

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

1. District Goal 1 - Student Achievement:

Increase daily technology activities by staff and students

HHS - Utilizing google docs and other Google Suite apps to plan, implement, and assess instruction.

WG - Increased the availability of technology through the use of a laptop cart and tablet devices. Working with various staff members to pilot coding and robotics activities into current curriculum using Dash and Dot robots and Ozobots. Instituting a Makerspace in a section of the library to encourage creative thinking, problem solving and design based on curriculum correlated tasks. Expanded the use of Pearson's Successmaker software K-4 to create an important layer of data for student progress and to increase student computer usage comfort for online assessments.

HMS - Staff are using google docs to infuse technology into their classrooms and to streamline communication. Two additional computer labs have been added at the MS to increase use of technology.

HH - Link-It on line assessment used in grades 3 and 4 (based on common core and reflects format of PARCC) Due to a schedule change students across the grade levels are receiving extra "tech" time. Expanded use of "Think Central", a tool provided through our reading and math programs. This online resource can be used at school and at home.

STEM activities are happening throughout the school for "all" students. Teachers have learned from some of their colleagues the value of "Project Based Learning" which is also referred to as STEM related activities. This type of learning allows students to develop problem solving and critical thinking skills as well as covering the Common Core Standards. It is an engaging and fun way to learn! STEM activities have also extended into our Extended Day Academic Support Program.

Explore a schematic to serve students in the development of a student based educational plan

HHS - Researching various student learning platforms that integrate teacher planning with student learning and collaboration, ie Schoology.

HH - Hatchery Hill has the opportunity this year to work with a Rutgers literacy coach to increase teacher awareness of varied strategies and resources available to meet the needs of our population. This professional development within our school and with our student population is very effective and beneficial. The extended day academic support program has expanded. We are also providing transportation for those students who would not be able to participate without this transportation.

Implement honor level courses at the middle school

HMS - The MS now offers Honors Science and ELA in 8th grade as well as Algebra. In 7th grade, Advanced Math is offered as a precursor to Algebra. Honors Science has been added this year with an increased focus on high school topics, especially chemistry concepts. We are looking to add Honors Social Studies in 8th grade for the 16-17 year, and possibly add Honors ELA in 7th grade.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

Develop and implement benchmark assessments K-4

WG - Continue to refine benchmark assessments to correlate with Common Core Standards and classroom instruction. Developed a grade level assessment map at each grade level to provide a system of assessments to monitor student progress and adjust instruction appropriately. Benchmarks are now being compared and correlated to the upcoming release of PARCC scores to further strengthen the importance and validity of our benchmark assessments.

HMS - The MS is partnering with GMMS to create common benchmark assessments for the 16-17 school year in both Math and Language Arts.

HH - Benchmark assessments have been implemented in grades 1-4 (reading, math, writing) Administering the DRA to kindergarteners in February and May to obtain additional data. DRA is used in grades 1-3.

Implement a revised technology assessment survey

The District has researched several options for the assessment of technology, Climate, Culture and other related and targeted areas. In January of 2016 the Director of Instructional Technology presented his findings to the Superintendent and has recommended that the District enter into an agreement with Qualtrics Research Suite. Allowing the district to take advantage of 1000+ question types, embedded data, branching, display logic, quotas, email triggers, mobile and offline compatibility, randomization, and advanced features providing a transparent and actionable platform with Real-time insights that will allow the district and building administration to make accurate, informed decisions.

Research and create an early intervention literacy program

Early Intervention

- Implemented Kindergarten Screening to obtain valuable student info before entering school
- Providing an extended day skill builders program for kindergarten
- Providing our kindergarten students with basic skills

Review, modify, and adjust Common Core assessments, curriculum, and technology

HMS - The MS has developed writing rubrics in line with CCSS and PARCC. Also, the science curriculum has been realigned to reflect NGSS.

Language Arts, Performing Arts, World Languages and Careers are currently under revision.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

District Goal II- Facilities:

Select a Director of Security to examine the district's security needs

HHS - Mr. Speirs is now based at the high school and has coordinated efforts to increase security staff throughout the district and rewrite building based security protocol with regard to event security, parent visitation, and student movement/access throughout the school.

Implement specific building level needs relative to enhancing security from a technological aspect.

