

NATICK PUBLIC SCHOOLS
School Committee Meeting
June 3, 2024
6:00 PM
School Committee Room - 3rd flr, Town Hall

Posted Date: Thursday, May 30, 2024 @ 3:30 PM

Open Meeting 6:00PM, Executive Session 6:05PM, Return to Open Session approximately at 6:30PM. Virtual Meeting Accessed Via: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2038566119?pwd=TmtdXGxenQ0YXRlN1FicHVpd3hEZZ09> Meeting ID: 203 856 6119 Passcode: 987179 One tap mobile +13126266799,,2038566119# US (Chicago) +16465588656,,2038566119# US (New York) Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) Meeting ID: 203 856 6119 Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/2038566119?pwd=TmtdXGxenQ0YXRlN1FicHVpd3hEZZ09> . If any member of the public, attending the meeting virtually, wishes to take advantage of public speak, they should email the School Committee Chair, Shai Fuxman at (sfuxman@natickps.org), one hour prior to the start of the meeting. Your email should include your name, town and your request to be called upon during the public speak portion of the agenda. The School Committee Chair will then announce your name and you will be unmuted and prompted to turn on your video for your opportunity to share your remarks. Per our public speak policy, each speaker will have up to 3 minutes.

Posted In Accordance with Provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 30A, Sections 18-25

OPEN SESSION

- Roll Call
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Moment of Silence
- Announcements

EXECUTIVE SESSION - this portion of the meeting is not open to the public

1. To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.
2. To comply with or act under the authority of any general or special law, specifically Chapter 30A, Section 21 (g)(1), the public body, or its Chair or Designee, shall, at reasonable intervals, review the minutes of Executive Sessions to determine if the provisions of this subsection warrant continued non-disclosure.
3. To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with Non-Represented Personnel (Senior Budget Analyst and Grants Manager, Business Office Procurement, Accounts Payable & Special Projects Coordinator and METCO Director [200 days])

PUBLIC SPEAK

Public Speak is scheduled for a period of fifteen minutes. Each speaker will be permitted a maximum of three minutes during which time they can speak about topics within the scope of responsibility of the

School Committee. All remarks will be addressed through the School Committee Chair. Public Speak is not a time for debate or response to comments by the School Committee.

- Teacher Representative
- Student Representative

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Open Session Minutes from 5.20.2024
2. Approval of a Donation of \$1,000 from Fidelity Charitable - Ball Impact Award
3. Approval of the FY25 Non-Rep Schedule

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Natick 180 - Catherine Sugarman
2. Restorative Justice and Student Discipline - Art Fergusson/Director of SEL and Equity
3. METCO 2.0 - District Team - Update
4. School Waste Reduction Officer - Amber Keller
5. MOU Regarding Playgrounds and Fields

Agenda items will be addressed in an order determined by the chair. Times are approximate.

ITEM TITLE:

To discuss strategy with respect to litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares.

DATE:

ITEM TYPE:

ITEM SUMMARY:

**BACKGROUND
INFORMATION:**

RECOMMENDATION:

ITEM TITLE:

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DATE:

ITEM TYPE:

ITEM SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND

INFORMATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

ITEM TITLE: To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with Non-Represented Personnel (Senior Budget Analyst and Grants Manager, Business Office Procurement, Accounts Payable & Special Projects Coordinator and METCO Director [200 days])

DATE:

ITEM TYPE:

ITEM SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND

INFORMATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

ITEM TITLE: Approval of Open Session Minutes from 5.20.2024
DATE:
ITEM TYPE:
ITEM SUMMARY: Approval of Open Session Minutes from 5.20.2024 - LINK
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	File Name	Type
Approval of open session minutes for 5.20.2024	6.3.24_-_5.20.24_OPEN_SESSION_School_Committee_Meeting_Minutes.pdf	Cover Memo

Natick Public Schools
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING OPEN SESSION MINUTES
May 20, 2024

The School Committee held a meeting on Monday May 20, 2024, at 6:32 pm via an in-person and virtual meeting. Chair Fuxman called the meeting to order and took roll call at 6:32 pm.

Members Present:

Chair Fuxman took roll call to vote:

Chair Fuxman - present
Ms. Gorseth - present
Ms. Brunell - present @ 6:34
Ms. McDonough – present - left at appx 8:00
Ms Collins - *not present*
Mr. Brand – present
Ms. Flathers - present

Others Present:	Dr. Bella Wong	Interim Superintendent
	Tim Luff	Deputy Superintendent
	Susan Balboni	Asst. Superintendent for Teaching, Learning & Innovation
	Matthew Gillis	Asst. Superintendent of Finance
	Linda McGrath	Recording Secretary
	Erin Miller	Director of Student Services and Equity

OPEN SESSION

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence - To honor those who have sacrificed for our country.

Announcements -

1. YMCA Recognition - Mr. Luff mentioned that the YMCA is presenting their Community Partner Award to the Natick Public Schools and Town of Natick on May 23, 2024.
2. Superintendent Wong made the following announcements:
 - a. Natick Public Schools rewarded the Civics Teaching Learning Civics grants for \$31,000.
 - b. Natick has been selected to participate in the METCO 2.0 grant and a follow-up grant that we can apply for and were rewarded an additional \$14,100.
 - c. This Wednesday we will be honoring our teachers who are receiving professional status as well as retirees.
 - d. Following the above ceremony will be the transfer of flags ceremony.

- e. Recognition of the students who volunteered to work on Memorial Day,
3. Chair Fuxman mentioned that it is Mental Health Awareness month and you can go to the Natick 180 website for a list of events.

PUBLIC SPEAK

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No one signed up for public speak

TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE - *Kristin McEnaney*

Ms. McEnaney wanted to welcome the new PTS staff on Wednesday as well as celebrating the retirees.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE - *No Student Representative*

Chair Fuxman read a statement from Inkyoung Lee:

“All students wrapped up AP exams last week while seniors have final exams this week.”

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval for overnight travel to [Des Moines, IA](#) ([driving waiver](#)) for the high school speech and debate team.
2. [Donations](#) for Kennedy from The Blackburn Giving fund for \$300 and \$300 and Donation for BenHem from American Heart Association for \$800.00
3. Approval of Open Session Minutes from [4.29](#) and [5.6.24](#)
4. Approval of Executive Session Minutes from 4.29.24

Mr. Brand made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ms. Gorseth seconded the motion. All in favor - Yes. 6-0-0 Motion passed.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1. Playground/Fields/Facilities Updates - Superintendent Wong

Superintendent Wong stated that they are getting ready to prepare the timeline to acquire a designer and there will be a meeting next week with some of the stakeholders to discuss what we want to be in that field. Also, they are having discussions about when they will be drafting an MOU.

Ms. McDonough asked if we would see a draft before the end of the school year? Superintendent Wong thought perhaps at the next meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

1. Natick Education Foundation Grants - *Jen Goree, NEF President*

Ms. Goree talked about the awarding of this year's grants for teaching and learning and professional rejuvenation. This year NEF funded 14 grants that totaled \$22,000 which included 9 innovation grants and 5 professional rejuvenation grants. Schools that received the grants were Wilson, Kennedy, Brown and Memorial.

