.

Persons Responsible for Implementation: Administration, Faculty, Staff, Maintenance Dept.

Resources Needed: Funding, Faculty, Departmental, and Early Release Time

