



Welcome
Celebrations and District Goals
“Amazing Together”



Metuchen Public Schools

August 30, 2023

New Staff

New Staff 23-24

Alexis Wolford, EMS Spec Ed
Lauren Kim, MHS English
Rebecca Klein, CES media
Andrew Southern, EMS science
Adrianna Reyes, CES ESL
Julia Vaughn, EMS SS
Jennifer Stranz, MHS math
Nadia Salzer, CES Spanish
Amanda Rossmeissl, CES art
Jessica Kovacs, Moss preschool
Shannon MacMenamie, Moss spec ed preschool
Jillieanna Peguero - EMS nurse
Nicolette Jomo - EMS PE/Health
Kate Lemerich – Supervisor of Math, Science, PA, and Business
Joelle Williams, Moss Spec Ed Kindergarten
Audrey Hausser, EMS secretary

Leave Replacements 23-24

Sue Fackler, CES nurse
Brianna Fortino, Moss speech
Laurie Hathaway, EMS 5th grade
Gerard Brown-Eckstein, CES/HS music

New Paras 23-24

Francesca Ghezze, CES
Rose DiLeonardo, CES
Janine Haulenbeek, EMS
Neha Jansari, Moss
Kinjal Vakharia, CES
Deborah Stolz, Moss
Ernest Svolto, MHS
Karen Brock, Moss
Chelsea Coxon, Moss
Suzette Brown, Campbell
Erin Gawronski, CES

22-23 Staff

Drew Bandola, EMS/MHS PE/Health (1/2/23)
Kevin Smedley - MHS Industrial Tech (2/1/23)
Emily Caponigro, MHS math (1/30/23)
Jessica Gesumaria, MHS English (5/1/23)

State Assessments:
% meeting or
exceeding
expectations



State Assessment	2019	2022	2023
Grade 03 ELA	60%	60.14%	58.33%
Grade 03 Mathematics	62%	67.11%	70.37%^
Grade 04 ELA	77%	66.85%	73.68%^
Grade 04 Mathematics	64%	63.39%	70.11%^
Grade 05 ELA	83%	71.60%	75.49%^
Grade 05 Mathematics	75%	59.51%	75.24%^
Grade 06 ELA	88%	75.00%	71.76%
Grade 06 Mathematics	63%	55.73%	63.22%^
Grade 07 ELA	84%	70.17%	80.51%^
Grade 07 Mathematics	58%	57.86%	57.99%^
Grade 08 ELA	87%	73.37%	74.74%^
Grade 08 Mathematics	34%	20.45%	44.23%^
Grade 09 ELA	85%	88.69%	75.31%
Algebra 1	62%	64.33%	62.30%
Algebra 2	73%	100.00%	100.00%
Geometry	52%	72.84%	87.78%^

AP Exam Results (slide 1 of 2)

<i>AP Exam</i>	<i>Total Exams</i>	<i>Mean Score</i>
Art: Drawing	5 ^	4.40 ^
Biology	14 ^	3.71 ^
Calculus AB	42	4.45 ^
Calculus BC	21	4.14 ^
Chemistry	6	3.67 ^
Computer Science A	4	4.50 ^
Computer Science Principles	14 ^	3.21
English Language and Comp	29	4.52 ^
English Literature and Comp	7	4.43
Environmental Science	69 ^^	2.70
European History	8 ^	3.50
Macroeconomics	22	3.95 ^

AP Exam Results (slide 2 of 2)

