

# Hackettstown Public Schools Strategic Plan Update

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**Goal # 1 Student Achievement: Provide opportunities for all learners, through a variety of programs as supported by technology and measured through the administration of benchmark assessments.**

### **Accomplishments 2013**

- New technology purchased with grant funds.
- Think Central implemented (Journeys).
- Student and staff technology survey developed and distributed – data used to develop and implement PD for staff.
- Writing benchmark assessments and online assessments implemented at HMS.
- Inter-district articulation regarding accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> grade math and 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra 1 with Hackettstown, Great Meadows and Allamuchy.
- Pre and post writing assessments developed and implemented K - 12.
- Inter-district staff developed assessments implemented with all sending districts.
- Easy Tech Curriculum for grades K-4 and assessments in grades 4 and 8 implemented.
- Continued efforts made to maximize resources of the district to ensure safe, secure, and technologically advanced schools.

# Accomplishments 2014

- Grade 8 and 9 articulation implemented to facilitate curricular alignment in all districts.
- Hackettstown Middle School formed a technology committee.
- Implementation of new math series and furthered development of benchmark assessments.



# Accomplishments 2015

- Staff utilization of Google suite apps to plan, implement, and assess instruction.
- Increased availability of technology through laptops, tablets, and Chromebooks.
- Implementation of online assessment programs such as Link-It.
- Infusion of STEM/STEAM activities such as Coding, Dash & Dot Robots, Makerspaces, and project based activities.
- Worked with Rutgers literacy coach to increase staff awareness, strategies, and resources to meet the needs of our student population.
- Honors level courses at Middle School, ELA and Algebra.
  - Implemented a revised technology & climate and culture surveys.
  - Implemented early intervention literacy program.
  - Reviewed, modified, adjusted Common Core Assessments, curricula, and technology.
  - Developed writing rubrics in line with CCSS and PARCC at Middle School.

# Accomplishments 2016

- Direct reading instruction programs have been implemented at HH, WG and HMS.
- Visual and Performing Arts, College and Careers and World Language curricula have been revised K to 12. ELA is in the process of being finalized and math and science will be completed for the NJDOE deadline of September 2017.
- WG - Increased the availability of technology through the use of a laptop cart and tablet devices. Working with various staff members to pilot coding and robotics activities into current curriculum using Dash and Dot robots and Ozobots. Instituting a Makerspace in a section of the library to encourage creative thinking, problem solving and design based on curriculum correlated tasks. Expanded the use of Pearson's Successmaker software K-4 to create an important layer of data for student progress and to increase student computer usage comfort for online assessments.
- Two Chromebook carts have been added to the HMS. Staff members are piloting Google Classroom this year and benchmark assessments are being administered via the Google platform early feedback suggests it's working well.
- Student of the Month to honor students at the highest grade level in each school at the monthly Board of Education meeting.
- All students in Grades 3 - 12 have been assigned Google Apps for Education Accounts.
- Staff received Google Apps for education professional development training in September and October with additional training being planned for later in the school year.
- Additional Chromebooks have been purchased for WG and HH.
- 27 additional iPads have been provided to the Special Education Programs at WG, HH, HMS, & HHS.

## **Goal # 2 Facilities: Maximize resources of the district to ensure safe, secure, technologically advanced schools.**

### **Accomplishments 2013**

- A Director of Security was hired.
- Specific building level needs were identified such as video surveillance, door access and visitor identification.
- Implementation of inter-district articulation committee.
- Inter-district collaboration with Great Meadows regarding PD for PARCC readiness.
- Completed compliance with NJTrax tech readiness requirements and assessment.
- Researched technology vendors for virtual servers to enhance the network infrastructure and end-point-systems to meet or exceed PARCC requirements.

# Accomplishments 2014

- School security updated - personnel, job descriptions, surveillance technology and infrastructure.
- Security personnel deployed at HS & district events.
- Camera project completed at HHS, HMS and WG, HH will be completed in 2015.
- Blended learning lab at HMS.
- Entered in to shared services agreement with GMRSD for Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Director of Facilities positions.
- Participated in the PARCC spring 2014 field tests.