Ms. McDonough asked if Ms. Goree could talk more about the tribute to the educators. Ms. Goree said it is a program that they run for teacher appreciation and it will run till the end of the school year.

2. Review recommendation for Metco Representative to the School Committee

Chair Fuxman discussed that the School Committee decided to add a non voting member for next year that will represent the METCO community and that they will be appointing someone tonight.

Ms. Clayton talked about having a representative being appointed to the School Committee and then introduced and made her recommendation for Tamika Scott. She stated that Ms. Scott is a METCO alum from Dover-Sherborn, her children had attended the Natick Public Schools and she remains engaged with the METCO community and participated in the Superintendent search for the Natick Public Schools.

Mr. Brand made a motion to approve Tamika Scott to be the METCO representative to the School Committee for the next fiscal year. Ms. Brunell seconded the motion. All in favor - Yes. 6-0-0.

Ms. Scott thanked everyone for the opportunity and that she looks forward to serving on the committee and on the partnership.

Superintendent Wong congratulated Ms. Scott and the School Committee.

SUBCOMMITTEE/LIAISON UPDATES - *Tim Luff and Matt Brand*

1. Policy Updates

- a. First Reading: Draft Policy IJ - Instructional Materials
- b. First Reading: Draft KEC - Public Complaints about the Curriculum or Instruction...
- c. BEDH-Public Participation at School Committee Meeting-Update

Mr. Luff talked about the two draft policies for review. He explained the changes to each of the policies and the final reading will be at the next meeting.

Ms. Brunell mentioned that the policy KEC is not in other districts committees' handbooks and not on the MASC recommended policies and wondered why we have the policy and when was it adopted? Mr. Luff replied that we have had the policy for quite a long time and wouldn't recommend moving on from at this moment.

Ms. Brunell asked Mr. Luff what his thoughts were about this being a procedure or a policy? Mr. Luff stated that everything should be a procedure.

Chair Fuxman wanted to clarify if Ms. Brunell's recommendation is to remove the KEC policy as a policy and have it procedural? Ms. Brunell said "yes" and perhaps it lives in the English department.

Chair Fuxman stated that the specific changes to policies IJ and KEC will be voted on at the next meeting.

Mr. Brand talked about the policy BEDH and what the content is about. He said the discussion was regarding public participation and public speech during agenda items.

Ms. Gorseth mentioned that they had asked for an opinion from their attorney about the public participation portion. Mr. Luff stated that the attorney mentioned that if we plan on the public participation during the business meeting, we might want to use the same perimeters as we do in the public speak process.

Chair Fuxman wanted to clarify that they are looking for feedback from the committee to potentially update the public participation for the agenda item.

Ms. McDonough mentioned how Newton handles public speak and wonders what other districts are doing?

Mr. Brand had concerns about public speak or public participation being at the end of the meeting. He stated that it would be more helpful if the public had a say before an item is voted on rather than after.

Chair Fuxman commented that it would be a good idea to look into a policy specifically for public participation that mirrors public speak. He also commented that it would probably be a good idea to follow the legal advice of our attorney. Chair Fuxman mentioned that he likes having a very concrete policy in place to follow.

Superintendent Wong mentioned that these are considered business meetings and that there are other opportunities for discourse such as a forum.

Ms. Flathers mentioned that we have been trying not to vote on an item the first time hearing about it and if we keep to that practice then the public could talk about it at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Vickers commented she would like to see public speak be a back and forth engagement.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - continued

2. [Neurodiversity](#) - Erin Miller, Director of Student Services and Equity

Ms. Miller introduced herself and part of her team that were here tonight which included Adam Kohrman, Maria Reardon, and Hillary Hotchkiss. Ms. Miller then went through the slide presentation and the team did an overview.

Ms. Flathers commented about the executive functioning training and wondered what sort of feedback they have received? Is this a practice that could happen in the summertime? Also, have you had a lot of opportunities to

interview students? Ms. Miller stated that it's a shift for students but the student's have embraced it and teachers have tried to learn how to embed mini lessons.

Ms. Brunell asked if all classroom teachers and Principals have received this presentation? Ms. Miller said that everyone in the district has received it. She then asked about the diagnosis. Ms. Miller stated that when we are looking at special education, we are looking at an educational disability and how it affects the students with the curriculum.

Ms. Gorseth asked if there has been any talk about having any sort of professional infinity groups for teachers in the district who are neurodiverse? Ms. Miller said that in the presentations that are given, they always speak to neurodiverse staff and students. She said they haven't looked at infinity groups but thought it was a good idea.

Chair Fuxman talked about inclusion and wondered if there are any efforts to teach and incorporate more into the core curriculum to have students be more aware? Mr. Kohrman mentioned that they do have reverse inclusion and do quite regularly. Ms. Miller mentioned that they do have a community connections club for middle and high school and starting for elementary students.

Chair Fuxman mentioned the phrase "nothing for us without us" and as leaders of that committee, and wondered to the extent of which there can be an invite for members? Ms. Reardon mentioned that part of their next phase of work is including our neurodiverse staff and students.

Chair Fuxman questioned how we can help students with disabilities to navigate through the world with a label? Ms. Reardon stated that it is difficult to manage a label but it can be a relief to receive a label because now they realize why they might be harder to learn.

Superintendent Wong expressed her thoughts on the topic and thanked the group for their work.

3. Kindergarten Enrollment Projections

Mr. Luff gave an update for the current projection for kindergarten FY25. He said 97% are identified as registered kindergarteners and that comes to 339 students. He said that it is a little less than last year but all around keeps in line with class sizes.

Ms. Gorseth asked if they are expecting about the same number of students for enrollment? Mr. Luff said there is a possibility of a decrease in enrollment but can't make that determination just yet. Ms. Gorseth asked about the students that are pending? And Mr. Luff stated that the summer could bring different results.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Appointment of METCO representative to School Committee - Mr. Brand made a motion to approve Tamika Scott to be the METCO representative to the School Committee for the next fiscal year. Ms. Brunell seconded the motion. All in favor - Yes. 6-0-0.

Mr. Brand made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm. Ms. Brunell seconded the motion. All in favor - Yes. 6-0-0.

ITEM TITLE:

Approval of a Donation of \$1,000 from Fidelity Charitable - Ball Impact Award

DATE:

ITEM TYPE:

ITEM SUMMARY:

Approval of a Donation of \$1,000 from Fidelity Charitable - Ball Impact Award

BACKGROUND

INFORMATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

ITEM TITLE:

Approval of the FY25 Non-Rep Schedule

DATE:

ITEM TYPE:

ITEM SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

ITEM TITLE: Natick 180 - Catherine Sugarman
DATE:
ITEM TYPE:
ITEM SUMMARY: Natick 180 - LINK
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	File Name	Type
natick 180	6.3.24._Natick_180_Presentation_to_Natick_School_Committee_06-03-24.pdf	Cover Memo

Natick 180 and Natick Public Schools 2023-2024 Collaborations

Katie Sugarman, MA, CPS
Lizzy Chalfin, MSW, MPH
June 3, 2024



Your community resource for addiction education, prevention, and recovery.



