Quarterly Curriculum Update

October 4, 2023

Agenda

- MCAS Overview
  - Preliminary takeaways, Accountability Determinations, Pace of Recovery, Subgroups, Peer Districts
- Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment
  - Key work - continuously improving student performance
    - Addressing achievement gaps
    - Professional Development

Preliminary MPS Takeaways

- Statewide ELA and Math results indicate a halt in the pandemic slide and recovery is underway, albeit there are still significant gaps to get back to 2019 levels.
- In Milton, results indicate that we are making progress toward closing the unfinished learning gaps, particularly for our youngest learners.
  - In ELA, our 3rd graders achieved a 13 percentage points gain of those meeting or exceeding expectations over last year while the state stayed flat. Other grades made performance gains as well, while grades 4 and 10 stayed relatively leveled.
  - In Math, our third graders also achieved the biggest gain over last year with 9 percentage points. With the exception of a dip in grade 7 math and leveled performance in grade 4, other grades are also seeing gains.
  - In Science, we are seeing a 5 percentage points gain in grade 8, and leveled performance in grades 5 and 10.
- Milton continues to outperform the state in all subjects and grade levels and making bigger recovery gains as well.

More Good News

- All Milton Schools have met, exceeded, or made substantial progress on the accountability targets set by DESE. Accountability targets include measures such as MCAS achievements, growth, attendance, high school graduation rates, and advanced coursework.
- Collicot and Glover are 2 of 66 schools statewide deemed as "Schools of Recognition" for their high achievement and high growth and meet or exceed DESE accountability targets.

DESE Accountability Determinations

	Overall classification	Progress toward improvement targets	Accountability Percentile
Milton	Not requiring assistance or intervention	78% - Meeting or exceeding targets	n/a
Collicot ⭐	Not requiring assistance or intervention - **School of Recognition**	93% - Meeting or exceeding targets	96
Cunningham	Not requiring assistance or intervention	79% - Meeting or exceeding targets	92
Glover ⭐	Not requiring assistance or intervention - **School of Recognition**	81% - Meeting or exceeding targets	94
Tucker	Not requiring assistance or intervention	77% - Meeting or exceeding targets	75
Pierce	Not requiring assistance or intervention	72% - Substantial progress toward targets	74
Milton High	Not requiring assistance or intervention	92% - Meeting or exceeding targets	92

District ELA: Pace of Recovery

Milton ELA MCAS Results	2019 % Meeting/ Exceeding	2021% Meeting/ Exceeding	2022 % Meeting/ Exceeding	2023 % Meeting/ Exceeding	MPS Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2022-2023	State Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2022-2023	MPS Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2019-2023	State Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2019-2023
G3 ELA	75	65	58	71	13	0	-4	-12
G4 ELA	79	72	59	58	-1	2	-21	-12
G5 ELA	68	69	66	71	5	3	3	-8
G6 ELA	75	70	58	64	6	1	-11	-11
G7 ELA	65	53	49	60	11	-1	-5	-8
G8 ELA	61	57	47	57	10	2	-4	-8
G10 ELA	76	78	80	77	-3	0	1	-3

District Math: Pace of Recovery

Milton Math MCAS Results	2019 % Meeting/ Exceeding	2021% Meeting/ Exceeding	2022 % Meeting/ Exceeding	2023 % Meeting/ Exceeding	MPS Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2022-2023	State Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2022-2023	MPS Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2019-2023	State Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2019-2023
G3 Math	60	51	53	62	9	0	2	-8
G4 Math	80	65	70	69	-1	3	-11	-5
G5 Math	74	60	63	69	6	5	-5	-7
G6 Math	67	38	51	58	7	-1	-9	-11
G7 Math	65	44	58	56	-2	1	-9	-10
G8 Math	66	40	51	51	0	2	-15	-8
G10 Math	74	72	73	71	-2	0	-3	-9

District Science: Pace of Recovery

Milton Science MCAS Results	2019 % Meeting/ Exceeding	2021% Meeting/ Exceeding	2022 % Meeting/ Exceeding	2023 % Meeting/ Exceeding	MPS Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2022-2023	State Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2022-2023	MPS Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2019-2023	State Change in % Meeting/ Exceeding 2019-2023
G5 Science	68	66	69	69	0	-1	1	-7
G8 Science	62	57	65	69	4	-1	7	-5
G10 Science*	legacy	legacy	78	77	-1	0	n/a	n/a

