

Interim Superintendent Goals

Dr. Kathleen Smith, 2022-23 School Year



Goal:

Develop Sustainable Budget via Operational Override

Action Steps

- Develop budget timeline
- Present multi-year budget forecast to School Committee
- Incorporates School Committee Budget Guidelines and assumes override passage
- Develop and present budget statement without override showing reductions and impact

Resources

- Budget workshops
- School Committee Budget Guidelines
- Override meetings and information

Outcome(s)

- Override passage
- Understanding of impact of “no” override to NPS
- Acceptance of Superintendents Proposed Budget Request

FY24 Budget Calendar

- Detailed budget Calendar provided in Memo along with Budget Guidelines and Conditions and Assumptions.
- Some key dates
 - January 23: Budget Preview
 - January 27: Central Staff and Principals propose budget changes
 - Jan/Feb (TBD): Budget process workshop with School Committee
 - March 3: Legislative Advocacy Breakfast w Area Superintendents
 - March 6: Due date for budget text
 - March 14: City of Newton Override Ballot Questions
 - March 21: Budget books sent out electronically and posted
 - March 22: Superintendent's Proposed Budget Presentation (8 AM)
 - Mar 27-Apr 3: Budget Presentations and deliberations
 - April 5: Budget discussion and Straw Vote
 - April 10: Budget discussion and Final Vote
 - May (TBD): Budget Presentation and Approval by City Council
 - July 1: FY 24 commences

Override Meeting Calendar and Resources

- Detailed information including presentation and meeting materials found at **[NEWTONMA.GOV/OVERRIDE](https://newtonma.gov/override)**
- Override Meetings in 2022
 - October 20: Virtual Town Hall
 - October 26: In-person Town Hall at Franklin
 - November 3: Virtual Town Hall
 - November 10: In-person Town Hall at Countryside
 - November 13: Sunday Virtual Q & A
 - November 29: In-person Town Hall at Horace Mann
 - November 30: Virtual Q & A with Interim Superintendent
 - December 4: Sunday Virtual Q & A
 - December 8: In-person Town Hall at Zervas
 - December 15: Virtual Town Hall
 - January 12: Presentation to Newton PTO Council
 - January-March: Additional community information events

Budget Framework and Impact of Override Decision

As part of the School Committee Budget guideline of developing a “Dual Budget”, two budgets will be developed.

Budget 1 -In the event the Operational Override passes, a level-service budget, with adjustments for enrollment and available funds, will be developed in alignment with Systemwide Goals and School Committee budget guidelines

Budget 2 -In the event the Operational Override does not pass, a set of reductions will be created to match the proposed budget to the budget allocation

- Budget reductions of at least \$4.5 million be will developed and presented
- Adhering to our Systemwide Goals and School Committee budget guidelines without the passage of the Operational Override will be challenging; significant reductions and trade-offs will be required in determining a final budget plan in this scenario.

Goal:

Launch Development of Profile of a Graduate

Action Steps

- Informational session on process
- Establish a Task Force
- Develop draft plan of action
- Establish possible timeline
- Incorporate into SIPs

Resources

- Profiles established by other districts
- Administrators that have led process

Outcome(s)

- Drafted plan and proposed timeline for development of the Profile of a Newton graduate

Goal:

Publish NPS Annual Report

Action Steps

- **Identify purpose and rationale**
- **Develop outline/content**
- **Gather necessary information**
- **Design informative/easy to read report**

Resources

- **Review reports from other districts**
- **NPS schools and departments**
- **State and Newton data**

Outcome(s)

- **Publish report and distribute to Newton community**
- **Online and printed versions available**





2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

Newton Public Schools



www.newton.k12.ma.us 100 Walnut St. Newton, MA 02460 617-559-6000

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NEWTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE

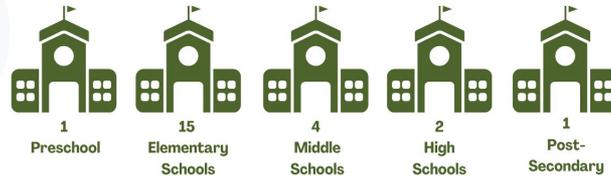
- Ward 1 - Rajeev Parlikar
- Ward 2 - Christopher Brezski
- Ward 3 - Anping Shen
- Ward 4 - Tamika Olszewski
- Ward 5 - Emily Prenner
- Ward 6 - Paul Levy
- Ward 7 - Kathleen Shields
- Ward 8 - Cove Johnstone Davis
- Mayor Ruthanne Fuller