<i>AP Exam</i>	<i>Total Exams</i>	<i>Mean Score</i>
Physics 1	54	2.46 ^
Physics 2	10	2.00
Psychology	4	4.25 ^
Spanish Language & Culture	11	4.55 ^
Statistics	50 ^^	2.28
U.S. Government & Politics	24	4.04 ^
US History	70	3.63 ^
TOTAL # EXAMS TAKEN = 465		
TOTAL # OF STUDENTS WHO TOOK EXAMS = 199		
MEAN SCORE = 3.4 ^		

of Multilingual Learners

Grade	Spr '21	Spr '22	Fall '22	Spr '23
K	5	5	4	5
1	3	9	9	10
2	1	5	6	7
3	5	3	3	10
4	5	8	6	8
5	2	3	6	8
6	1	1	6	7
7	0	0	3	5
8	3	3	1	1
9	0	4	2	2
10	3	1	2	0
11	2	2	1	1
12	3	2	2	2
Total	33	46	51	66

Access Results

Score range	# of students	% of assessed
1.0-1.9	6	10.2
2.0-2.9	9	15.3
3.0-3.9	19	32.2
4.0-4.4	11	18.6
>4.5	14	23.7

**BEST
HIGH SCHOOLS**

U.S. News & WORLD REPORT

RANKINGS

Metuchen High School



Per U.S. News: #73 in NJ

Sustainable Jersey Certified

NJ School Performance Report Accountability Score
= 72.78

Edgar School



National Blue Ribbon School

Sustainable Jersey Certified

NJ School Performance Report

Accountability Score = 73.67





Campbell School



Sustainable Jersey Certified

Digital Schools Star Recognition

NJ School Performance Report Accountability Score
= 86.55

Moss School



National School of Character

State School of Character

Two National Promising Practices



District Goals 2023-2024: “Amazing Together”



Metuchen Public Schools

2023-2024 District Goals Overview

Goal #1: Establish and communicate norms for adult communication that reflect shared values and result in positive impact and outcomes for all stakeholders.

Goal #2: Maximize instructional opportunities for differentiation, small group instruction, academic intervention, and co-teaching to increase academic outcomes.

Goal #3: Develop student problem-solving skills through active engagement and connection to others, including through problem-based learning, service learning, and internships, plus leveraging the opportunities we have with the construction project

Goal #4: Enhance tiered interventions through training and modeling strategies to address mental health and behavioral challenges.

Goal #5: Mobilize students by leveraging co- and extracurricular experiences to build pro-social behaviors and to combat meanness and bullying.

Goal #6: Utilize curricular and instructional strategies/practices to develop social awareness, emotional regulation and coping skills with practice throughout the day.

Goal #1

District Goal #1: Establish and communicate norms for adult communication that reflect shared values and result in positive impact and outcomes for all stakeholders.

Aligned with Whole Child Tenets and Indicators: Healthy 5, Safe 7, and Supported 6/7

Areas to address: parent-teacher, parent-administrator, teacher-administrator, parents as partners

Actions will include:

- a) Collaborate with stakeholders, emphasizing norms, values, and the “hows” of effective communication
- b) Input and shared commitment from the various parent advisory groups
- c) Update and share chain of command
- d) Create a permanent product, connected to chain of command (add the “how” to the “who”)

Goal #2

District Goal #2: *Maximize instructional opportunities for differentiation, small group instruction, academic intervention, and co-teaching to increase academic outcomes.*

Aligned with Whole Child Tenets and Indicators: Supported 1, Engaged 6/7, and Challenged 6

Areas to address: workshop model, small group instruction (SGI), AP scores, grade-level test scores, protection of instructional time, scheduling efficiency, response-to-intervention (RtI), and ESL

Actions will include:

- a) Professional development on co-teaching for teachers/administrators
- b) Co-observation administrator triads will occur in co-teaching settings with a focus on SGI and co-teaching models
- c) Offer peer observations during duties or other identified times to see co-teaching in ICR, ESL and RTI settings, or SGI, focused on instructional strategies, workshop model, etc.
- d) Observations will focus in on two of the four areas: workshop model; co-teaching; SGI; differentiation
- e) Operationalize the “grows” identified in assessment data presentations
- f) Maximize instructional time, with a focus on current and future scheduling efficiency and effectiveness

Goal #3

District Goal #3: Develop student problem-solving skills through active engagement and connection to others, including through problem-based learning, service learning, and internships, plus leveraging the opportunities we have with the construction project