Performance Change between 2022 and 2023
(Of percentage meeting/exceeding expectations)

Subgroups	G3-8 ELA		G3-8 Math		G5 & G8 Science		G10 ELA		G10 Math		G10 Science	
	MPS	State	MPS	State	MPS	State	MPS	State	MPS	State	MPS	State
Students w/ disabilities	4%	0	6%	0	-2%	1%	5%	2%	-5%	1%	-11%	1%
EL and former EL	8%	0	3%	0	2%	0	n/a	-4	n/a	-3%	n/a	-1%
Low Income	5%	-1%	1%	1%	8%	-1%	0	-1	5%	0	5%	-1%
African Am/Black	5%	2%	4%	2%	1%	1%	-14%	2%	-6%	1%	2%	2%
Asian	3%	1%	-3%	2%	0	0	0	2%	-20%	2%	-4%	6%
Hispanic/Latino	7%	0	2%	2%	-6%	-1%	-4%	-2%	-4%	-1%	-10%	1%
Multi-Race	5%	2%	6%	2%	-1%	1%	n/a	1%	n/a	0	n/a	-1%
White	7%	2%	5%	2%	3%	-2%	2%	2%	4%	1%	1%	-1%
All Students	9%	1%	4%	1%	2%	-1%	-3%	0	-1%	1%	-1%	0

Peer Districts Comparison

- Every year, DESE produces a list of comparable districts based on similarities in demographics in terms of grades span, total enrollment, and special populations.
  - Our list based on 2022 data (DESE has not updated to 2023 data yet) includes Chelmsford, Franklin, Melrose, Mendon-Upton, Nashoba, Natick, Sharon, Shrewsbury, Wakefield, and Winchester.
- We've also pulled data from some of our neighboring districts to run the comparison.
- Based on all these comparisons, Milton is in the mid range for performance - not the highest, but also not the lowest.
  - However, Milton does have the second lowest per pupil expenditures, lower than even the state average.

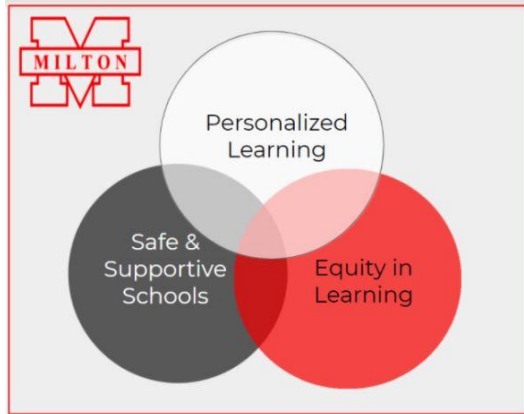|	State	**Milton**	DESE comparables			Geographic Neighbors				
			Melrose	Natick	Sharon	Canton	Braintree	Dedham	Walpole	Westwood
% High Needs (SWD, EL, Low inc)	55.1	**29.2**	30.6	29.7	29.2	34.7	46.1	41.7	29.5	28.4
Per pupil expenditure, All Funds (2021)	$19,062	**$16,863**	$14,565	$17,396	$18,963	$20,012	$17,464	$24,010	$17,395	$20,499
Avg teacher salary (2021)	$86,118	**$87,644**	$76,369	$84,410	$100,647	$93,030	$90,218	$96,958	$84,948	$99,445
2023 MCAS G3-8 ELA % M+E	42	**64**	60	65	64	53	52	46	56	71
2023 MCAS G3-8 MATH % M+E	41	**62**	59	66	69	58	56	47	62	72
2023 MCAS G5 & G8 SCI % M+E	41	**69**	61	64	67	53	56	35	54	73
2023 MCAS G10 ELA % M+E	58	**77**	79	79	80	73	71	64	67	80
2023 MCAS G10 MATH % M+E	50	**71**	64	73	75	61	72	69	73	80
2023 MCAS G10 SCI % M+E	47	**77**	64	75	79	70	67	53	66	78