Overview

- **Introduction to Natick 180**
- **Current NPS/Natick 180 Collaborations**
 - Student initiatives
 - Parent/guardian initiatives
 - Faculty/staff initiatives
- **Opportunities/New Collaborations for 2024-2025 school year**
- **Q&A**



Introduction to Natick 180

Natick 180's work spans the entire 180 degree continuum of substance use.



Natick 180's Mission

Natick 180 serves as Natick's principal community-based coalition for inclusive and culturally-responsive addiction education, prevention and recovery. The

Coalition brings together diverse partners, individuals and resources to:

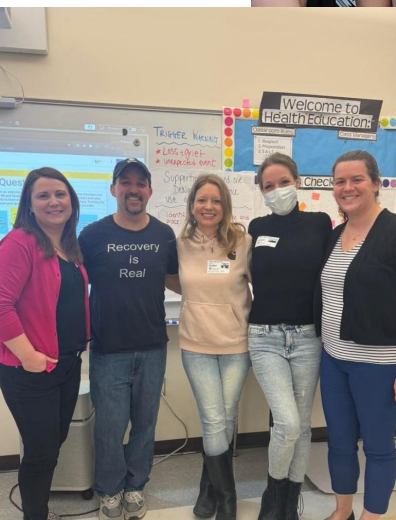
- address factors contributing to substance use disorder, such as mental health, stigma, and racism;
- provide assistance to those who are currently experiencing addiction;
- empower members of the recovery community through inclusion in decision-making and leadership roles; and
- build up community characteristics and create a culture of equitable access to connectedness and belonging that protect against substance use disorder.

Natick 180 Staff

- **Katie Sugarman, MA, CPS**
Prevention & Outreach Program
Manager/Natick 180 Program
Director
- **Lizzy Chalfin, MSW, MPH**
Associate Project Coordinator
- **Astrid Dretler, MPH**
Administrative Project Coordinator



Focus on Community Partnerships



Steering Committee Membership: Balancing municipal and community voices

Municipal Representatives

- Police Chief
- Fire Chief
- School Superintendent
- Public Health Director
- Elected Officials
 - Select Board Member
 - Board of Health Member
 - School Committee Member

Community Representatives

- Founder, SOAR Natick
- Director, SPARK Kindness
- Addiction Services Physician, Newton Wellesley Hospital
- Community Liaison, MetroWest Medical Center
- Representative, Natick Interfaith Leaders Association
- Recovery organization
- 2 At-Large members (priority given to person in recovery and/or family members impacted by addiction)

TOWN LEADERSHIP

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

Natick 180 Working Groups

Steering Committee

Governing and decision-making body w/
balance of municipal & community representation

Awareness & Education Action Team

Coordinates prevention and community education efforts

Access to Services Action Team

Coordinates efforts to increase access to treatment and recovery supports



2023-2024 Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Priority 1: Prevention and treatment for mental health concerns

Work with community networks to create a safe, healthy and equitable environment where people of all ages can thrive and feel connected to their community, without barriers or stigma.

Priority 2: Community norms around cannabis and alcohol use

Foster a caring community where everyone has equitable access to the knowledge and support needed to make informed decisions around cannabis and alcohol.

Priority 3: Harms from opioid and other illicit drug use

Cultivate a nonjudgmental and inclusive community where all individuals have equitable access to information and services that can assist them in preventing and managing harms associated with substance use disorder.

Priority 4: Support for people seeking or maintaining recovery

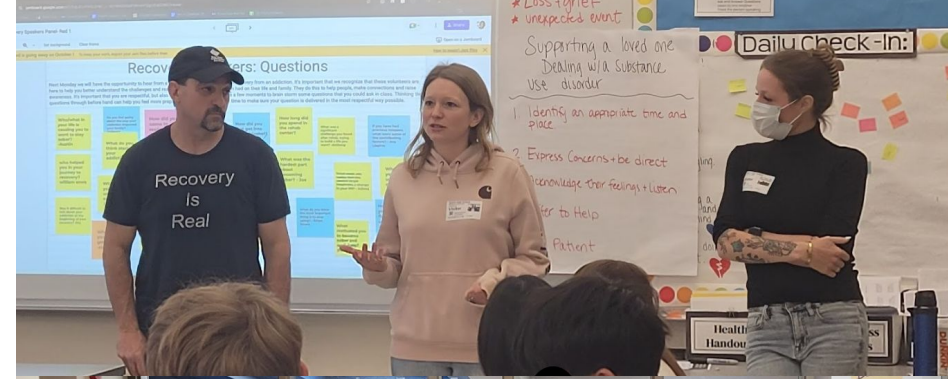
Provide holistic support for those pursuing and working through their recovery journey.



NPS/Natick 180 Collaborations

Student Initiatives

- NHS Health Class Recovery Presentations
- Red Ribbon Week
- Middle School Health Class Presentations
- Support for the After Prom Party, RedHawk Fest, and other school activities
- Youth Friendly Resources (i.e. mental health apps, quit vaping resources, etc.)
- NATI Club at the high school



Red Ribbon Week Banner: 1200+ students signed

Health Class Visits: presented to 650+ students

Natick Above the Influence (NATI)

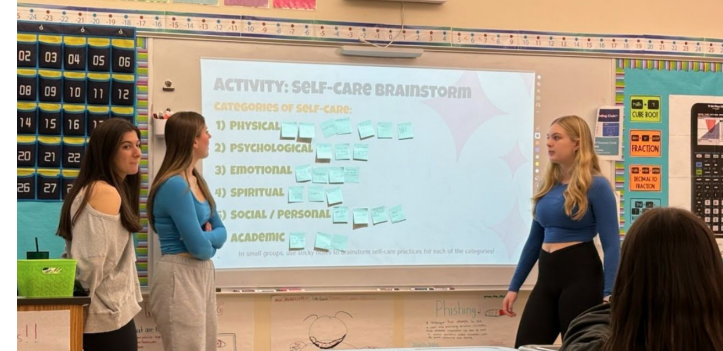
- Participate in 84 Movement Events (i.e. Kick Butts Day)
- Equity Co-Op Day
- Sticker Shock
- Kindness Week
- Middle School Health Class Presentations
- Advocacy for proper vape disposal
- Community Clean-Ups

Peer Presentations: presented to 200+ students

Sticker Shock: placed 900+ stickers



Your community resource for addiction education, prevention, and recovery.



Parent/Guardian Initiatives

- Community education, trainings & events
 - Co-sponsored events with SPARK Kindness, Families for Depression Awareness, and NPS
 - Trainings in Youth Mental Health First Aid, QPR Suicide Prevention Training, and Naloxone (Narcan) use
- Connections to services and resources
 - Maintaining INTERFACE and MetroWest CARE Connection Hub referral services
 - As-needed for consultation
- Printed and electronic community resources
- Awareness campaigns (banners, billboard) and presence at community events

Community ed events: 500+ participants

E-newsletter mailing list: 1,500+ members



Your community resource for addiction education, prevention, and recovery.



