

**Greenfield Public Schools
Newton School
School Improvement Plan 2018-2021**

Newton School's Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a caring, safe and supportive community in which students acquire a love of learning and perform to the best of their ability. We will respond to the diverse learning and social needs of all students as we challenge them to reach their fullest potential.

Newton School's Instructional Focus:

A coordinated school-wide effort to have all Newton School students demonstrate growth in their ability to read, comprehend, and respond effectively in a variety of ways to informational materials in all academic areas. Students will use relevant information and details to support their responses and show their thinking.

Teachers agree to provide daily practice and modeling of strategies for reading and responding across curriculum areas.

Progress will be measured by some or all of the following: DIBELS, MCAS, NWEA MAP assessments, Scott Foresman Reading/Math Assessments, Problem of the Day rubric scores and benchmark tests, T-chart and Open Response answers, First in Math and Accelerated Reader data, formative and summative assessments across curriculum. All ELT providers will demonstrate student progress with a project or performance during the school year.

Introduction

Newton Elementary is a school-wide Title I and an Expanded Learning Time (ELT) school that provides 1.5 hours of additional time per day allowing for increased instruction in ELA, math, science, social studies, and enrichment activities, as well as more collaboration time for instructional planning. The curriculum, in addition to the core program of academics, includes offerings in Art, Music, Technology, and Physical Education. Enrichment offerings provided to students have included: art, dance, movement, hooping, violin, ukulele, singing, strings, swimming, banking, literacy and math support, media and field trips.

Newton is a K-4 school that houses fourteen to fifteen classrooms with an average class size of eighteen students. Newton embraces a 3-tiered literacy model to address the needs of all students. All students are provided with online accounts for Lexia, Accelerated Reader, Symphony Math and FasttMath to practice and master math and reading skills. Academic progress monitoring is emphasized to optimize student achievement; every child's progress is reviewed at weekly grade level meetings to ensure acceleration in both math and reading. Expectations for Newton students are high and include excellent attendance, effort, achievement, citizenship and public performances.

Newton practices Responsive Classroom, an approach to elementary teaching that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong and safe school community. The Responsive Classroom approach is based on the premise that children learn best when they have both academic and social-emotional skills instruction. Newton School adopted Playworks in 2017 and continues this program as a schoolwide priority. School partnerships exist with ArtSpace, Freedom Credit Union, the YMCA, and Amherst Cinema. Parental involvement is encouraged and there is an active PTO that generously supports the school programs and offers free community events. Our PTO provides funds for field trips and special projects. The Greenfield Educational Foundation also provides funding for special classroom projects. All Newton teachers and paraprofessionals are highly qualified. This School Improvement Plan serves as the school's Title I school-wide plan.

Goal I - Improve Academic Achievement: Newton School will use additional time to accelerate student learning in core academic subjects by making meaningful improvements to the quality of instruction in support of school-wide achievement goals

| Objectives | Key Actions | Measures of Success | Timeline |
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| <p>Objective 1: All students will make strong continual progress toward proficiency and excellence in reading and writing</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELT allows for a 2.5 hours of instruction in English Language Arts • Tier II instruction is provided by Title I and support staff • NWEA Map and DIBELS assessment is used to monitor student progress and plan instruction • Accelerated Reader and Lexia is used in grades K-4 | <p>Measure 1 (State): By Spring 2021, 75% of grade 3 and grade 4 students will score proficient or advanced on the ELA portion of the MCAS 2.0 Next Generation.</p> <p>Measure 2 (Internal): By Spring 2021, 75% of all students will reach grade level benchmarks on MAP testing.</p> | <p>2018 - 2021</p> |
| <p>Objective 2: All students will make strong continual progress toward</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELT allows for a 90-minute block for math instruction | <p>Measure 1 (State): By Spring 2021, 70% of grade 3 students and grade 4 will score proficient or advanced on</p> | <p>2018-2021</p> |