Concluding Thoughts

- **We want to remind everyone that the MCAS is the only standardized measure that the state uses to benchmark grade-level achievement in grades 3-8 and grade 10.**
  - It doesn't necessarily capture individual student's learning perfectly, but at the population level, it is a good, research-based tool to measure aggregate performance year to year.
- **The data here represents only our second MCAS data point post pandemic, which paints a hopeful picture for recovery efforts in Milton.**
  - Our youngest testing grade, the third grade, is making fantastic progress back to where it was pre-pandemic in both ELA and Math. That is a solid foundation to build on for future success.
  - We are seeing the ELA recovery in most grade levels, with grades 5 and 10 surpassing even their pre-pandemic achievement.
  - Our tested grades 5 and 8 in Science have also surpassed their pre-pandemic achievement.
- **We recognize there are still areas of improvement to focus on, specifically the achievement gaps of our priority subgroup students.**
  - These students experienced the most unfinished learning during the pandemic, but we are hopeful that they are also seeing gains back from 2022 in Grades 3-8 ELA and Math.
  - Our students with disabilities surpassed even their pre-pandemic achievement.

Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment

Purpose and Theory of Action

If we implement the Strategic Plan

And ultimately prepare our students for success after high school.

Student Preparedness for College/Career

Increase

Student Performance

Then we can improve

Student and Staff Experiences

Curriculum – PK–12 ELA

- K-8 Literacy Leadership Team: Teachers, Special Educators, Reading Specialists and Curriculum Coordinators are invited to apply to be a part of a district leadership team. The main goal of this team will be to use student data (screener, formative, summative) and staff surveys to drive change in curriculum, assessment, instruction, and culture related to literacy. Subcommittees will connect between meetings to advance the work with support from the Literacy Director.
- Assessment of supplemental curriculum to integrate skill deficits with curriculum standards for students in substantially separate reading and ELA.

Curriculum – PK–12 ELA

- MHS: Revisions and additions to last year's inaugural new senior English curriculum choices include African-American Literature expanding from one semester to a full year and two new courses: True Crime: The Art of Storytelling and Exploring Nature, raising the number of options for seniors to ten.

- MHS: Developing potential dual enrollment junior and senior level English courses to run next year to enable students to earn credit through Quincy College.

- MHS: Ongoing collaboration with a focus on each English course unit as units revised, updated and reshaped into consistent online format to meet NEASC expectations.

Curriculum – PK–12 Mathematics

- The district has been awarded approximately $145,000 to enhance our implementation of the *Into Math* curriculum in Gr 1-5 this year by providing varied professional development opportunities for teachers. The specifics of how these funds will be utilized are still being finalized.

- Assessment of supplemental curriculum to integrate skill deficits with curriculum standards for students in substantially separate math

- New math courses at MHS this year include Algebra II (replacing Course 3CP), Honors Precalculus (replacing Course 3 Honors), and AP Precalculus (replacing Course 3 Accelerated Honors). This year, in addition to Honors Statistics, students in Honors Precalculus and Honors Calculus will have the opportunity to earn dual enrollment credits through Quincy College.

Curriculum – World Language 1-12

- French Immersion Grades 1-2: Implementing IDAPEL Early literacy Screener
- IDAPEL is the French version of Dibels from Acadience Learning.
- See more about IDAPEL [Here](#)

Curriculum – PK–12 Science

- All 4 Elementary Schools will be implementing Project Lead the Way (PLTW) as the English Innovation STEM curriculum in grades 1-5. The expansion into grades 1-3 was supported with funding from the One8 Foundations Applied Learning Grants.
- Pierce MS reviewed MCAS Science results during September early release day
  - 41% in 2013 to 70% in 2023
- MHS Science is running a new elective this fall, <u>Science and Society</u>.
- MHS Science teachers are continuing curriculum work to ensure students have access to personalized learning opportunities.

