

Green Meadow School Improvement Plan 2007-2010

Format Revised 4/20/12007

Format Revised 10/1/2007

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	GREEN MEADOW SCHOOL ACTIVITIES/INDICATORS	BENCHMARK DATES	KEY PEOPLE
<p>Goal I - Ensure the use of a common core curriculum</p> <p>1. Incorporate a variety of instructional practices and content areas both within and across grade levels Literacy</p> <p>2. Incorporate a variety of instructional practices and content areas both within and across grade levels Math Science Social Studies Health/Wellness</p>	<p>1. <u>Literacy</u></p> <p>a. Utilize Team Meetings and Early Release days to improve reading by working with IDEAL consultants in developing data driven instruction for each student.</p> <p>b. Examine alternate reading materials to supplement Scott Foresman so that each student is taught at the appropriate instructional level.</p> <p>c. Develop a pilot program in Grade 3 for handwriting by using Zaner Bloser. Review Handwriting Without Tears as an alternate handwriting program for other grades.</p> <p>d. Continue professional development in the Collins Writing Program.</p> <p>e. Expand writing by having students write in all content areas such as Math, Science, Music, Art and Physical Education.</p> <p>f. Use literature to inspire students in the Arts.</p> <p>2. <u>Math</u></p> <p>a. Strengthen the development of math skills with investigative hands on activities to introduce and reinforce all mathematical concepts in the state standards.</p> <p>b. Assist students in developing more thorough and detailed answers to open response questions.</p> <p><u>Science</u></p> <p>a. Review the Scope and Sequence of Discovery Works to align it with the state standards.</p> <p>b. Monitor the time on learning for Science to maximize the time spent on the curriculum.</p> <p><u>Social Studies</u></p> <p>a. Review the scope and sequence of Social Studies at each grade level to align with the state frameworks.</p> <p><u>Health/Wellness</u></p> <p>a. Continue Green Meadow Wellness Committee to help monitor healthier food choices in the food service program and educate students on making positive food choices.</p> <p>b. Continue the discussion about leading a healthy lifestyle in and out of school.</p> <p>c. Promote good hygiene by emphasizing healthy habits such as washing hands, coughing and sneezing safely, oral hygiene routines.</p> <p>d. Facilitate and develop activities that encourage families to be more physically active through events such as Field Day and Walk to School Day.</p> <p>Progress Report 2009</p> <p>Literacy</p> <p>a. We now have an in-house staff member who oversees our DIBELS program. The DIBELS is administered three times a year in Sept./Jan./May. Classroom teachers are responsible for administering Progress Monitoring on a weekly basis (on the same day of the week at approximately the same time of the day) to their students. We have changed our Literacy Time. All teachers in each grade level now teach ELA during the same block of time to maximize interventions.</p> <p>b. We have established a Literacy Committee which has met three times this year to develop and discuss topics of interest. We have introduced several new programs to meet the instructional needs of all students. We have also added a literacy coach position which is a valuable resource to the staff. Teachers, assistants, and tutors have all been trained using ERI, My Sidewalks, Project Read and Read Naturally. We have found ERI and Read Naturally to be very helpful to our students. The “My Sidewalks” program has not met our students’ needs and so in 2008-09 we implemented another intervention program – Project Read.</p> <p>c. We have chosen the Zaner Bloser program handwriting for Grades 2 and 3. Kindergarten and Grade 1 use Handwriting Without Tears.</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d. We continue to expand the Collins Writing Program by providing more opportunities for Type I and Type II writing experiences. e. We continue to implement writing experiences in areas such as Art (Blue Dog) and P.E. (self concept). f. We use literature to inspire Music Performances and Art Projects such as “Blue Dog” and Picturing Writing. 		
	<p><u>Math</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. We reviewed the Math sections of the curriculum tri folds and decided which math facts would be mastered at each grade level. b. We continue to expand our ability to respond to open response questions. We have offered an after school Math MCAS program for 38 students. The Math series in Grade 3 is geared to open response questions to support the skills tested in MCAS. <p><u>Science</u></p> <p>We continue to monitor the instructional time in Science. Our Grade 2 study on vernal Pools won an award from the Wild Scenic River System.</p> <p><u>Social Studies</u></p> <p>We have not aligned the Social Studies curriculum during the 2008-09 year.</p> <p><u>Health and Wellness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. We have not continued the Wellness Committee but we have continued the practice of healthier food choices for celebrations. b. Sara Hazel received a \$1,000 grant from Blue Cross Blue Shield to promote healthy lifestyles within the Maynard Community. c. We had an all school assembly with Slim Goodbody to discuss healthy body and positive self esteem for all studnets. d. We did hold Walk to School activity. It was organized by one of our parents. 		