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| <p>proficiency and excellence in mathematics.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier II instruction is provided by general education teachers, support staff and Title I staff • NWEA Map assessment is used to monitor student progress and plan instruction in grades K-4 • FasstMath computer program is used, grades K-4 • Teachers have asked that we investigate Accelerated Math as a potential program. • This year we have TangMath Tuesdays and Wednesday Words available in K-4 for teachers to supplement instruction. | <p>the Math portion of the MCAS 2.0 Next Generation. Measure 2 (Internal): By Spring 2021, all K - 4 students will have baseline math achievement skill profiles (based on NWEA measures of academic progress)</p> | |
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Goal II - Build a Professional Collaborative Culture to Improve Student Achievement: Newton School will effectively use additional time to build a professional culture of teacher leadership and collaboration (e.g. designated collaborative planning time, on-site targeted professional development) focused on strengthening instructional practice and meeting school-wide achievement goals.

| Objectives | Key Actions | Measures of Success | Timeline |
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| <p>Objective 1: Teacher teams meet regularly to discuss and analyze student work and data for the purpose of assuring 90% or more of the students will meet or exceed their targeted growth goals</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade level teachers meet for 45 minutes weekly to assess student work, analyze student data, and plan instruction • Faculty meetings are held 2 times a month to identify common goals and | <p>Measure 1: Grade level, Title, and Special Education teachers will meet weekly to analyze student work and data using a protocol. This is a new practice.</p> <p>Measure 2: Each faculty member will complete an</p> | <p>2018- 2021</p> |

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| | <p>implementation of common instructional strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All teachers set and monitor goals as part of the educator evaluation system • Teachers will identify/create common assessments to address the weakness in math fluency K-4. • Professional Development will be provided that focuses on math and writing instruction. | <p>action plan based on the school's instructional focus and implementation of school-wide best practices</p> | |
| <p>Objective 2: The principal and staff support a community where faculty, staff, and administrators regularly engage in professional development, and data-driven analysis and planning to improve student learning.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing Professional development on the school's instructional strategies (graphic organizers, QAR, top-down web, two-column notes, and reciprocal teaching) • School-wide data meetings 3 times a year to analyze student data, monitor student progress and plan instruction | <p>Measure 1: Grade Level Teams meet with the principal weekly.</p> <p>Measure 2: Teachers will assess fluency at each grade level and reflect on ways to improve student performance in math fluency.</p> <p>Measure 3: By Spring 2021 all mathematics instructional staff will have completed 10 hours of research-based instruction on math learning.</p> | <p>2018- 2021</p> |

Goal III - Provide Enrichment Activities to Improve Academic Achievement: Newton School will effectively use additional time (in core and/or specialty classes) to offer enrichment opportunities that connect to state standards, build student skills and interests, and deepen student engagement in school/learning in support of school-wide achievement goals.

| Objectives | Key Actions | Measures of Success | Timeline |
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| <p>Objective 1: Enrichment opportunities help to develop students' skills and talents, explore special interests, and perform/demonstrate/exhibit the products of their work.</p> | <p>Enrichment activities include but are not limited to: art, dance, movement, sign language, literacy and math support, banking, media, violin, ukulele, singing, cooperative games, swimming, and strings.</p> <p>ELT staff and students are producing the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All school performances • DVD documentation • Bulletin Board Displays • All school sings • Art work for display in classrooms and school | <p>Measure 1: By Spring 2021, 100% of enrichment programs will create a final product or performance</p> <p>Measure 2: By Spring 2021, 100% of enrichment programs will align with the school's instructional focus as documented in the approved program outline attached to the provider's contract.</p> | <p>2018 - 2021</p> |
| <p>Objective 2: Management is in place to support the integration of enrichment providers (both teachers and partners) and ensure alignment with school's area of academic focus, culture, and operations.</p> | <p>Create a booklet that lists and describes the enrichment activities, provider information, and connection to school's academic focus</p> <p>Observation and feedback form will be created to use with all enrichment activities</p> | <p>Measure 1: Each year the grant administrators will provide an orientation for each enrichment program provider.</p> <p>Measure 2: By Spring 2018 the grant administrators and teachers will conduct at least 3 observations of enrichment programs and provide feedback to the providers.</p> | <p>2018-2021</p> |

Goal IV: Parent Involvement to Support Student Learning and Achievement: Newton School sees parents as partners in their children’s academic achievement and social development; Newton School will continue to increase parent involvement and support.

