

Hale Middle School



School Improvement Plan FY 2011-2013



George P. King Jr., Principal

2011-2012 School Year Update

**Hale Middle School
School Improvement Plan
2011-2013**

2011-2012 School Council Members:

Kim Bollus, Teacher
George King, Principal
Margaret Kusner, Teacher
Rachel Richards, Parent
Maryanne Talpey, Parent
Myie Yvanovich, Parent

Introduction:

The Hale Middle School Improvement Plan represents a collaborative effort on the part of our School Council. The council has worked to establish an improvement plan that identifies initiatives to continually allow improvement at Hale Middle School. As outlined by the Education Reform Act and the Goals of the Nashoba Regional School Committee, the Council discusses various issues related to school improvement. The focus of the School Improvement Plan is the core values, mission and belief statement and the accomplishment of our three major goals. The Council believes that working to accomplish these goals will improve the overall educational process at Hale Middle School.

District Goals:

The School Council has reviewed its School Improvement Plan and finds it consistent with the following District Focus statement:

Mission Statement, Beliefs, and District Focus

The Mission Statement of the Nashoba Regional School District is to educate all students to their fullest potential in a safe, caring environment to become critical, creative, reflective thinkers and positive contributors to the global community.

Our beliefs are that Curriculum will be coordinated across the district, challenging, comprehensive, integrated, standards-based, and have real life applications; that Instructional Strategies will be differentiated, student-centered, encourage both independent and cooperative learning, and integrate technology as a learning tool; that Assessment will be based on multiple indicators such as individual student assessments, standards-based tasks, informal analysis, authentic performance evaluations, and the MCAS and other standardized tests; that Professional Development will be designed to support the district focus, school improvement plans, and individual professional development plans; and that our School Climate will foster respect, responsibility, courtesy, cooperation, accountability, honesty, perseverance, and tolerance.

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Hale Middle School CORE Values

RESPECT YOURSELF

RESPECT EACH OTHER

RESPECT YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Hale Middle School Vision & Mission Statement

Hale Middle School believes that all educational and school related decisions should be based upon the divergent needs and uniqueness of the early adolescent. Through a climate of respect, we must provide our students with learning opportunities that meet each student's varied physical, social and intellectual needs that maximize his or her potential. We believe that our curricula must go beyond the traditional academic offerings. Through sound educational practices and the utilization of emerging technologies, we can prepare our students for the challenges that will be theirs in the future.

1. *We believe in:*

- Helping students develop and improve their critical and creative thinking skills.
- Helping students understand the principles and responsibilities of a democratic society.
- Helping students understand and successfully cope with the mental, physical, emotional and social changes they experience as early adolescents.
- Developing a student's sense of self-discipline, self-respect, self-reliance and personal responsibility.

2. *We believe:*

- Each student is capable of learning and should be held to high expectations
- Students must be actively engaged in their own learning.
- Our curricula should be integrated.
- Our instructional and assessment strategies must be diverse and emphasize active learning.

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Review of 2010-2011

Accomplishments related to goals:

- Added to extra-curricular programs including a new robotics club and two new intramurals.
- Continued the Hale Spirit Day at end of the school year providing T-shirts to all students, a community cookout and a full school picture.
- Successfully established and conducted an 8th grade trip to Washington D.C. during May of 2011
- Continued to add to classrooms outfitted with projectors and interactive white boards.
- Upgraded and expanded wireless internet access throughout the entire school.
- Hosted an assembly presented by a Secret Service agent through the resources of a student's family.
- School newspaper coordinated a glove and hat drive for needy residents.
- The librarian and ELA staff collaborated to enhance the summer reading program to concentrate on a particular issue (bullying in 2011), with a plan for fall book discussions.
- Conducted a school climate survey that had open-ended questions only, designed to encourage more broad based narrative input.
- Hosted an evening seminar for parents presented by Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC) from Bridgewater State College.
- Provided in house staff development on bullying issues presented by MARC.
- Developed a much less costly alternative for the purpose of air conditioning the classroom wing of the school.
- Installed a brand new computer lab outfitted with PC based machines.
- Continued Project Adventure program for 6th grade students.

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School Goals and Objectives:

Goal # 1: To continue to integrate technology resources into the learning process and the school community as a whole.

Objective 1: Provide resources to allow teachers to use a variety of technology-based initiatives to enhance the curriculum and instruction delivered to students

Objective 2: Encourage the use of technology to expand learning outside the classroom

Objective 3: Utilize Web 2.0 products to enhance communication with parents regarding student's learning.

Objective 4: Improve school/parent communications using technology resources

Goal # 2: To provide a comfortable, safe and respectful school environment so that all members of the school community may pursue their learning.

Objective 1: Implement the Positive School Climate plan and curriculum during the 2010-2011 school year. Provide faculty and parent training as required by state law.

