**Rethinking Discipline Professional Learning Network -
2019-2020 School Year Update**

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) continues to partner with schools and districts across the Commonwealth for the Rethinking Discipline Professional Learning Network (PLN). The PLN aims to assist schools and districts reduce the use of long-term suspension and expulsion for all students and decrease disproportionate rates of suspension and expulsion for students with disabilities and/or for students of color.

The 2019-20 School Year (SY) identifications were based on a multi-year analysis of the [student discipline data](http://profiles.doe.mass.edu/statereport/ssdr.aspx) districts submitted from school years 2016-17 through 2018-19, as required by state law ([Chapter 222](https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartIII/TitleI/Chapter222)) and regulations ([603 CMR 53.00](http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/603cmr53.html)). Similarly, the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act requires a similar analysis of up to three years of data on disciplinary actions imposed on students with disabilities, and districts identified under that analysis are included in the PLN as well. A [description of the methodology behind those calculations](http://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/discipline/calculations.docx) is available for download on [DESE’s discipline webpage](http://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/discipline/).

During school year 2019-20, DESE identified 7 additional entities (including schools, districts, and charter schools) for participation in the PLN (entities that had not participated in the PLN during 2018-19. If entities were identified for reasons related to state law, DESE notified them that they are required to submit an annual action plan (that will be due in spring 2021), and all are encouraged to participate in professional development opportunities through the PLN.

With the goal of increasing student engagement and creating safe and supportive learning environments, DESE has partnered with The Equity Imperative. The Equity Imperative will facilitate a professional development series aimed at building participants’ capacity to develop and implement an action plan that incorporates a culturally responsive approach to alternatives to discipline. Visit the [Student Discipline Resources webpage](http://www.doe.mass.edu/sfs/discipline/) this fall for information regarding the 2020-2021 school year professional development offerings.

The schools and districts participating in the 2020 Rethinking Discipline Professional Learning Network are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **District** | **School (if applicable)** |
|  |
| Argosy Collegiate Charter School (Fall River) | Argosy Collegiate Charter School (Fall River) |  |
| Chicopee | Chicopee Academy |  |
| Chicopee High School |  |
| Clinton | Clinton Senior High School |  |
| Everett | Everett High School |  |
| Fall River | Morton Middle School |  |
| Resiliency Prep School |  |
| Gardner | Gardner (District) |  |
| Greenfield | Greenfield High School |  |
| KIPP Academy Lynn Charter | KIPP Academy Lynn Charter School |  |
| Leominster | Leominster High School\* |  |
| Lowell | Lowell High School |  |
| The Career Academy |  |
| Lynn | Fecteau-Leary Junior/Senior High School |  |
| New Bedford | Whaling City Junior/Senior High School\* |  |
| New Heights Charter School of Brockton | New Heights Chart School of Brockton |  |
| North Adams | North Adams (District) |  |
| Drury High School |  |
| Phoenix Charter Academy, Chelsea (District) | Phoenix Charter Academy, Chelsea (District)\* |  |
| Phoenix Charter Academy, Springfield (District) | Phoenix Charter Academy, Springfield (District) |  |
| Pittsfield | Pittsfield (District) |  |
| Theodore Herberg Middle School |  |
| Plymouth | Plymouth (District) |  |
| Plymouth North High School |  |
| Plymouth South High School |  |
| Quaboag Regional | Quaboag Regional High School |  |
| Quincy | South West Middle School |  |
| Ralph C. Mahar | Ralph C. Mahar (District)\* |  |
| Rockland | Rockland High School\* |  |
| Roxbury Preparatory Charter | Roxbury Preparatory Charter School |  |
| Sizer School: A North Central Charter Essential | Sizer School: A North Central Charter Essential School (Fitchburg) |  |
| Springfield | Rise Academy at Van Sickle |  |
| South End Middle School\* |  |
| Swansea | Swansea (District) |  |
| UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester | UP Academy Charter School of Dorchester |  |
| Wareham | Wareham (District) |  |
| Wareham Middle School |  |
| Wareham Senior High School |  |
| Webster | Bartlett High School |  |
| Westfield | Westfield High School |  |
| Weymouth  | Weymouth High School\* |  |
| Worcester | Worcester (District) |  |
| Worcester East Middle Schools |  |

\**Schools/districts identified in school year 2019-20 to join the Rethinking Discipline Professional Learning Network*