Curriculum - K-12 English Language Learners (ELE)

- TFM Review of ELE Program 22-23 - Staffing, Access, Curriculum, Records
  - CIMP - Continuous Improvement and Monitoring Plan
- Curriculum work at Elementary & Secondary levels utilizing the following DESE recommended WIDA Curriculum Resources & Standards:
  - WIDA English Language Development Standards Framework, 2020 Edition Kindergarten - Grade 12 Promoting equity for multilingual learners and tech language and content together
  - WIDA Can Do Descriptors for all grade levels
  - WIDA Proficiency Level Descriptors for all grade levels
  - WIDA RtI: Developing culturally & Linguistically Responsive Approach to Response to Instruction & Intervention for English Language Learners- Connecting to WIDA Standards, Assessments, and other resources

Instruction

- Personalized Learning
  - Universal Design for Learning
  - Personalization through Choice
    - Job embedded professional learning
  - Use of DataWise Protocol districtwide
    - Used to assign caseloads for interventionists
- Social Emotional Learning
  - Second Step, Calm Classroom, Michigan Model, Botvin Life Skills, PowerSchool SEL Screener
  - Building capacity for Tier 2 and 3 supports across the district
  - Anti-Bias Lessons
- Equity in Learning
  - Equity in learning means high expectations and appropriate support for ALL student
  - Ongoing assessment of co-teaching across the district to ensure equitable access to instruction

Instruction – by level

- Elementary
  - Time on Learning - expectations by grade and content
  - Report Card Committee - revised RC for 2024-2025
  - Solidified Common Planning Time - expectations, agendas, data analysis
  - Educator Evaluation Committee - use of 'Look Fors' and Focus Indicators
  - Building-based Unified Arts Specialists (Art, Music, PE)
- Secondary
  - Universal Design for Learning
  - Secondary Educator Evaluation Audit - internal consistency
  - NEASC curriculum updates

Assessment

- Continue to analyze MCAS results
  - Subgroups, pace of recovery, curricular alignment
- Roll out of new literacy screening tools
  - DIBELS 8 by mCLASS for grades K-5 and iReady Reading Diagnostic for grades 6-8.
  - These tools are used in conjunction with other assessments to identify dyslexia risk factors, implement classroom interventions, and to triangulate other data collected to develop student learning plans.
- Update assessment inventory - subject, grade, purpose, development, administration - triangulate results
- Analyze and understand the special education assessment needs
  - Improvement of data collection and assessment for IEP goals and objectives
  - Accessing current elementary assessment tools (i.e. iReady) to support special education programming
  - Identify supplemental benchmarking assessment tools at the secondary level
  - Clarify entry and exit criteria for special education programs and general education integration

Professional Development

- Training - mCLASS, iReady, IDAPEL, PowerSchool, CALM & SafetyCare, online mandated training for all staff
- Memberships, conferences
- Job embedded professional development PK-12 on personalization through choice
- Project Lead the Way (PLTW)
- SEL Leads
- Equity Leads
- Student Services Professional Development Plan
  - Special Education, Related Service Providers, Counseling
- Educational Assistant Professional Development plan
  - Includes feedback from Educational Assistants as it relates to their day to day job responsibilities
- MASS REDI: Racial, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion training for Superintendent and Director of DEIB
- Staff Professional Development by Department

Next Steps

- Review Fall data - iReady, mCLASS, IDAPEL, PowerSchool SEL Screener
- Monitor student progress and interventions
- Examine additional resources for differentiation

Additional information

Curriculum – Preschool

- Early Literacy Coaches and Curriculum leaders are developing a rubric to use for future internal learning walks related to best practices in Early Literacy.
- Academic Partnership sessions are being planned for preschool families to learn more about preschool skills and understanding our report card.
- Preschool teachers are continuing to fine-tune instruction in their second year using our Bridges Into Mathematics curriculum.
- Preschool teachers facilitated learning experiences through the Creative Curriculum "Beginning the Year" Unit. The focus questions for discussion include: What names do we need to know at school? What are the rules? When do we do things at school? How do we make and keep friends? Preschoolers also learned more about each other by sharing about families and home life, and books this month will focus on school and different kinds of families.

