

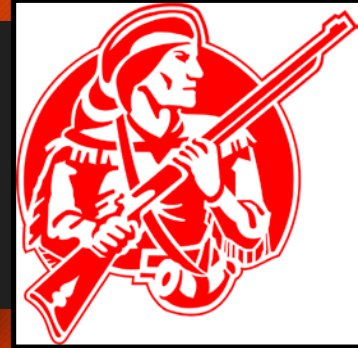


# Southbridge Public Schools

Dr. Jessica Huizenga, Receiver  
October 25, 2016



# Receivership At-A-Glance



- Receiver's first day was on May 2, 2016.
- Southbridge Public Schools Level 5 Turnaround Plan was released on June 24, 2016.

*In the Southbridge Public Schools,*

**ALL STUDENTS**

*will experience a world class education, and will graduate as engaged citizens who demonstrate the essential skills required for success in college and career.*



# Turnaround Plan Priority Areas



- Ensuring an inclusive and supportive school community with high expectations and rigorous, equitable, and personalized instruction for all students, including students with disabilities (SWDs) and English learners (ELs).
- Developing a district-wide professional culture of highly effective teaching and leadership.
- Creating the conditions to enable and apply evidence-informed decision-making.
- Establishing systems and processes to cultivate and leverage family engagement and community partnerships.
- Organizing the district and reallocating resources to ensure high-quality management, accountability, system-wide coherence, and sustainability.

# The First 6 Weeks

Academic and Instructional Improvements  
Family and Community Engagement  
Social and Emotional Learning  
Systems





# Academic and Instructional Improvement



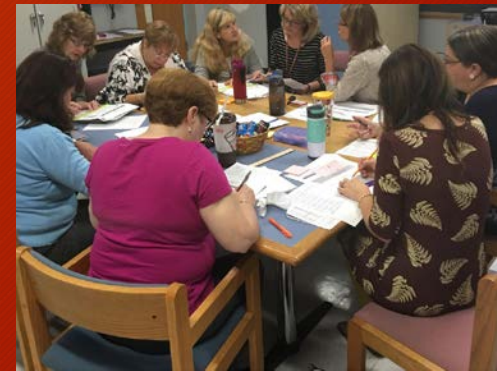
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# Academic and Instructional Improvement

- Hill Literacy working district-wide to develop systems necessary to institute evidence based literacy practices within a tiered instructional model.
- District literacy leadership team (grades K-5) developing action plan to guide work at each school.
- K-12 math curriculum has been mapped and Math Common Assessments created and administered through grades 1-8 with SchoolCity.



# Academic and Instructional Improvement



- Bi-weekly walkthroughs have been implemented.
- Monthly district instructional rounds began October 17; focus on a school-based problem of practice.
  - Research for Better Teaching (RBT) delivering 42-hour ATSR PD to all administrators and evaluators.
  - RBT delivering PD to staff on creating rigorous tasks that align with mastery learning objectives.

# Academic and Instructional Improvement



- 15 Better Lesson virtual coaches added to our teacher mentoring program.
- 7 building-based tech leaders stipend positions created to improve tech integration.
- Partnership with *AeroVenture Institute*, a career pathway for 26 HS students to take aviation science, gain 2 college credits, and attain hours toward flight licensure.
- Credit Recovery Program offered after school, Tuesday through Thursday, utilizing the Edmentum learning platform.







# Family and Community Engagement



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# Family and Community Engagement



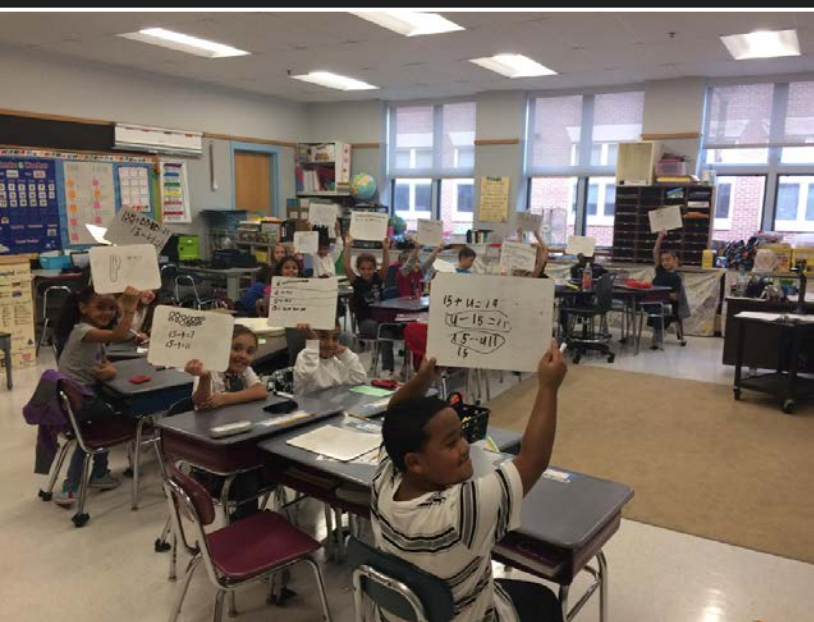
- Community Meetings with the Receiver
- Superintendent's Roundtable
- PTO forming at SMS
- School Councils forming
- Corporate & Community Partnerships
- Early College Program with QCC