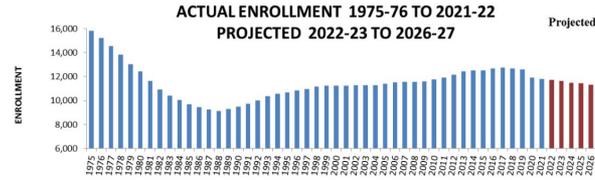
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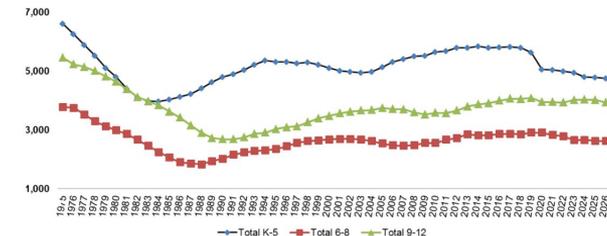
OUR SCHOOLS



ENROLLMENT (TOTAL)



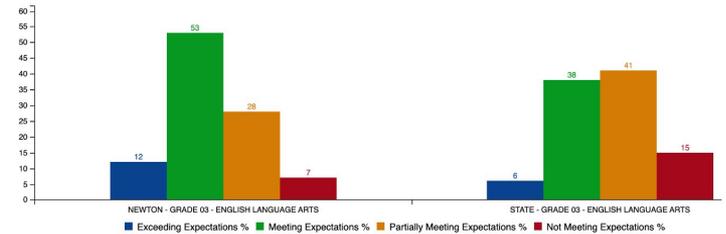
ENROLLMENT (BY GRADE)



EDUCATIONAL GOAL: ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Cultivate a culture of excellence for all through powerful, responsive and sustaining learning experiences that lead students to be productive, thriving citizens in the world.

KEY DATA - MCAS ELA - GRADE 3



INTERVENTION AND EXTENSION

Describe the importance of intervention and extension support, specifically in our elementary schools..



EDUCATOR SPOTLIGHT - LITERACY SPECIALIST



Describe role of literacy specialist in intervention. How do they support students? What critical role do they play in helping students to achieve.

Goal:

Establish Process for Selection of Literacy Curriculum

Action Steps

- Identify data points needed for decision
- Select literacy curricula to pilot
- Develop plan for school-based pilot
- Determine use of data following pilot

Resources

- Best practices in data-informed pilots
- Research/work already done on literacy
- DESE supported literacy programs

Outcome(s)

- The district has a research-based and data-driven plan to pilot and evaluate a new literacy curriculum in the 2023-24 school year.

Current Literacy Approach in NPS

- We offer a comprehensive literacy program that includes many aspects aligned with science of reading:
 - systematic phonics,
 - phonemic awareness,
 - vocabulary,
 - structured literacy lessons, and
 - decodable texts
- We provide students with an opportunity to engage with complex text every day.
- Instructional practices include: whole class lessons, small group instruction, independent practice, interactive read alouds, collaborative inquiry and research, and reading/writing workshops.

Elements of Reading Comprehension

Language Comprehension

- Background Knowledge
- Vocabulary Knowledge
- Language Structures
- Verbal Reasoning
- Literacy Knowledge

Increasingly
Strategic

Skilled Reading

Fluent execution and coordination of word recognition and text comprehension.

Word Recognition

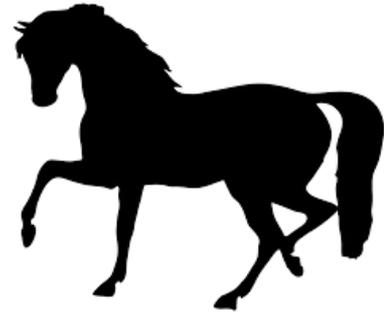
- Phonological Awareness
- Decoding (and Spelling)
- Sight Recognition

Increasingly
Automatic

Literacy Curriculum Process Update

Work in Progress: Evaluate DESE-recommended “strong horse” curricula that best aligns with the department’s instructional vision.

- Access to high-quality materials for all students that:
 - Develop skills to understand complex topics, make connections to prior knowledge, and apply knowledge to the next level of learning.
 - Offer engaging topics that promote love of reading and aligned to Massachusetts ELA/Literacy Framework.



The more background knowledge students have, the broader their foundation for building new knowledge.

Learning and Investigating

- Visited the seven NPS classrooms currently piloting FPC materials
- Connected with two high-performing districts about their curriculum: usability and student experience/outcomes
- Met with parent group to share information about our the need for a new curriculum
- Planning to visit at least 3 districts using DESE-recommended elementary literacy curricula
- Exploring the feasibility of field testing 2-3 other curricula in the spring
 - Connected with:
 - DESE to discuss elementary literacy curricular trends across the state
 - School leaders to understand challenges and opportunities for conducting a Spring field test
 - Publishers to understand financial investment

DESE-Recommended Curricula to be Reviewed

Core Knowledge Language Arts® (CKLA)

A comprehensive program (PreK–Grade 5) for teaching reading, writing, listening, and speaking while also building students’ vocabulary and knowledge across essential domains in literature, world and American history, and the sciences.