Faculty/Staff Initiatives

- Trainings and presentations
 - Substance use/mental health presentations during faculty meetings
 - Funding for attendance at external conferences & trainings
- Support school diversion initiatives (i.e. iDECIDE and NHS vape detectors)
- NILS Presentations
- Part of the School Health Advisory Committee
- Provide Narcan to all schools
- Consults with staff for specific students/families' needs and connections to external providers/agencies
- Magnet/HAWK card resource development

Presented to nearly 200 NPS faculty/staff



Your community resource for addiction education, prevention, and recovery.





Health & Wellness Knowledge 'HAWK' Card

24/7 Help

911 for medical emergencies & dangerous situations (call)

988 National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline (call/text) 988lifeline.org

MA Behavioral Health Help Line **833-773-2445**
for immediate crisis support (call/text) masshelpline.com

Psychiatric Emergency Services **800-640-5432**
for help during a mental health crisis (call) advocates.org

Ongoing Help

Behavioral Health Partners Metrowest

844-528-6800 bhpmw.info/metrowesthub
for free mental health & social service referrals **M-F 9am-5pm**

INTERFACE Referral Service

888-244-6843 interface.williamjames.edu
for free mental health referral services **M,W,F 9am-5pm; T,Th 8am-6pm**

Natick Information & Referral Line

508-647-6519
for free referral assistance to local services & programs **M-W 8am-5pm; Th 8am-7pm; F 8am-2:30pm**



Many more resources!
Scan the QR code
or visit **LINKxxxxxxxxxx**

updated 5/2024

Natick 180





Opportunities for 2024-2025

Opportunities for Growth in Collaborations:

- **Student initiatives**
 - Develop Natick Above the Influence (NATI) clubs at middle schools
 - Community-based life skills curriculum (in partnership w/ Natick Rec & Parks)
 - Overdose prevention education for soon-to-graduate high schoolers
- **Parent/guardian initiatives**
 - Development of K-12 parent/guardian educational series that mirrors the NPS 'profile of a graduate'
 - Targeted outreach to more parent populations
 - 'Lunch & Learn' events for parents/guardians of elementary school students
 - Pilot educational events for parents/guardians of students in the METCO program
- **Faculty/staff initiatives**
 - Advisor positions for NATI group(s)
 - Mental Health Collaborative trainings for NPS coaches
 - Needs that could be supported with opioid abatement funds



Q&A

Thank you!

Natick 180 Coalition

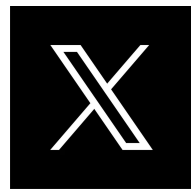
natick180@natickma.org

www.natick180.org

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ITEM TITLE: Restorative Justice and Student Discipline - Art Fergusson/Director of SEL and Equity

DATE:

ITEM TYPE:

ITEM SUMMARY: Restorative Practices at Natick Public Schools - LINK

BACKGROUND

INFORMATION:

RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	File Name	Type
restorative practices at natick public schools	6.3.24_Art_FINAL__RP_for_SC_23-24.pdf	Cover Memo

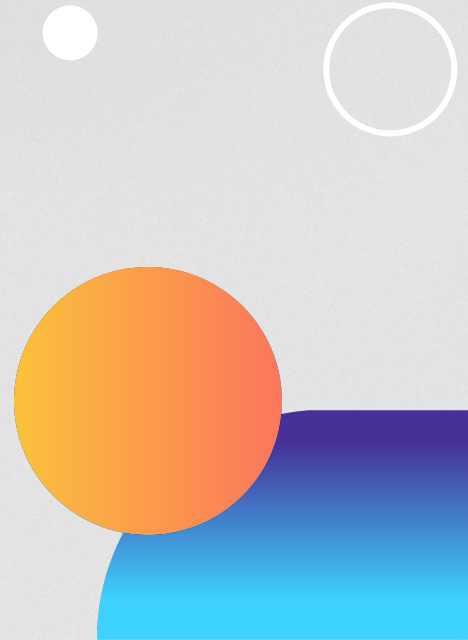


Restorative Practices at Natick Public Schools

A School Committee Update
2023-24

Agenda & Introductions

1. DESE language of Restorative Practices
2. 5 R's of Restorative Practice
3. What have we done so far
4. How do we use it at each level
5. VP/Dean work moving forward



School Discipline Law

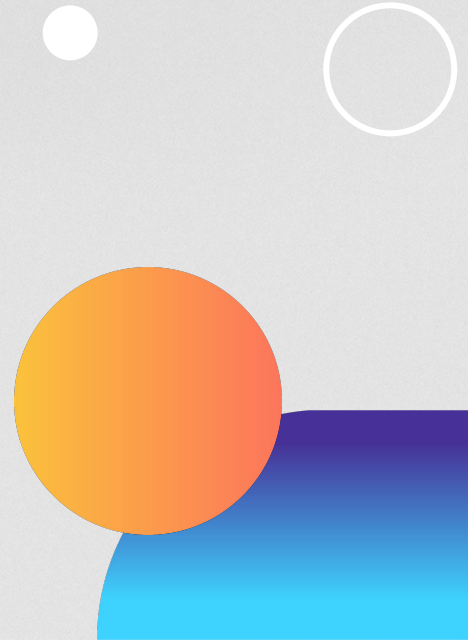
Chapter 222 of the Acts of 2012

- **Rethinking Discipline**
 - Reduce rates of suspension and expulsion for all students
 - Provide academic service after disciplinary exclusion
 - Make exclusionary discipline a last resort
 - Provide alternatives to exclusionary discipline
 - Collect disaggregated school disciplinary data to address disproportionality