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<p>Goal II - Ensure the use of common assessment practices</p> <p>1. Incorporate a variety of informal and formal assessments to improve and strengthen literacy instruction through the implementation of reading and writing strategies across the curriculum, while recording and charting students progress and achievement</p> <p>2. Review the scope of our student report card.</p>	<p>1 a. Intensive work with IDEAL consultants to support our work to reach all students. New materials such as Early Reading Intervention, Reading Naturally and My Sidewalks will be utilized so that students meet success.</p> <p>b. Continue use of the DRA assessment which is used to assess a student's instructional level. Implement the use of the DIBELS assessment which can be given several times to assess student progress on a continuing basis.</p> <p>c. Continue work on the improvement of writing by using the Collins writing folders so the progress of each student can be easily tracked.</p> <p>2. Grade level representatives will meet to review the current report card and make adjustments to coordinate more with the textbook series while maintaining the adherence to the curriculum standards.</p> <p>Progress Report 2009</p> <p>1. a. Progress due to reading program intervention has decreased retention. DIBLES is done three times per year. Progress monitoring done weekly or a biweekly basis for students at risk.</p> <p>b. DRA is used as a supplementary assessment tool to help track progress of struggling students.</p> <p>c. We continue to improve the writing of our students by increasing the number of Type I and Type II writing experiences.</p> <p>2. The Report Card Committee has met several times to review the grading system at the top of the report card to make sure grades reflect accurate progress. We made a significant change in our grading system. We wanted to demonstrate the actual performance of students working independently on grade level objectives.</p>		

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<p>Goal III - Enhance Student/Staff Safety</p> <p>1. Continue evaluation for crisis preparedness</p> <p>2. Implement recommendations from drills/procedures</p> <p>3. Develop pro-active strategies for entrance and egress to and from the building</p> <p>4. Develop programs for students to protect personal safety</p>	<p>1.a. Meet with Town Departments and emergency personnel. b. Conduct fire drills a minimum of 4 times as mandated by the State. c. Conduct other emergency drills such as lock down drills twice a year. d. Review results of drills with staff and gather their input and feedback.</p> <p>2. a. Review recommendations from police and fire departments and modify the drill procedures based on recommendations. b. Develop database of structural needs and time line for addressing them.</p> <p>3. a. Review traffic patterns for students, parents, cars, buses, vans. b. Review access to the building during the school day.</p> <p>4. a. Review our programs and teaching strategies to keep students safe in areas such as walking to school and other places. b. Develop a plan to address internet safety through the library program. c. Have safety discussions through the Officer Phil program which promotes personal safety. d. Work with Town Departments to discuss Fire Safety, Halloween Safety, Drug Safety.</p> <p>Progress Report 2009</p> <p>1. a. We have a good working relationship with Town Departments. This year we worked with them about the future of Crowe Park. b. We have had 4 fire drills this year. c. We conducted 1 lock down drill this year. d. We continue to review the feedback that we receive about our emergency drills in order to improve them.</p> <p>2. a. We have a good working relationship with Town Departments. This year we worked with them about the future of Crowe Park. b. We continue to update our data base to document facility needs and repairs (painting, rugs, roof). We continue to MAINTAIN only – not make improvements and/or renovations.</p> <p>3. Our traffic is still a major concern. The problem at Crowe Park may be alleviated through a resolution of Crowe Park – see 1a.</p> <p>4. a. b. Our librarian has done an instructional lesson on internet safety with our third graders. c. We had a presentation through the Officer Phil program this year. Our social worker does a weekly lesson in each kindergarten class to teach safety and other topics. d. We had safety presentations during Fire Prevention Week by Fire Department personnel.</p>		