Objective 2: Hold school community meeting to begin process of adopting or affirming school core values, mission statement and vision statement.

Objective 3: Add additional activities outside the school day for the purpose of providing educational and community building opportunities for students.

Goal # 3: To achieve and maintain an appropriate physical environment for teaching and learning.

Objective 1: Work with the Town and District to review solutions to heating problems on the third floor.

Objective 2: Improve the wireless capability of the school building, specifically the auditorium and cafeteria.

Objective 3: Complete the installation of projection equipment and interactive white boards within the school.

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Goal # 1: To continue to integrate technology resources into the learning process and the school community as a whole.

Objective 1: *Provide resources to allow teachers to use a variety of technology-based initiatives to enhance the curriculum and instruction delivered to students.*

Objective 2: *Encourage the use of technology to expand learning outside the classroom.*

Objective 3: *Utilize Web 2.0 products to enhance communication with parents regarding student's learning.*

Objective 4: *Improve school/parent communications using technology resources*

Activities	Responsibility	Indicators of Success	Budget Impact	Evaluation and Progress
1. Increase utilization of District software programs to enhance student learning. (Odyssey, Kurzweil, etc.)	Administration/teachers	90% of potential users registered	Minimal as licenses are owned at present	Special Education has made good use of their opportunities. Odyssey has not been as broadly successful and needs to be evaluated.
2. Offer parental training and exposure to available technology learning programs	Administration/teachers	Hold public meeting for parent training and introduction	No impact	This is an ongoing discussion as to how best to achieve this goal.
3. Implement use of Web 2.0 tools for student use to enhance learning.	Teachers	Regular use and updates of Wiki, Google Apps as part of learning culture.	Minimal	Every academic and most RAS classes now use Google as a learning center online.

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<p>4. Improve and refine school/parents communications using available technology.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Administration</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Clear and concise understanding of what communication tools are used for specific reasons</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Minimal</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">This has been discussed and refined by the School Council and is being communicated to the broader community.</p>
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Goal # 2: To provide a comfortable, safe and respectful school environment so that all members of the school community may pursue their learning.

Objective 1: *Implement the Positive School Climate plan and curriculum during the 2010-2011 school year.*

Objective 2: *Host faculty and parent training as required by new state law.*

Objective 3: *Hold school and community meeting to begin the process of adopting or affirming school core values, mission statement and vision statement.*

Objective 4: *Add additional activities outside of the school day for the purpose of providing educational and community building opportunities for students*

Activities		Indicators of Success	Budget Impact	Evaluation and Progress
1. Offer public information regarding the District's bullying policy and curriculum to parents and students alike	Administration	Easily accessible and understandable promotion of the policy and related reporting documents. Positive response on school climate survey.	Minimal	The summer reading program in 2011 was centered on this issue and followed with breakout group discussions in September.
2. Offer faculty and parent training as required by state law	Administration	Presentation of program by executive director of MARC.	\$1,500 and material costs	MARC presented to both parents and students in 2011.
3. Professional development for Staff	Administration/ teachers	Ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers	Conferences/workshops and in house training	MARC presented to the full faculty in 2011.

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<p>4. Host a community meeting to review and discuss the core values and mission statement of the school</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">School Community</p>	<p>Open meeting before the end of the 2010-2011 school year to inform 2011-2012 school year process.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Minimal</p>	<p>This is an ongoing consideration, with timelines having to be extended.</p>
<p>5. Add student programs and activities, both athletic, recreational and educational for the purpose of building community outside of regular school hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Administration, teachers and parents</p>	<p>Evidence of new groups and organization utilizing the school for the purpose of enhancing the community</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Potential costs of staffing and stipends</p>	<p>We added a robotics club in 2010-2011 along with two new intramurals.</p>

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Goal # 3: To achieve and maintain an appropriate physical environment for teaching and learning.

Objective 1: *Work with the Town and District to review solutions to the heat problem on the third floor.*

Objective 2: *Improve the wireless capability of the school building, specifically the auditorium and cafeteria.*

Objective 3: *Complete the installation of projection equipment and interactive whiteboards throughout the school.*

Activities	Responsibility	Indicators of Success	Budget Impact	Evaluation and Progress
1. Work with the Town and District to develop and implement a permanent solution to mitigate third floor heat during warm weather months	Administration	Permanent solution that is implemented to solve heat issue	Significant	A proposal to the town is being considered in the spring of 2012.
2. Enhanced wireless capability throughout the school with critical public areas a priority	Administration	Installation of wireless capability	\$2000-\$4000 maximum	This was completed in the summer of 2011.
3. To assure all academic classrooms are equipped with interactive whiteboards or projectors	Administration	Purchase and installation of equipment	\$10,000 approximately, to be paid for by District technology annual capital fund	More progress was made during 2011; completion is anticipated in 2012.