HHS - Using passage point, and security camera software to monitor and locate student/staff movement within the building and parking lots. Lobby guard is also used to register and track visitor history and patterns. Looking to implement Realtime as a passage point at the front desk for all students as they enter and leave the building.

WG - Successful implementation of Passage Point software and security cameras to increase the awareness and monitoring of traffic in the building. Security personnel have been in the building during school wide events and at the end of the day to aid in parking and dismissal procedures.

HMS - Lobby Guard has been implemented from day 1 of the 15-16 school year to monitor visitors. Added security personnel to the MS have been instrumental in effectively monitoring the cameras in place.

HH - Security personnel are present at both elementary schools each day part time. With an increase in student enrollment, an increase of traffic during pickup and drop off, and office activity at HH the presence of security has made a positive impact. Security personnel have built a rapport and established relationships with students, staff, and community

Hatchery Hill now has a Video Surveillance System and Visitor Identification System.

The computer lab in the library has been restructured and it is now more efficient and student centered.

Conduct a facility study regarding student population and building capacity

This has been completed and in-district realignment took place at the start of the 2015 school year. As a result of a facility study regarding student population and building capacity the boundary lines were moved and now Hatchery Hill has an increase in enrollment. Three classes have been added to accommodate this increase and art/music are now on a cart.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

Research expanding our technology department in meeting New Jersey State regulations in regard to the PARCC assessment and establish a blended learning Environment

Fiber Optic Installation is complete at WG and HH.

HHS - Office of the director of instructional technology facilitated the purchase of 150 Chrome Books for PARCC testing in order to maximize testing time and minimize instructional disruptions.

WG & HH - Worked collaboratively with the Director of Technology to ensure a smooth administration of the PARCC assessment to grades 3 and 4. Developed long range plan to implement Chromebooks into these grades to assist in the assessment administration and to develop a blended learning environment. As an extension, we are investigating the implementation of tablet devices at the K-1 levels to enhance their access to technology and blended learning opportunities.

HMS - Worked with the Director of Technology to effectively and efficiently assess 400 middle school students last spring for PARCC. Have continued to work with the Director of Technology to add 2 additional computer labs to facilitate instruction and testing moving forward.

Explore all possibilities in merging (when applicable) central office staff and district-wide personnel

Additional shared services positions effective July 1, 2016 confidential secretary to the director of special services, confidential secretary to the superintendent.

Secure grants of interest for staff and student development

HHS - Pursuing a Career Pathways grant: The Building Capacity for Career Pathways: A Pilot Program for Comprehensive High Schools for \$100K to formalize and increase the offerings for students as they transition from high school to the labor force.

HH - Hatchery Hill School received a grant for our school garden from the NJ Agriculture Department in conjunction with Rutgers. This is our third year and the garden continues to grow!
The abatement project has been completed.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

District Goal III - Communication:

Develop and implement a “Bring Your Own Device” policy

HHS - 83 Senior Students have signed an alternate AUP form for BYOD use and have begun taking advantage of this option effective January 2016. This option will be offered to the junior class after Spring Break of 2016.

Increase communication from school to home

HHS - Google platform and Realtime training have increased targeted and blast communication messages to students, activity groups, and families for the purpose of disseminating school-related information. @HHSTIGERS Twitter Account went live on 4/11/16

WG - Increased communication via Realtime Notification System. Redesigned website and increased usage to communicated dates and events to school community. Use of Twitter @WGLittleTigers to communicate with over 105 followers. Scheduled 3 Principal’s Forums during the course of the year to discuss important school and home issues. Continued use of the Principal’s Blog to communicate building ideas and to explain trends and new ideas in education.

HMS - Have used Realtime to increase communication with parents via the parent portal. The all call feature has been utilized more consistently this year with Realtime. Additionally, the Middle School’s website continues to be updated with added information. For grade book, staff are focusing on identifying skills and standards when posting assessments to grade book, so parents know the content/skills vs. simply unit 7 test. Twitter Accounts to be established in March of 2016

HH - Created an on line report card. Training for WG and HH staff to utilize report card on Realtime was during the October inservice. Implementation of Realtime Parent Portal to be used by both elementary schools for the posting of our report card.