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<p>Goal IV - Ensure a respectful, safe, nurturing environment to promote optimum learning.</p> <p>1. Responsive Classroom will be the social curriculum that we use in school activities</p> <p>2. Review other materials to supplement the social curriculum</p> <p>3. Investigate other programs to help students appreciate the differences and likenesses that we have between individuals</p> <p>4. Review transition plan for new students and for Grade 3 students moving to Fowler</p> <p>5. Promote respect for cultural diversity</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.a. Continue to train staff in Responsive Classroom b. Review format for grade level morning meeting/whole school morning meeting c. Develop Grade 3 student ambassadors who would be peer leaders d. Provide opportunities for parent involvement in morning meetings e. Develop parent outreach so parents understand Responsive Classroom <p>2. Evaluate the use of AI's Pals in Kindergarten- blend with CARES from Responsive Classroom</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. a. Explore the iCare program which encourages tolerance and acceptance of differences b. Provide a lending library for parents and staff to develop an understanding of individual differences <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. a. Develop a team from Fowler and Green Meadow that will generate activities to ease the transition from Grade 3 to Grade 4 b. Promote assimilation into Green Meadow for new students by offering them a Welcome to Green Meadow packet. We are going to review and improve these packets. c. Provide information for incoming kindergarten parents such as tours of the kindergarten classrooms, welcome packet, and a series of workshops for incoming kindergarten parents. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. a. Support teachers participation in English Language Learners Training b. Provide access to classroom materials that foster diversity c. Sponsor cultural performances that reflect the multicultural community <p>Progress Report 2009</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. a, b, c, d, e – We continue to utilize Responsive Classroom. There are class meetings on a daily basis in each classroom. Within each classroom we use the strategies that are part of Responsive Classroom – such as an Apology of Action. Each student develops Hopes and Dreams and each class develops classroom rules. These “Hopes and Dreams” are revisited during the school year. <p>We have not done grade level Morning Meetings because of the absence of the assistant principal.</p> <p>At the present time we are reviewing the scope of challenging behavior by some students and looking at appropriate intervention and support. The behavior of a few students can effect the quality of the school atmosphere.</p> <p>We will have a new program in Special Education in September 2009. It will offer a smaller classroom sitting with a certified teacher.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The AI's Pals program is used as a social skills curriculum in Kindergarten. 3. We have not further developed the iCare program this year. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4a. Our third graders visited Fowler with an opportunity to visit classrooms and eat lunch there. Fowler staff came to visit our students in their classrooms. In addition, the social worker brought individual students up to Fowler to ease their fears. b. Our librarian is developing a welcome packet for the incoming kindergarten students. The PTO is helping to fund the program. c. We provided written information to prospective kindergarten parents. We also did classroom tours with the parents and the kindergarten teachers offered two evening workshops for parents. 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">5a. We continue to offer additional training for teacher in ELL.b. We have purchased additional materials for classroom use – as part of the NAEYC accreditation.c. We continue to offer a diversity of programs, materials and resources to support the diversity of our students.		
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<p>Goal V - Parent / Community Involvement</p> <p>1. Provide events for families and school personnel to interact socially and academically</p> <p>2. Encourage parent and community volunteers in the school program.</p>	<p>1a. Support PTO activities that generate funds and/or provide for family entertainment</p> <p>b. Continue to support a PTO sponsored Back To School picnic for families at the beginning of the school year</p> <p>c. Develop Curriculum Nights for each grade level to showcase student work and enhance parent understanding of classroom curriculum</p> <p>d. Conduct parent conferences in December with each parent to review first trimester report cards</p> <p>e. Provide parents the opportunity to attend grade level/classroom presentations/morning meetings</p> <p>f. Explore different speakers to talk on topics of interest to parents</p> <p>g. Continue to support the entire curriculum with enrichment activities including visual arts, performing arts, sciences and physical education.</p> <p>h. Encourage STAR/EXCEL programs to maintain Bingo nights</p> <p>i. Continue support of community and worldwide charitable efforts such as Maynard Food Pantry, UNICEF, Pennies for Peace</p> <p>2a. Develop a data base of parents who want to volunteer in various school activities</p> <p>b. Encourage more parent participation in classrooms – recognize parents efforts during National Volunteer Week</p> <p>c. Continue to generate ways that working parents can volunteer</p> <p>d. Foster the support from the Jewish Coalition for Literacy who provide volunteers to work with our students</p> <p>e. Support student volunteers in various classrooms through the Future Teachers organization</p> <p>f. Utilize Connect Ed automated phone system to communicate about school closings and school events</p> <p>Progress Report 2009</p> <p>1a. The PTO provided a Spirit Sale at Back to School night September 2008, a Magazine Drive October 2008, Picture Day October 2008, the Holiday Shoppe December 2008, Worcester Sharks game March 2009, Hoops a Thon (Grade 2), Spring Auction April 2009 and 3rd grade Ice Cream Social (each 3rd grade student also receives a class DVD and autographed – shirt). The PTO provided a Parent Contact Directory for all parents of those who chose to have their contact information listed.</p> <p>b. The PTO Back to School Picnic was held in September with its largest attendance yet.</p> <p>c. Each grade level participated in a curriculum night, Kindergarten – May 28, 2009, Grades 1 & 2 were snowed out and Grade 3 was on MCAS and held on January 7, 2009.</p> <p>d. Parent conferences were held December 3rd and 4th 2008.</p> <p>e. Music concerts are held by grade level and parents are encouraged to attend. Some individual teachers invite parents to a variety of programming/celebrations in their classrooms throughout the year.</p> <p>g. The enrichment committee provided Puppet Shows (PK), Story Tellers (Grade 1 & 2), Marionettes (Grade K), Birds of Prey (Grade 1), Magnets (Grade 1), Greg Wenzel (Grade 2), “How a Book is Made” (Grade 2), States of Matter (Grade 2), Paul Revere (Grade 3), Percussion Group (Grade K-3), Poetry Presentation (Grade K-3), and Slim Good Body (Grades K-3).</p> <p>h. EXCEL and STAR held a Pizza/Bingo event for parents.</p> <p>i. We continue to support Maynard Food Pantry, Unicef and other charitable organizations. We also helped many of our own families recently unemployed.</p> <p>2 a. The PTO has a database updated every September with names and PTO activities for which parents can volunteer.</p> <p>b. Parents who volunteer were given a small gift during National Volunteer Week.</p> <p>c. To accommodate work schedules, teachers offer various times during the day and the PTO offers evening activities in which parents can volunteer.</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">d. We have a strong alliance with Temple Beth AI in Acton and several volunteers help individual students on a weekly basis.e. Several high school students volunteer in various classrooms.f. The Connect Ed automated phone system and email system has been used throughout the school year and has been helpful.		
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