| Objectives | Key Actions | Measures of Success | Timeline |
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| <p>Objective 1: Newton administration, teachers, and staff will continue to provide parents and community members with information on school activities, student achievement and accomplishments, school calendar, and ways to be involved in the Newton school community.</p> | <p>Post information on the district website including calendar, principal letters, announcements, school newsletters, PTO information, etc.</p> <p>Conduct monthly PTO meetings and All School Meetings</p> <p>WHA! Radio Spots</p> <p>Parent Survey with Feedback from Parents</p> <p>Distribute Newton School's Monthly Newsletters and post on the district website</p> <p>Utilize School Messenger to communicate with parents</p> <p>Hold all-school meetings that families and community members attend where students perform and share their learning</p> <p>Distribute weekly Classroom Notes to parents</p> <p>Meet with parents during parent conferences and when mutually agreed upon</p> | <p>Agendas and Minutes of Meetings</p> <p>Parent Sign In Lists</p> <p>Documents sent home and posted on the district website</p> <p>Videos and pictures from assemblies, celebrations, and school activities</p> <p>Letters to families and community members</p> | <p>2018 - 2021</p> |

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| | Encourage and welcome parents and community members to volunteer, visit the school, and join the PTO | | |
| Objectives | Key Actions | Measures of Success | Timeline |
| Objective 2: Newton administration, teachers, and staff will continue to reach out to students and their families to ensure access to technology and educational resources. | Purchase technology tools to support learning, student engagement, demonstration of academic achievement including recorders, digital video cameras, and SMART boards providing access to all students. | Monitor and document use of the school library Records and communications that demonstrate parent outreach | 2018 - 2021 |
| Objective 3: Parents will be provided opportunities and resources to support their children's academic achievement and social development. | Post student work and student data publicly so it can be shared with parents and community members when they visit the school School social worker and psychologist will provide ongoing support to students and their families Newton School staff works with outside social agencies to provide support to students and their families School-wide implementation of Responsive Classroom practices school-wide an approach to elementary teaching that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong and safe | Posted student data that is posted and displays of student work Descriptions of the ways that the school specialists have worked with children and families Descriptions of the outside agencies that have worked with Newton School administration and staff Professional development that is provided to staff on the Responsive Classroom Model with participation lists | 2018 - 2021 |

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| | school community to enable optimal student learning. | | |
| Objective 4: Newton administration, teachers, and staff will continue to assist preschool students through the transition from early childhood programs to Kindergarten. | <p>At kindergarten registration in February and March parents and children are will be given tours and meet staff; children will be given the opportunity to participate in kindergarten activities. School tours are available to families of incoming kindergarten students on an on-going basis.</p> <p>Hold spring screening to identify needs and strengths of incoming kindergarteners to ensure that parents and school staff provide each other with key information</p> | <p>Registration Lists</p> <p>Sample Kindergarten Toolkit</p> <p>Sample Registration Materials</p> <p>Schedules/Calendar of events</p> | 2018 - 2021 |

Goal V: Use Technology to Improve Student Achievement: Newton School will use technology to enhance learning, engage students, and improve student achievement.

| Objectives | Key Actions | Measures of Success | Timeline |
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| Objective 1: Newton teachers and staff will use computer based programs to support learning, engage students, and improve student achievement. | <p>Lexia and Accelerated Reader is used with students K-4</p> <p>Pearson Realize</p> <p>Symphony Math and FasttMath is used with students 1-4</p> <p>NWEA Map computer adaptive assessment is administered 3 times a year to monitor student progress</p> | <p>Improved academic achievement in reading and mathematics for all students. Data is generated by the programs.</p> <p>All School Celebrations of Individual Student Growth</p> <p>Full implementation of NWEA MAP assessment in grades K-4</p> | 2018 - 2021 |

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| | and focus instruction to address student needs | Teachers will analyze student data 3 times a year to monitor student progress and adjust classroom instruction. | |
| Objective 2: Newton teachers and staff will use web-based interactive tools to support learning, engage students, and improve student learning. | Teachers utilize SMARTboard technology for instruction K-3 Hand-held response systems are available for teacher use. Computer centers support student learning in all subjects | Improved academic achievement for all students Improved student engagement and motivation as evidenced through classroom observations and analysis of student data (discipline data, health office visits, absenteeism, classroom engagement) | 2018 - 2021 |
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