# Social and Emotional Learning



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# Social-Emotional Learning



- Breakfast in the Classroom Grant awarded and started at the West Street School and Middle School
- District Climate Committee, meets monthly, includes all building admin - purpose to collaborate on SEL initiatives and deliver SEL PD
- District Wellness Committee created with several mental and physical health goals
- Two Family Resource Centers with food pantries being created at ERS and the HS- estimated date of completion - winter 2017

# Social-Emotional Learning



- Collaboration with Boston Day and Evening Academy in support of developing alternative program
- Staff trained district-wide on Positive Action curriculum which is being taught as Tier 1 intervention K-12
- Planning has begun to create HS Advisory Program
- PBIS, SBST and Crisis Teams created and have begun implementing MTSS systems and supports

# Social-Emotional Learning



- Career Center at the HS staffed by a free guidance counselor for the next 5 years through Mass EDCO grant
- Community Planning Group of local business and community agency representatives has been formed.
- Initial trainings done with new staff on mental illness, trauma and mandated reporter procedures



# Systems



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# Systems



- Business office able to process POs up to \$10k
- ALICE training completed district-wide on October 7
- New district student information system is being vetted
- 1300 Chromebooks have been distributed district-wide



# Systems



- A complete wireless network overhaul is in progress
- A system has been created to identify incoming ELs and to monitor FEL and opt-out students.
- District language acquisition team created to build school-based systems to ensure adherence to ELE guidance

# Systems



Brand-New, Modern, and Cost-Effective District Web Site

The screenshot shows the old website layout. At the top left is the Southbridge Public Schools logo. The main header reads "SOUTHBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS" with the address "25 Cole Avenue, Southbridge, MA 01550" and phone/fax numbers. A left sidebar contains a list of navigation links: Commissioner's Corner, Central Office, Contact Our Staff, Classroom Webpages, 'Listen Here' to OneCalls, School Committee, Newsletters, District Profile, School Services, Parent Resources, School Calendar, Community Resources, Public Communications, Food Services, Staff Resources, WeatherBug Channel, and Employment Opportunities. The main content area features a "Southbridge Public Schools Turnaround Plan" announcement with links for English and Spanish. Below this is a "FY17 BUDGET" notice with a red arrow pointing to a "here" link. Further down is a "Meeting Reminder!" sticky note and a "NEWSLETTER" sign-up button. A calendar for October 2016 is visible at the bottom left.

The screenshot shows the new website layout. The header features the Southbridge Public Schools logo and the name "Southbridge Public Schools" in a large, serif font. A dark navigation bar contains links for Home, Blog, Schools, Departments, Information, Calendar, Leadership, Careers, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar is a search bar with "SchoolCity", "Google for Education", and "iPass" logos, and a "Search site" button. The main content area features a large photograph of the school building at dusk, with the text "HOME OF THE PIONEERS" and "SOUTHBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS" overlaid. Below the photo is a yellow banner with the text "WELCOME TO THE 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR! [ALL INFO](#)" and a blue banner with "DISTRICT TURNAROUND PLAN RELEASED! [ENGLISH](#) | [ESPAÑOL](#)". The bottom section is divided into three columns: "how do I..." with a list of links (Read the District Turnaround Plan?, Enroll in the district?, Contact a staff member?, Discuss a compliment or concern?, View the school lunch menu?, View a classroom's web page?, Sign up for the district email newsletter?, Read the receivership update?, View the district calendar?, Find my bus route?, View the FY 17 Budget?, View the community resources page?), "@sps" with a calendar for October 7 showing "No School - Professional Development" and "All Day", and a partial view of the October 8th entry "Columbus Day, No School".

# Theory of Action

District Leadership Team

## IF

- We establish clarity around what good educational practice looks like and model it
- We create and leverage systems & opportunities for feedback, reflection, and continuous improvement
- We establish a system of accountability based on reciprocity and outcomes
- We deliberately collaborate with constituents through the work in ways that promote strong engagement, relationships, ownership, and equity
- We build internal capacity that supports and sustains long-term change

## THEN

- Schools and educators will engage in more effective continuous improvement around our priorities, we will have a coherent and sustainable system grounded in equity/social justice, and will provide our students with a world class education preparing them for success in college and career

Questions?