

## **School Committee Goals for the 2008-2009 school year**

### **GOAL #1: Instructional focus:**

To support the Superintendent's initiative for a preK-12 Instructional Focus in order to improve student achievement.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- A.** Assist the Superintendent in developing materials that communicate the essential elements and implementation of his Instructional Focus initiative, including "metacognitive thinking" and "Socratic teaching" strategies.
- B.** Support the Superintendent's focus on Teacher Teams and both teacher and student work assessments.
- C.** Approve the Superintendent's "benchmark" or "results statement" document for parents, providing concrete examples of how the Year 1 and 2 Instructional Focus elements are being implemented in the classroom.

### **GOAL #2, Budget:**

To build financial support for MPS schools through a sound budget process.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- A.** In the Fall, identify areas of concern and communicate them to the Finance Committee/Town.
- B.** Be cognizant of the Town's financial resources and the State's economic climate/forecast.
- C.** Complete contract negotiations for the successor Teachers' Contract (present contract ends June, 2009).
- D.** Focus on educational gains that do not require additional dollars.
- E.** Be as efficient as possible regarding personnel staffing.
- F.** Remain mindful of long-range planning and multiyear impact of operating and capital project budgets.
- G.** Establish adequate mechanisms for funding technology needs.

### **GOAL #3, School facilities:**

To continue working with the MA School Building Authority (MSBA) and address K-6 school facility needs.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- A.** Work with the MSBA, the Village Building Oversight Committee, and the district educators in order to successfully complete the Village School core systems replacement project.
- B.** Work with the MSBA, the Glover Building Committee, the district educators and the community in order to successfully complete the Glover School Design Feasibility phase of the Glover School project.
- C.** Promote proactive measures in addressing maintenance needs at the MPS facilities.
- D.** Meet the needs of educational programs while addressing facility needs.

### **GOAL #4, Communication:**

To further improve communication and interaction between families and the schools, preK-12.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- A.** Ensure that parents can reach their children's teachers via email.
- B.** Continue to develop *Marblehead.com/schools* as a place to access current information.
- C.** Define reasonable communication expectations and make sure they are consistently met at all schools.
- D.** Request that K-8 teachers articulate to parents the curriculum topics being covered in the classroom, i.e., "this week (month) in math (English, science...) we'll be working on numerators (reading *Huck Finn*, studying electricity)."
- E.** Continue to ask the School Committee's set of questions on the School Improvement Plan questionnaires so that the district's overall progress can be charted.

### **GOAL #5, Technology Master Plan**

To create a document that will serve as a blueprint for meeting the district's K-12 technology needs for education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The document will address the hardware, software and personnel components as well as budgetary guidelines.

#### **OBJECTIVES:**

- A.** Establish a Technology in Education (TIE) subcommittee to be comprised of district staff, school committee, and community members.
- B.** Work with the TIE subcommittee to create a five-year plan for systematically addressing the technology needs in the schools through an articulated and sustainable budget process.