Expeditionary Learning (EL)

Our curriculum is built around authentic, worthy texts that give students the opportunity to dig deeply into academic topics that matter and help them make connections between their academic learning and the real world.

Wit and Wisdom

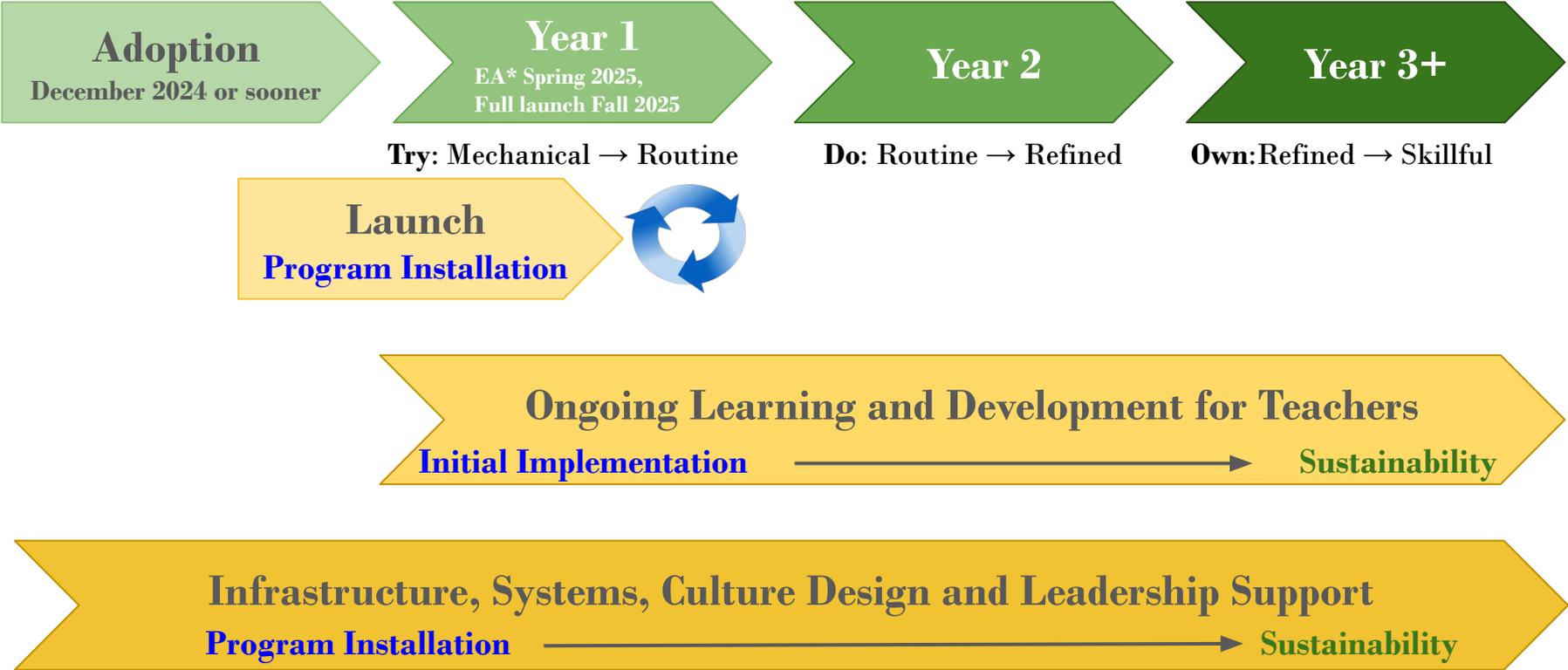
Excellent texts are at the center of the curriculum. Students build knowledge through carefully curated core texts that

- are rich with content that piques curiosity,
- represent grade-level complexity, and
- showcase diverse perspectives.

The curriculum features beloved, award-winning books from both contemporary and established authors that engage students in productive struggle and joyful learning.



Stages of Launch and Implementation



Source: DESE Implement MA

Goal:

Superintendent Transition Planning

Action Steps

- Develop plan for smooth transition
- Work with selected candidate
- Provide all background information

Resources

- Previous experience
- Best practices in transitions
- School Committee and NPS Central Team

Outcome(s)

- The candidate selected as the new superintendent of the Newton Public Schools is ready and prepared to assume full leadership role on July 1, 2023.