- Continue weekly updates on the Principal’s Page (link on front page of website)
- Principal’s Forums, two sessions to allow for bi-lingual
- Use of Parent Notification System on Realtime
- All messages and calls sent home are bi-lingual
- WG and HH will be implementing a monthly Parent School Connection Newsletter
- Twitter Accounts to be established in April of 2016

Develop a teacher and parent advisory committee for our special education and ELL population

The Parent Advisory Committee has been formed and is now joined between Great Meadows, Hackettstown, and Allamuchy. The group will meet three times this year (once in each of the three districts) on October 20th, January 12th, and April 12th. The committee has discussed bringing in outside speakers from Family Guidance to inform parents about resources outside the school district.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

Research possible expansion of Media Center

HHS - With the support of Central Office, the high school media center is scheduled for renovation/remodeling discussion and planning. A site visit was made to a neighboring district for the purpose of seeing how an outdated space could be repurposed.

HMS - The MS has added two additional computer labs by utilizing the old laptops from the technology rollover. These two additional labs provide staff with increased opportunities to integrate technology, and will also assist with PARCC testing.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

District Goal IV- Culture and Climate:

Increase parental participation with our schools relative to social/cultural concerns and academic achievement

HHS - Principal forums now include Spanish-speaking session for Hispanic members of the Hackettstown community. The student council has elected an ELL student to represent the Spanish-speaking population in the high school. This student has begun to participate in month student council luncheons and the Tri-Council student planning groups.

HMS - Principal forums have been continued at the MS focusing heavily on student achievement. These forums have included information concerning PARCC, the new MS schedule, grading scale, etc. The MS has also partnered with the PTA to work on getting more parents actively involved by creating PTA liaisons.

Improve our multicultural climate by increasing participation of our non-English speaking parent Population

HHS - Participation in the Spanish-speaking Principal forums have increased since the 2014-2015 school year. ERESO is now a strong presence after school and in the evenings, providing tutoring services, ESL, and GED classwork

WG - Partnered with HH and NORWESCAP to provide a family fun night focused on literacy to invite our non-English speaking parent population as well as our general population to be exposed to services to assist them in supporting their children as school.

HMS - The MS has partnered with the Essex Regional Educational Services Commission. Essex is offering our ESL students tutoring after school to support their needs. This Commission also provided our students with the opportunity to attend their summer camp. Additionally, the Commission provided information nights for our parents of ESL students.

HH - Essex Regional Educational Services Commission is partnering with Hatchery Hill. They are offering Spanish speaking students tutoring after school. This commission also provided our students with the opportunity to attend their summer camp.

Continue to partner with Norwescap which provides many of our families with needed resources.

Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Indicators 2016

Create a K-12 District- Wide Climate and Culture Committee focusing on school climate

HHS - High School student council representatives met with Mr. Mango on several dates to review climate drafts, add suggestions, and deliver peer feedback for climate survey questions.

WG - Continued our School Culture and Climate Committee with the introduction of School wide expectations and a revamped student recognition program based upon student, staff, and parent feedback. New signage was placed throughout the building (ongoing) and the new recognition system has been in place for a couple of months.

HH - Partnering with Centenary by providing students with “student teaching” experiences and students from a Centenary reading class visits our second grade and works with students.

The annual community “Trunk or Treat” occurred again this year and was a huge success. All Hackettstown Schools partnered with Trinity Church and Centenary to plan and implement this event.

Our School Safety Committee has been focusing on maintaining a positive School Climate ...a special assembly early in the year to welcome our new students; an assembly emphasizing respect; an anti-bullying assembly along with several activities conducted in the classrooms.

Our guidance counselor conducts many student groups throughout the school year which adds to a positive school climate.

HMS - Student Council continues to be active and meets with Mr. Mango monthly. Student Council is working closely with Great Meadows and HHS to strengthen the relationship between the 3 schools and to ease the transition from MS to HS.

Implement student based programs at both the middle and high school levels

HMS - The MS is in the process of supporting student initiated groups focused on teaching tolerance and anti-bullying. These student led groups are primarily 8th graders and are currently working with Mrs. Brotzman to develop a mission statement, group name, and planned activities.

Develop and implement a high school student alumni forum

HHS - Website link solicits student alumni to register, share information and help build an alumni database.
<http://www.hackettstown.org/domain/1405>