Aligned with Whole Child Tenets and Indicators: Engaged 1/2/3/6 and Challenged 2

Areas to address: Problem-based and service learning, construction lessons, artificial intelligence, and STEM

Actions will include:

- a) Audit, pilot and plan for internship opportunities at MHS, including via independent study
- b) Implement and report out on STEM Plan for 2023-24
- c) Establish AI committee with an emphasis on instructional use, ethics, benefits, and cautions
- d) Pilot use of AI in the classroom: professional learning, explore tools, and instruct students in use
- e) Incorporate construction project content into classroom lessons: real-world learning, career exploration, and community engagement
- f) Encourage use of project-based and service-learning projects (choice workshops, shared resources and best practices) with a focus on connectedness, empathy, compassion, passion projects, and civic engagement

Goal #4

District Goal #4: Enhance tiered interventions through training and modeling strategies to address mental health and behavioral challenges.

Aligned to Whole Child Tenets and Indicators: Healthy 7 and Safe 3/5/6/10

Areas to address: Student behaviors, mental health, least restrictive environment, proactive strategies and responsive strategies

Actions will include:

- a) Explore screening strategies and tools for student wellness
- b) Offer professional development in behavioral and mental health to staff and parents
- c) Establish Threat Assessment Team, provide training, and implement procedures
- d) Utilize Friday Forums and other modes of feedback to identify and implement solutions with stakeholder input on mental health and behavioral challenges

Goal #5

District Goal #5: Mobilize students by leveraging co- and extracurricular experiences to build pro-social behaviors and to combat meanness and bullying.

Aligned to Whole Child Tenets: Safe 5, Supported 10, and Challenged 7

Areas to address: kindness and student leadership

Actions will include:

- a) Encourage participants of clubs and teams to engage in purposeful activities to spread kindness and inclusion throughout the school community
- b) Engage school community to partner with clubs and teams to provide resources and content to activate student engagement
- c) Audit current practices, implement new practices, and celebrate the activities and successes of student teams and clubs

Goal #6

District Goal #6: Utilize curricular and instructional strategies/practices to develop social awareness, emotional regulation and coping skills with practice throughout the day.

Aligned to Whole Child Tenets and Indicators: Healthy 7/8, Safe 3/6/7, Supported 3, Engaged 9

Areas to address: student skill sets and opportunities to practice

Actions will include:

- a) Self-assessment from inventory of current best practices
- b) Professional development offered for staff
- c) Share best practices and leverage existing structures (morning meeting, WIN Wednesday, Do Nows, and Zones of Regulation) to address social-emotional learning competencies

Referendum

https://sites.google.com/view/metuchenreferendum2022?utm_source=Google+Site&utm_medium=Google+Site&utm_campaign=Referendum+

Three ballot questions:

1. Capital improvements = \$69,000,000+ for AC, new cafeterias, closing wings at MHS, lights, new addition onto Moss to allow it to house pK-2. Campbell would be 3-5 and Edgar 6-8.
2. Operating costs = \$800,000 annually for staff, utilities, etc.
3. Gym and field improvements = \$12,000,000+ for a second gym at MHS, new turf, etc.

All three questions passed last November. Thank you for your help. The hard work continues!

Collaboration

District Leadership Team - made of up teachers, administrators, board members, and parents (note: students are on the Superintendent's Student Advisory Board). Individual principals have added student and parent advisory groups as well.

School Leadership Teams

- MHS
- Edgar Middle School
- Campbell Elementary School
- Moss School (pK and K)
- Special Education Leadership Team

Instructional Council

District Committees – see next slide

District committees: we need YOU

- Policy
- SE/CD
- Health & Safety
- DPDC
- Wellness
- Artificial Intelligence and K12
- Racial Justice & Equity
- Cyber security Team
- Climate Change Committee



Metuchen Public Schools

2023-2024

“Amazing Together”

Have a great school year!