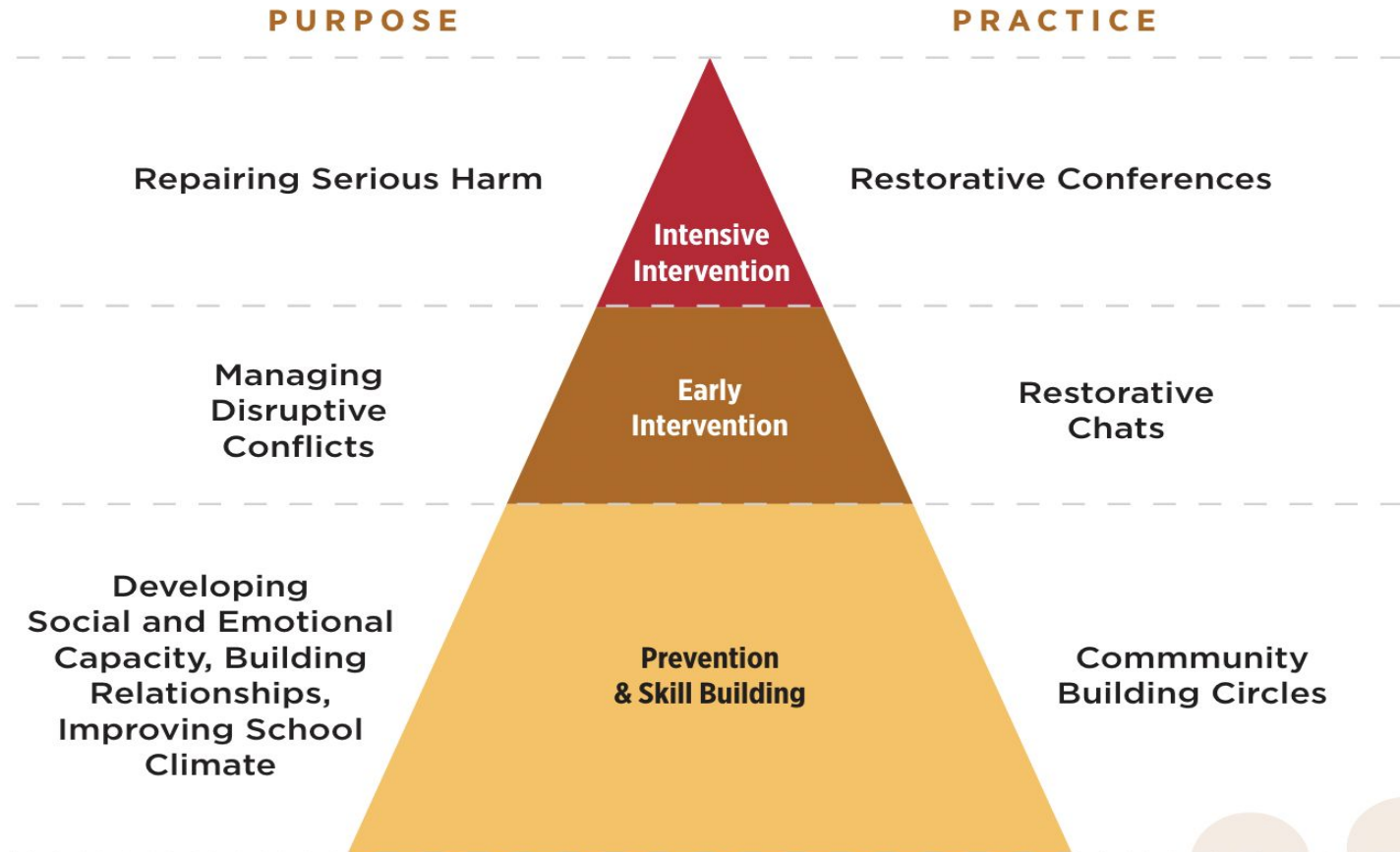
Defining Restorative Practices

There are 5 long-standing principles of Restorative Justice/restorative practice:

- Relationship.
- Respect.
- Responsibility.
- Repair.
- Reintegration.



School Restorative Practices Triangle



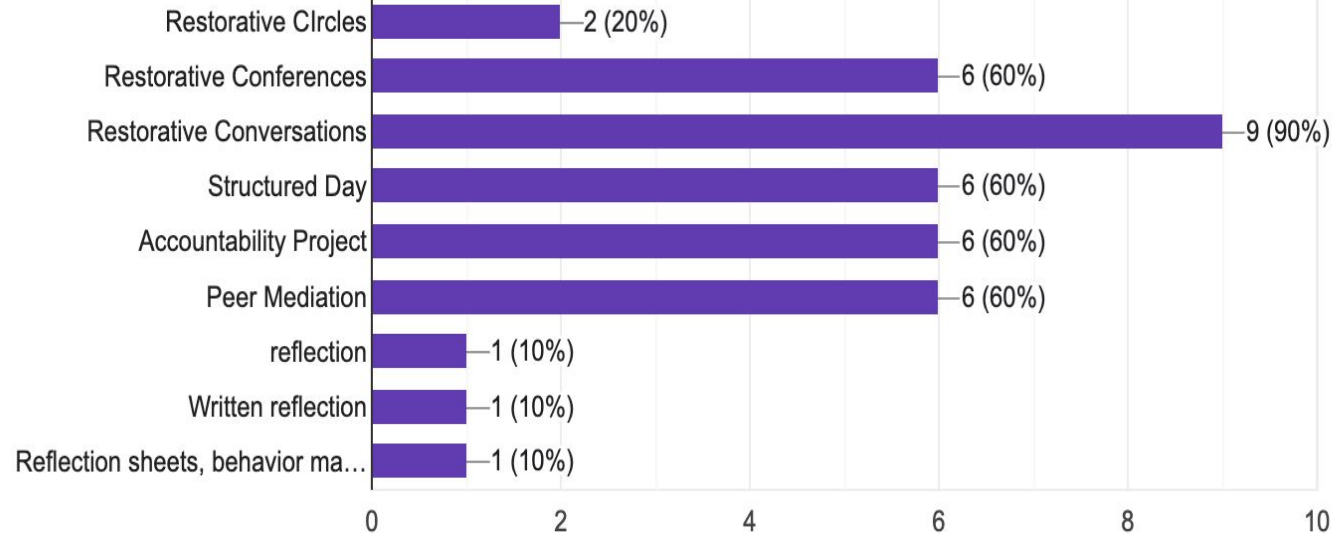
Adapted from Brenda Morrison's Whole School Approach

Current State

- All VPs/Deans have attended Restorative Practices training within or outside of NPS
- VP/Dean PLC is doing focused, collaborative work on tiered levels of support with behavior incidents
- VP/Dean PLC is collaborating on strengthening our restorative responses to student behavior and sharing best practices
- VP/Deans have been increasing the use of RP in our daily work with students



Current Use Examples



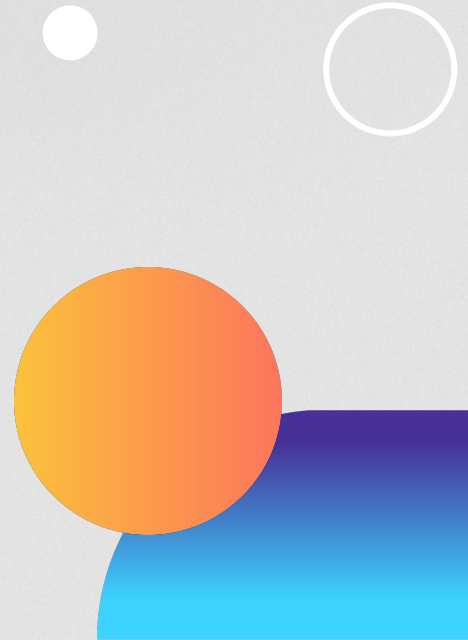
Key Restorative Questions

- What happened? (*from all various perspectives*)
 - a. What are the **facts**?

- What was the impact of that event on others?
 - a. How did it make others **feel**?

- How can we move **forward**?

- How can we do things differently in the **future**?



Supporting Next Steps

- Develop a shared vision across the district
- Introduce Restorative Practices core components to all staff
- Identify Restorative Practice Leaders
- Develop systems
 - Integrate mindsets & practices
 - Visual reminders
 - Norm restorative language
 - Provide menu of instructive, corrective and disciplinary interventions
- Track and monitor data to reflect and improve practice



Thanks!

