

Board of Education Goals

Listed below are the Board of Education Goals drafted at the Special Meeting on June 9, 2001.

GOAL #1 – To provide the necessary opportunities for all students to reach their potential and beyond.

Objective 1.1 – Maximize student achievement time through creative use of scheduling.

Activities: A - Successful implementation of "Alternative Scheduling" at both Enfield High School and Fermi High School.

- *We will continue to pilot the voluntary alternative schedule in the 2001-2002 school year. If it doesn't "sell itself" as predicted, we will eliminate the pilot*
- *Refer to Curriculum Committee in Fall 2001 to develop a strategy plan for promoting the registration of future 9th graders.*

B – Inform parents and community through JFK/EHS/FHS Newsletters and Board of Education Newsletter.

- *Ongoing*

C – Semi-Annual reports to Board of Education on progress of Alternative Scheduling beginning in spring of pilot year. (2001)

- *Ongoing*

D – Added

- *The high school homeroom has been repositioned to eliminate tardies.*

E – Explore the possibility of scheduling Early Bird/After School Saturday classes for interested students.

Objective 1.2 – Early Education Transition from preschool to full day Kindergarten.

Activities: A - Seek out opportunities to increase exposure to preschool learning experiences.

- *At the district level, we plan to expand Head Start opportunities from 4 to 6 classes.*

B – Research current data on the advantages and disadvantages of preschool experiences for children.

- *See report on Building Strong Foundations for Early Learning from U.S. Department of Education*

C – Research if new student database can be programmed to track students with pre-school experience compared to students without.

D – Explore the opportunities to increase networking with the major in-town pre-schools.

Objective 1.3 – Expand Full Day Kindergarten in Enfield Public Schools.

Objective 1.4 – Address the At-Risk Student at all grade levels with an emphasis on literacy and numeracy skills development.

Activities: A - Explore progress toward reduction in the dropout rate based on current experience with the Alternative Learning Center.

- *We are seeking to expand enrollment and classroom space at the Alternative Learning Center. This is a major initiative of the administration as referenced in the report of the At Risk Committee.*

B – Explore alternative funding opportunities to provide services related to At-Risk Students and Dropouts.

C - Identify resources such as state agencies, state reports, and Enfield Public Schools reports.

- *Ongoing*

D – Utilize best practices from research.

- *Ongoing*

E – Review current practices that impact the dropout rate in Enfield and make recommendations.

- *Ongoing*

F – Form a task force from stakeholders to implement a plan to reduce dropout rate.

- *Ongoing*

G – Expand the TLC Reading Program to all elementary schools.

Objective 1.5 – Pursue a three to five year plan to reduce class size K-12.

Activities: A – Research and decide upon optimal class sizes for K-3, 4-6, 7 & 8, and 9-12. (Annual Report)

- K – 3: 18 7 & 8: 100 per team
4 – 6: 22 9 – 12: Maximum of 24 students per class

B – Research and project space required to accommodate optimal class sizes including new classes to be constructed.

- *We will need 16 new classrooms next year based on the Grades K-3, 18 student cap and Grades 4-6, 22 student cap. Most notably Barnard, Crandall and Whitney will not have space to accommodate the extra classes.*

Objective 1.6 – Continue the implementation of the technology plan through the development of a technology organization with leadership structure (look at collaborative information such as Web page like JFK, between teachers, and school technology, internet communication, Adult Education Training).

Activities: A – Continue to develop a 3 year plan, including space projections updated annually. Also need to address Internet service for all classrooms, develop an educational philosophy for computer usage, and the platform to utilize. The three year plan should include cost estimates for staff training hardware and software. Also the need to address Internet service for all classrooms, develop an educational philosophy for computers usage on multiple platforms. (Summer 2000)

- *Three-year plan is in progress. Systemwide Computer Committee (SWCC) has completed scope, mission, vision, and defined goals. ERATE (Federal funding for Internet and electronic communications) & State Technology Grant proposals completed.*

B – Continue to support technology initiatives to meet or exceed State Department of Education guidelines/State of Connecticut Standards and bring Enfield Public Schools in line with towns in our ERG. Improve student to computer ratio (2 to 3 PCs per classroom)

- *Added lab at Enfield High School; portable lab added at each elementary school.*

C – Maintain focus on the software needs of the School Department, including, but not limited, to Financial and Personnel software.

- *Completed as we developed the Request for Proposal (RFP).*

D – Create a sub-committee of the Board of Education to address related issues in the school district.

E – Continue participation in the Town's Joint Technology Committee.

F – Provide all certified staff with e-mail capabilities.

G – Continue to support staffing necessary to integrate technology throughout the curriculum in Grades K-12.

- *We are asking for an additional technology teacher at the elementary level.*

Objective 1.7 – Programs for gifted and talented (how are students educated and how to address the needs of these students).

Activities: A – Research activities and programs for gifted and talented.

- Identify resources such as state agencies, state reports, Enfield Public Schools reports (i.e., University of CT., National Research for Gifted & Talented, CSDE Information).

B – Review process for identification of gifted and talented.

- *Current vs. best practices.*

C – Research opportunities for enrichment programs after school, weekend, and summer.

- *Odyssey Program; Talcott Mountain for Gifted; West Hartford Public Schools.*

Objective 1.8 – Character Education – Develop programs for character education K-12.