# Accomplishments 2015

- Increased security staff throughout the district
- Rewrote building based security protocols for event security, parent visitations, Student movement & access throughout the schools.
- All buildings now utilize Passage Point for visitor identification and screening.
- Implemented Realtime student scans for tracking students arriving and departing HHS.
- Installed surveillance camera system at HH.
- Redesigned HH library computer lab to be more efficient and student centered.
- In-district realignment completed.
- Fiber optic installation completed bringing HH and WG into the district's fiber optic wireless access network.
- Began using Chromebooks for PARCC testing.
- Increased computer labs at HMS to facilitate instruction and PARCC testing.
- Continued shared services opportunities with GMRSD for the Director of Special Services position.
- Pursued grant opportunities, HH awarded the NJ Agriculture Department Grant for a school garden.
- HH abatement project completed.



# Accomplishments 2016

- WG/HH – Vestibules have been installed.
- Re-organized elementary media centers to increase learning opportunities and added smartboard and sound system.
- Increased number of cameras and vantage points. Staff now sign in electronically, entrance/exit recorded in Realtime.
- Finalized installation of new camera and door access system at the Board Office.
- HMS - Students have been required to wear lanyards this year to help with building procedures, security, and the transition to HHS.
- Complete roof replacement at WG.
- Entered into shared services agreement with GMRSD for Director of Special Services, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, and Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Services.

**Goal # 3 Communications: Embrace, expand and utilize all technological advancements of our global societal shift as a means of communication from school to home and community.**

### **Accomplishments 2013**

- Researched BYOD policies.
- Increased communication from school to home.
- Unveiled new district website.
- A parent notification surveys conducted in February of 2014.
- Began hosting principal forums.
- Formation of Special Education Parental Advisory Committee.
- Began monthly student council meetings at HMS and HHS with the Superintendent and District Administrators as needed.

# Accomplishments 2014

- Bilingual notifications and the translation of the standards based report card into Spanish completed.
- HHS holds principal forum for Spanish speaking parents in order to spearhead the efforts to implement a parent advisory committee for our ELL population.
- Technology roll-over started.
- Principal blogs implemented.
- District Newsletter sent to community tri-annually.



# Accomplishments 2015

- HHS Piloted BYOD with Seniors.
- HHS & HMS – Piloted Google Apps for Education at predetermined grade levels. Full implementation to start September, 2016 for Grades 3 – 12 district-wide.
- Increased use of Realtime notification system for email, text, voice, text-to-speech messages and alerts district-wide.
- All Principals utilize Twitter to inform students, parents, and community.
- Tri-District Parent Advisory Committee formed between Hackettstown, Great Meadows, and Allamuchy meeting 3 times a year.
- Visitations made to neighboring districts to investigate how the HHS media center can be renovated/remodeled/repurposed to meet the needs of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners.

# Accomplishments 2016

- District-wide Google platform and Realtime training have increased targeted and blast communication messages for various groups regarding school related information.
- All schools have expanded use of Twitter accounts and Realtime notifications to include a Spanish language alternative.
- HHS broadened the scope of BYOD for all students, added Google/Gaggle, and allowed all students (in good standing and with parent permission) to access the HHS network.
- HMS - Increased communication with parents by using the homework tab on the parent portal. Staff are now identifying skills and standards when posting assessments to grade book, so parents know the content/skills contained within each assessment.
- Implemented 9 - 12 BYOD Program at HHS.
- Continuing to research library media center design/renovation ideas with school visits scheduled for January of 2017.