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Please keep this slide for attribution

ITEM TITLE: METCO 2.0 - District Team - Update
DATE:
ITEM TYPE:
ITEM SUMMARY:
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
RECOMMENDATION:

ITEM TITLE: School Waste Reduction Officer - Amber Keller
DATE:
ITEM TYPE:
ITEM SUMMARY: Sustainability Update at NPS - LINK
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
RECOMMENDATION:

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	File Name	Type
sustainability update at nps	School_Committee_Meeting_6.3.24.pdf	Cover Memo



Sustainability Update @ NPS

Spring 2024 Update

June 3, 2024

Topics for Tonight

Key Project Updates

Climate Leaders Designation

**Report Out from School Waste
Reduction Coordinator**

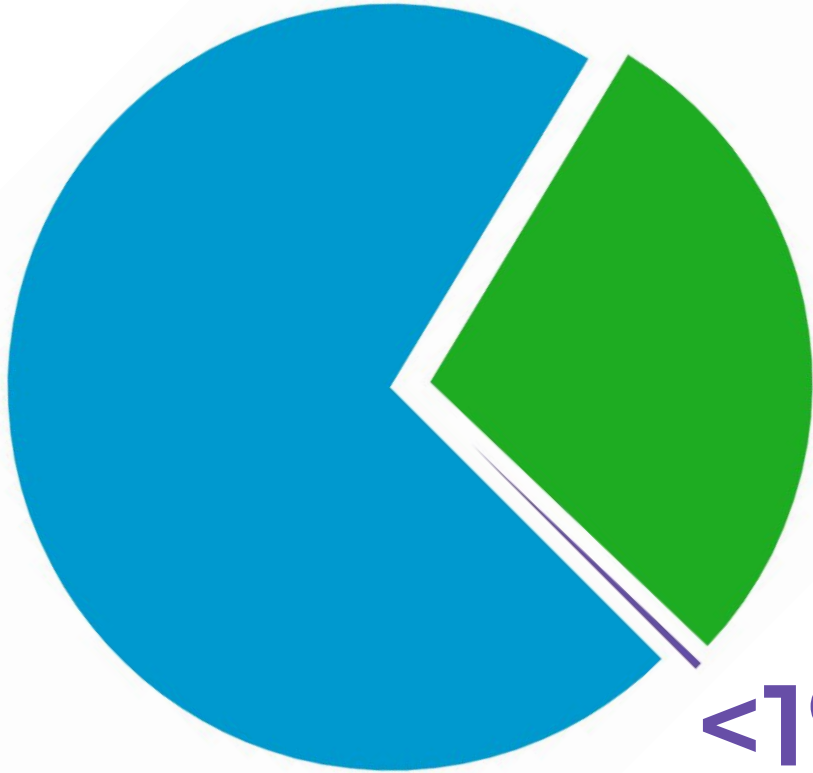
**School Committee
Sustainability Goal**

Where NPS Emissions Come From



Buildings

90%

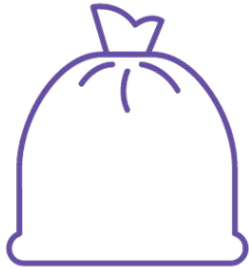


10%



Transportation

<1%



Waste

Key Updates



Buildings


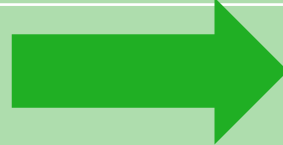


- **Ben Hem:** Renew America's Schools grant (OPM selected)
- **Wilson:** Energy Efficiency & Electrification Scoping (Underway)
- **Brown & Lilja:** Deep Energy Retrofit Studies (Beginning)

Transportation

- **Buses:** MassCEC ACT4All School Bus Electrification Advisory Services Program (Selected to participate)



From Green Community to Climate Leader

Green Communities Criteria		Climate Leaders Criteria
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt as-of-right siting for RE/AE generation, R&D, or manufacturing		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Establish/maintain local committee to advise, coordinate, and/or lead clean energy and climate activities
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt expedited permitting process		Municipal decarbonization commitment
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Create an Energy Reduction Plan to reduce energy use by 20% in 5 years		Create Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap with 2030 & 2050 goals
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles		ZEV-First vehicle policy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt the Stretch Code		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopt Specialized Code



NPS Waste Update

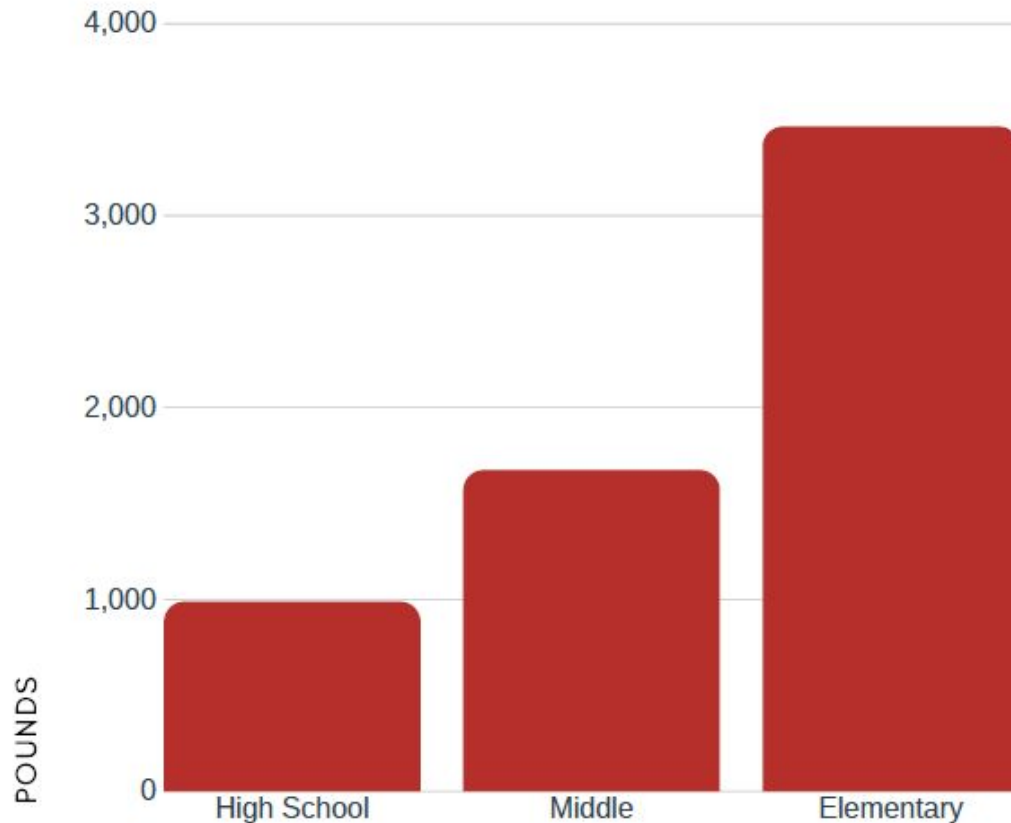
School Waste Reduction Coordinator



- Hired in January
- Part-time position
- Grant-funded by Sustainability Office
- Reports to Facilities Director
- Replacement of previous School Recycling Coordinator (2019-2020)
- Totally awesome