Curriculum – PK–12 Social Studies

- Elementary Social Studies is entering into the second year of using the Savvas curriculum for kindergarten, first, second, fourth and fifth grade. Third grade exclusively uses Massachusetts Our Home. Teachers and students enjoy the interactive resources for both curriculums. The French Immersion students in third and fourth grade received *Escales* workbooks that are in French and cover the majority of the DESE standards for Social Studies in those grades. All additional resources have been translated for the French immersion program for each grade level.
- Middle School - our 8th grade team is preparing for the state-wide MCAS field test for Civics. We have also focused our professional development and curriculum time over the past year to incorporating more lessons and assessments using UDL (Universal Design in Learning) practices.
- High School - Piloted a new unit in our Modern World Cultures classes that gave students a chance to study human rights around the world. This is the capstone assignment for the course, and was tied with their final assessment. This year we have added AP African American Studies course, a pilot that is being taught in approximately 700 schools nationwide.

Curriculum – Technology/Career Technology K-12

- The Elementary Instructional Technology Specialists continue to refine the Digital Citizenship Curriculum, develop and model the PLTW curriculum for all English Innovation classrooms, and create/modify the technology units for all grade levels and programs (EI & FI). The technology units are interdisciplinary, complimenting core content.
- The Pierce technology teachers are piloting standards based grading in all FUSE and STAT (Student Technology Assistant Team) classes this year. The selected standards for the courses are International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) standards that have been put into a more student friendly language. The categories include time management, self-advocacy, work ethic, responsible risk taking, problem solving, and perseverance. In addition, they continue to assess and refine the digital citizenship curriculum embedded into all technology courses.
- Research, identify and integrate technology into student accommodation plans to support access to general education curriculum
- The MHS Career Tech department is continuing their hard work on placing their curriculum into the district approved curriculum maps. All of the Career Tech teachers teach at least three different subjects and they are the only teachers in the district who teach these courses.
- In addition to the 9th grade Digital Citizenship Day, October 11th, the MHS Career Tech department continues to promote digital citizenship skills into their curricula.

Curriculum – K-12 Fine & Performing Arts

- Elementary & Secondary Curriculum templates are being utilized district-wide.
- K-12 Curriculum review and work in progress to capture Units for every content and every grade level across the district.
- Elementary will collaborate to have consistency in curriculum and content across all elementary schools and grade levels.

Pierce Middle School Curriculum
Fine & Performing Arts
Pierce Middle School, Milton, Massachusetts

Course, Chapter or Unit Title, and Time Frame

Content

Common Core Standards

Pierce School Mission Statement

- By fostering a lifelong understanding and appreciation of the arts, we endeavor to engage our students in artistic experiences to develop skills which are transferable to all areas of life, including self-discipline, perseverance, teamwork, empathy, and curiosity. Through building a foundation of knowledge, skills and understandings of the artistic practices and cultivating cooperative skills needed for collective artistic expression, students are empowered to make cultural connections and convey greater appreciation for and understanding of differing points of view.
- At the middle school level, students may choose to take visual art and general music electives. These classes meet every other day for half a year. Students also have the opportunity to join one of our core music ensembles, Chorus, Orchestra or Band, which meet every other day for the entire year. Jazz Band and Chamber Orchestra are performing ensembles which provide students the opportunity to delve into more challenging repertoire. Students who love theatre may participate in the annual musical.

Concepts, Skills and Practices (students will know and be able to...)	Essential Questions

Curriculum – World Language 1-12

- FI Grade 1-2: Implementing IDAPEL Early literacy Screener for French Immersion Grades 1 & 2 (Idapel is in its research release phase) - IDAPEL is the French version of Dibels from Acadience Learning. See more about IDAPEL Here
- Spanish 6-8: Curriculum review (exploration phase) for Spanish Grade 6-8 we have a 30 day trial for new curricula from Vista Higher learning. See the curriculum in the link below:
  Vista Higher Learning Curr. Samples
  Added *Flangoo* and *Garbanzo* online resources to Spanish 6-8
  Garbanzo is Interactive storytelling that enhances learning Speaking and listening standards in WL (Spanish)
  Flangoo is a web-based service that streams a library of CI readers for your students to use in class and at home. You choose the title and assign it or let them access the full library for free voluntary reading and listening!
- French 6-8: Looking at Escales for Humanities 6-7-8
- Latin 6-8: Acquisition of Latin Readers for Grades 6-8 to supplement curriculum.