**Goal # 4 Culture and Climate: Develop a multi-cultural climate where all participants of our home and school community are actively and positively engaged**

### **Accomplishments 2013**

- February 2014 climate survey distributed to faculty, parents, and students building on the information gathered from the February 2013 survey.
- Revised student code of conduct implemented.
- Expanded the middle school lock-in, held at HMS to GMRMS.
- Implemented shadow days for 8th graders as part of their transition to HHS.
- HMS student council hosted first ever Senior Citizen Prom.
- Revised 8th grade open house.
- Hosted the first evening college fair hosted for parents and students.

# Accomplishments 2014

- Research on HHS alumni forum begins.
- WG and HH partnered with NORWESCAP to provide Family Fun Nights focusing on literacy as means to invite non-English speaking parents participate, assist, and support their children at school.
- WG started a school level culture and climate committee.
- HH and WG host a series of parent involvement nights to discuss the new math resources, HIB and helping parents understand content standards.



# Accomplishments 2015

- Principal Forums continue to develop and expand.
- HHS – Student Council has elected an ELL student to represent the Spanish-speaking population in the High School.
- HMS partnered with PTA to increase parental involvement by creating PTA liaisons.
- ERESK Programs at HHS, HMS, HH provided tutoring services, ESL, and GED classwork.
- HHS students meet with the Superintendent over the course of the school year to review culture and climate survey drafts providing feedback regarding survey questions.
- All schools continued their participation in the “TRUNK or TREAT” Night with Trinity Church and Centenary College.
- HMS, HHS, and GMRMS Student Councils meet regularly to strengthen relationships between the 3 schools and ease the transition from MS to HS.
- Continued promotion of Military Wall of Honor, Alumni Register, and Friends of Hackettstown Forum located at <http://www.hackettstown.org/Page/7482>



# Accomplishments 2016

- Tri-district student council hosted a social activity day at the Field of Dreams and the first ever collaborative effort between HHS, GMMS and HMS to host the senior citizen prom.
- HMS - Principal forums have been continued at the MS focusing heavily on student achievement. These forums have included information concerning PARCC, scheduling, grading, etc.. The MS has also partnered with the PTA to work on getting more parents actively involved by creating PTA liaisons.
- HMS - The MS Student Council continues to be very active, and meets monthly with the Superintendent. Additionally, Student Council advisors meet with advisors from HHS and GMMS to discuss transition and community activities to benefit the student population. Additionally, TI-GERS Clubs have expanded and we now have a new club titled “HMS Live” that produces student-created videos detailing HMS news.
- HHS conducted a community-wide alcohol awareness program “Every 15 Minutes.”
- HHS/ HMS/GMMS continued partnership with the Warren County Coalition to provide community members additional resources in the area of drug and alcohol awareness and presented “In Plain Sight.”
- HHS/HMS/GMMS/Allamuchy are all being surveyed for selection of world languages and electives.
- Continue to redesign and revamp both Climate/Culture and Technology Surveys through the use of Qualtrics Analytical Tools, NJTRAX and NJ Digital Readiness Plan.

# Areas of Focus 2017 and Beyond

- Athletic Hall of Fame planning has begun, to include a student alumni base that will have input into inaugural and future ‘classes’ to be inducted.
- HHS/HMS vestibule construction scheduled for Summer ‘17.
- HHS has begun planning for refurbishing the existing media center space in the summer of 2017.
- SDA grants will be activated to pay out a portion of the vestibule projects, HVAC in the HS auditorium and bathroom renovations in the HS.
- Revisit demographic study with regards to expansion of Hackettstown High School, Willow Grove, and Hatchery Hill Schools.
- Possible realignment of Pre-K through Grade 8 Program to grade based schools.
- Implement additional pre-school program at Willow Grove.
- Continue to develop a consortium for special education programs county-wide.
- Investigate off-site school locations within Hackettstown and surrounding districts.
- Implementation of Alternative High School Program.
- Sustainability and increase to our technological infrastructure.
- Implement full time security personnel district-wide.
- Increase instructional, support and custodial staff as needed.
- Place a question on the November 2017 BOE ballot supporting the 17-18 budget.
- Move towards referendum in 2018 as deemed necessary.

Thank you!