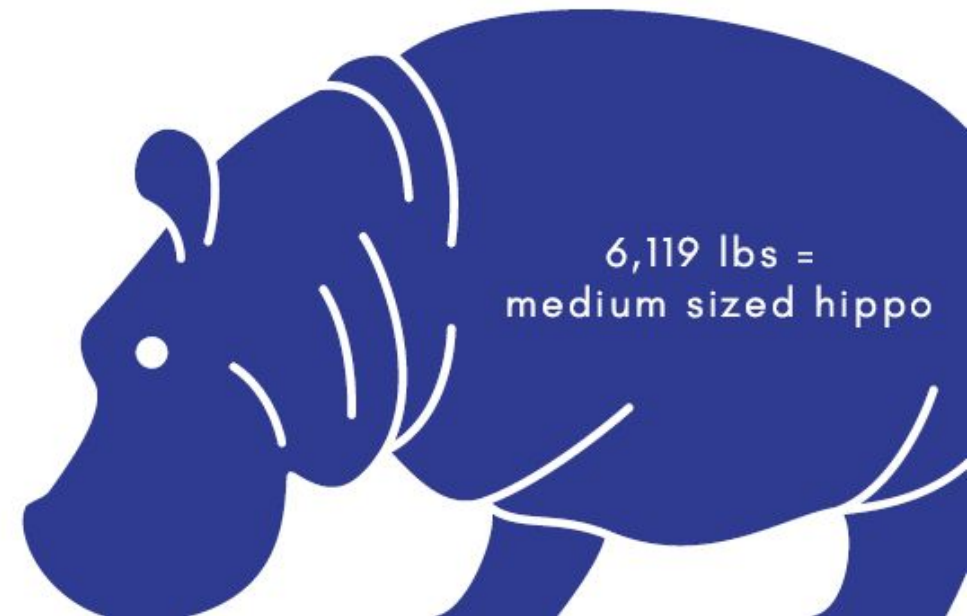
2019 Cafeteria Waste Audit

WEEKLY CAFETERIA WASTE



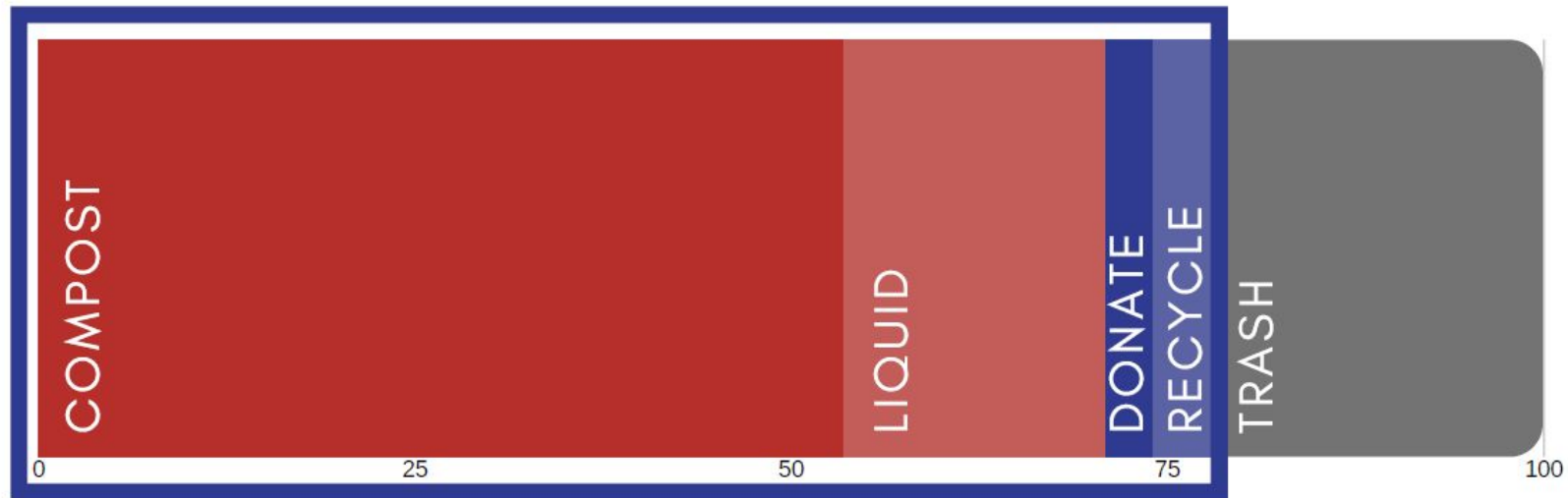
EACH WEEK WE THROW AWAY 6,119 LBS
(1.1 LBS PER STUDENT*)