Activities: A – Review successful programs that promote character education, virtues, and morals.

B – In-service selected staff on character education programs and encourage staff to consider piloting these programs.

Objective 1.9 – Enhance School Security.

A – Provide a safe, healthy, learning atmosphere within our schools.

B – Individual Building Safety Committees/Administration should continue to suggest strategies to continually improve school security.

C – Continue working with Enfield Police Department for School Resource Officer Program at each school.

GOAL #2 – To increase communication of educational issues.

Objective 2.1 – To support, foster and encourage positive and ongoing programs of school – family – community partnerships.

Activities: A – Utilize the press as positive promoters of Enfield Public Schools (monthly principal letters, programs, and activities at school).

- *We have utilized pull-out sections in The Hartford Courant for Youth Vote and Families Matter. Other activities are promoted in the newspaper and through school publications.*

B – Utilize local public access to cable as a means of informing community of activities and programs at Enfield Public Schools.

- *We are now in the beginning stages of planning.*

C – Utilize Board member comments to report on school activities.

- *Many Board members are active members of the Home/School Partnership.*

D – Utilize media classes at high school to prepare appropriate program for cable access.

Objective 2.2 – To increase communications between the Enfield Board of Education and residents of Enfield, including senior citizens, area businesses, Town Council, etc.

Activities: A – Senior Citizens: Send copies of newsletters from various schools to Town Senior Center; Specifically invite senior citizens to school events (concerts, plays, etc.); Invite senior citizens to serve as mentors, readers, tutors to students on all levels.

- *All announcements for Partnership activities are brought to the Senior Center. A Spring Senior Tour is being considered.*

B – Area Business: Support idea of school to career opportunities for students; Actively solicit businesses to sponsor student activities; Bring in various business people to discuss career options with students on all levels; Have a school representative (board member/partnership position) attend and be involved with Small Business Alliance and Chamber of Commerce so as to open lines of communication with local business owners.

- *Continue to sponsor community-wide events that bring the school to the community, i.e. Connecticut Loves to Read Day; In Enfield Families Matter week.*

C – Town Council: Continue the dialogue started by previous boards and councils; Continue to be receptive to visits from council to board and board to council; Continue to invite council members to be active in our schools.

- *We had three town council members in attendance at the Home School Community Partnership Conference. Councilmen have "Adopted" individual schools. Councilmen regularly attend school events (i.e. Voices Inc., DARE, Heritage Fair).*

D – Town Residents: Increase the frequency of newsletter that goes out to all town households; Utilize the Enfield Press and The Reminder to bring more positive news of the schools to the residents; Invite all residents to school activities; As new construction begins and continues, release updates and invite the public to come and see how the money is being spent.

- *There has been an increase in news of school events over the past year (example: Heritage Fair) in the commercial flyers. The Board's newsletter is on schedule for three editions this year.*

E – Volunteerism: Explore the potential of increasing volunteer help in school system.

F – Employee Groups: The Board will strive to keep open communication channels between the Board and various employee groups in effort to improve communication and problem solving within the district.

Objective 2.3 – Increase parent involvement/communication at middle and high school (awareness of student responsibility, i.e. homework, class work, etc).

Activities: A – Review Interim Report Policy to develop a standardized interim report.

- *Ongoing*

B – Establish a process for responding to voice mail from parents in timely and positive manner.

- *Cell Phones – Increased the number of phones available to staff to return calls. Continue to emphasize phone etiquette to staff and importance of returning calls*
- *Recorded Messages – Review professionalism of recorded greetings used on voice mail and review "user friendly" components of reporting absences.*

GOAL #3 – To provide appropriate facilities to support the needs of the students and the Enfield Community.

Objective 3.1 – Actively participate in school construction projects.

Activities: A – The Board will give approval for only the expenditures relating to school referendum which meet the original construction outline as presented in the Referendum question and approved by the voters.

- *Ongoing*

B – Actively monitor each school's portion of the construction project by requiring the Building Project Chair/Construction Manager to provide the Board either with a written progress report before Thursday of each scheduled Board meeting or through an oral report by requesting a place on the Board's Agenda.

- *Ongoing*

C – Provide the Board with a monthly financial report or project expenditures, one that will redline any overrun early on so that adjustments may be made.

- *Ongoing*

D – Require the Administration to alert the Board if the school Principal or Building Facility Director has concern over any building issue.

Objective 3.2 – Continue to focus on space needs.

Activities: A – Reduce class sizes at elementary, middle and high school levels through creative use of scheduling, long range staffing plans, three to five year fiscal forecast as well as a planning to increase space availability.

- *Ongoing*

B – Establish a sub-committee to examine the impact the referendum construction will have on the elementary system as to the additional space it will achieve and how it is to be used, (i.e. all

day Kindergarten). Review the needs at Fermi High and JFK Middle Schools and provide a report confirming space, staffing and financial requirements.

- *Ongoing*

C – Establish a sub-committee to review Administrative and storage space needs providing a three-year course of action.

- *Ongoing*

D – Establish sub-committee to estimate cost of air conditioning at all schools.

Objective 3.3 – Initiative to improve athletic facilities through a joint effort with Town Council.

Activities: A – Revisit Sports Committee study of 1996 – 1997.

- *Ongoing*

Adopted 3/28/00

Revised 07/10/01