*EXTRAPOLATION BASED ON TOTAL ENROLLMENT



2019 Cafeteria Waste Audit

79% OF WASTE CAN BE DIVERTED



POUNDS

CAFETERIA WASTE BY CATEGORY

January 2024



Compost Bin and Share
Fridge

Aramark Kitchen
Participation

Limited student participation



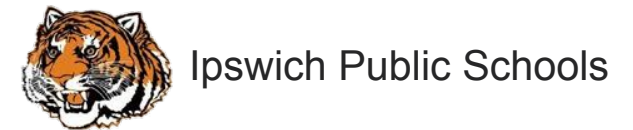
Composting Daily

Contamination Challenges



Strong Teacher &
Student Interest

Local Districts w/ Waste Sorting Lines



Best Practice: Waste Sorting Line



Dunning Elementary, Framingham



Hardy Elementary, Arlington



Field School, Weston



Ambrose Elementary, Winchester

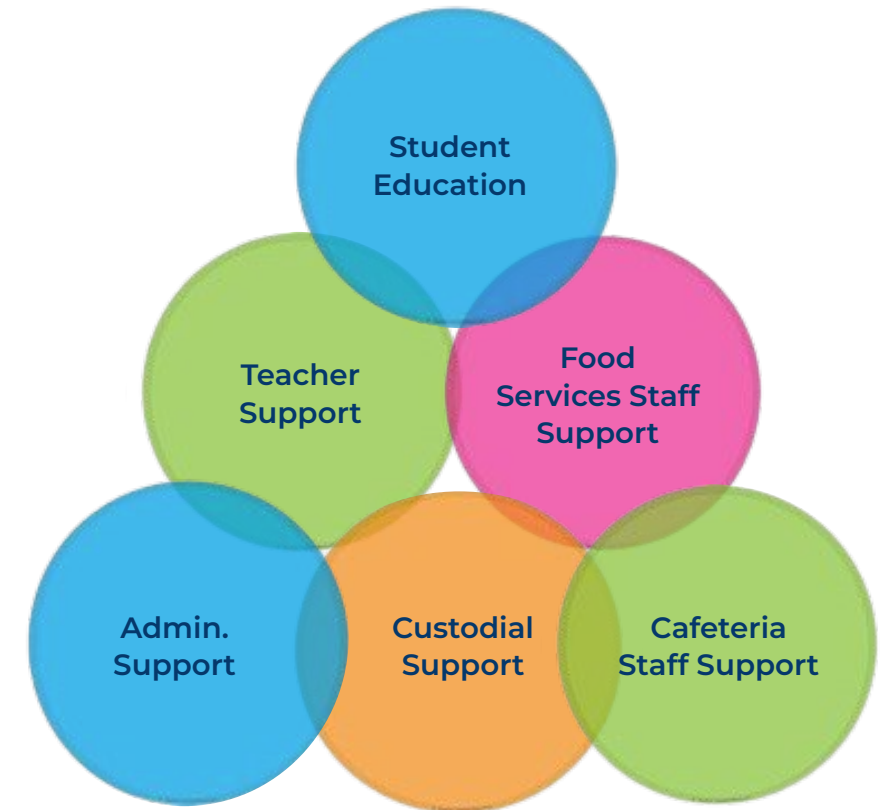
Cafeteria Waste Sorting Line

KEYS TO SUCCESS

PHYSICAL
INFRASTRUCTURE



SOCIAL
INFRASTRUCTURE



Lilja in Action



TAKING POSITIVE ACTION FOR THE EARTH

Dear Teacher,

Exciting things are happening at your school! Students will soon start diverting waste from the solid waste stream by sorting their waste in your school's cafeteria. By diverting waste like food and liquids, your school will be sending less trash to the incinerator, and you and your students will be contributing to the production of soil-enhancing compost. Thank you for partnering with us to provide students with the context, significance, and how-to of starting a waste sorting line at your school.

When students sort their waste and understand why it's important, they use critical thinking skills, and they apply knowledge about renewable and non-renewable resources, decomposition, and needs of plants. I hope these connections help reinforce science standards in your classroom as you take students through the presentation.

To kick off this program with your students, I'm including the below resources:

- All Grades:
 - [Plug and Play Presentation Link](#), 20 min; engage students in the presentation a few days before your class starts sorting their waste
 - [Pre and Post-Presentation Assessment](#) - give to students immediately before and after the presentation; please return these to Amber for data collection
 - [Mid-Launch Assessment](#) - give to students 1 week after beginning the sorting stations and any other time, either individually or as a whole class. This assessment is for your purposes only to identify any confusion and to reinforce the process
- Grades 3-4: [Optional decomposition experiment](#) - instructions and materials
- Grades K-2: Optional waste sorting activity - instructions and materials for students to practice sorting waste they usually find on their cafeteria tray

Please let your principal know if you would like to do the optional activities, and I'll bring over the materials.

Tip: In the presentation, I invite you to pause the video for students to be active learners. Also, a few times students are given a couple of seconds to whisper an answer to a neighbor. It may be helpful to identify "neighbors" before starting the presentation.

Finally, it's worth noting that Lilja Elementary is the first Natick school to begin a waste-sorting line, and we plan to replicate this model at other Natick schools. We welcome your feedback and look forward to working together to create a successful model!

With appreciation and excitement,

Amber Keller
Natick Public Schools Waste Reduction Coordinator



Lilja in Action



Lilja's Waste Sorting Line Impact

From this...



To this...



- School modeling responsible waste diversion
- Student pride and empowerment

What's Next?



Kennedy Cougars



Opportunities to Reduce Waste

Current Better BEST



Opportunities to Reduce Waste

Current



BEST



Food Waste Tracker

Pre-service waste

BIN LOCATION: _____

BIN TYPE AND SIZE: _____
(e.g. 2 gallon bucket, 2 gallon bucket)

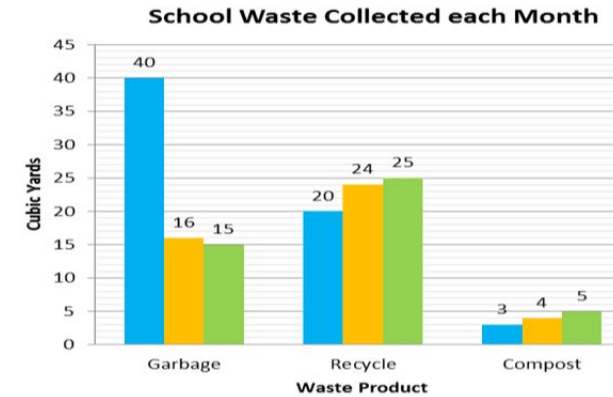
DATE	TIME	INITIALS	ESTIMATED VOLUME OR WEIGHT	TYPE OF FOOD	FOOD WASTE SEASON
4/2/20	11:00am	JHF	4lbs	protein, breads	special occasion



Outside of the Cafeteria

Current

BEST



Purchasing Policy 2: School/District Policy

Objective: Purchasing decisions will be made based on environmental considerations.

Age Group: Adults

Setting: Administrative offices

Project Duration: 1-2 years

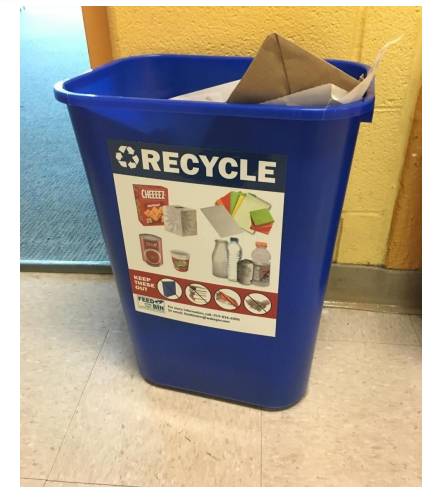
Materials: Examples of an Environmental Purchasing Policy (see sample)

Why This Project Matters: A sustainable recycling process involves three steps: collecting the recyclable material, remanufacturing that material to form new products, and purchasing the new, recycled products. The process has an end, and the process can be sustained. The steps to take for your school and other sustainable products. The availability of these items will stabilize, and their prices decrease, if consumers create a demand for them.

Project Summary: In a school or district, many supplies are purchased regularly, from paper and supplies to computers and furniture. Creating official green purchasing practices is a great way to model and achieve a commitment to green for the environment. Many governments, businesses, and school districts have adopted Environmental Purchasing Policies to ensure that money is spent on better and smarter that support sustainability. Administrators can draft an Environmental Purchasing Policy for the school or district to follow.

Implementation: 1. Meet with administrators to identify purchasing categories and select an district policies related to purchasing (cost limits, bid procedures, etc.) Examples of categories:

- Office supplies/paper
- Meeting & conferences
- Building Renovation/Construction
- Landscaping
- Vehicle fleet
- Carpets
- Cleaning
- Electronics
- Food services





**Natick School Committee
Sustainability Goal**

How can we help?



Policies



Training for Staff



Student Learning

Questions & Next Steps

ITEM TITLE: MOU Regarding Playgrounds and Fields
DATE:
ITEM TYPE:
ITEM SUMMARY:
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
RECOMMENDATION:
