

**ALBERT F. FORD MIDDLE
SCHOOL**



**SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
2010 –2011**

**Christopher S. Green
Principal**

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OUR SCHOOL VISION

We envision a school that is permeated by an attitude of acceptance of differences and views faults and mistakes as opportunities for learning.

We will strive to be a place and time where staff will extend themselves in using techniques and resources to aid each individual student in skills of problem solving and decision making.

We seek a school which recognizes individual learning styles and develops the potential of each student to become life long learners.

ACUSHNET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT GOALS

Our school improvement plan goals are aligned to the Acushnet Public Schools District Improvement Plan and are based on a number of individual factors which comprise the overall vision of the Acushnet Schools.

- A safe and secure learning environment
- A students-centered curriculum and instruction
- Academic excellence
- Life-long learning
- Acquisition of basic skills
- Acquisition of social skills
- Comprehensive education
- Collaborative relationships
- Community involvement
- Respect for diversity

OUR MISSION

Our mission at Ford Middle School is to provide an opportunity for each student to grow and learn in a safe, caring, and responsive learning environment. Through our celebration of diversity, students will be encouraged to recognize and value the uniqueness of themselves and others. Ford Middle School is dedicated to fostering respect, wise decision-making and skillfulness for lifelong learning. The successful implementation of this mission will enable students to recognize their value and place in society and achieve academic success.

CORE VALUES

Jon Saphier from Research for Better Teaching defines a core value as a central belief deeply understood and shared by every member of an organization. He further states that core values guide the actions of everyone in the organization: they focus its energy and are the anchor points for all its plans. Core values permeate an institution, drive its decisions, elicit strong reaction when violated and are the last things to be given up.

As a school community, we developed a set of core values throughout the 2008-2009 school year. It was a long process which obtained input from all member groups of the school community.

Our core values are:

- Students will care, value, and respect others and themselves as a vital part of the learning process.
- Our students will go through a process of basic organization skills that will lead to higher level problem solving and critical thinking techniques.
- Students will leave our school with the skills and knowledge necessary to successfully achieve at the high school level.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MISSION

Our mission is to meet monthly with the principal and assist in the following:

- 1) Identify the educational needs of FMS students.
- 2) Make recommendations relevant to the education needs of FMS students.
- 3) Construct a school improvement plan that identifies annual goals, activities, and resources that will lead to school improvement.
- 4) Review the annual school budget with the principal to understand the implications for goals and activities in the school improvement plan.
- 5) Review and update the student-parent/guardian handbook.
- 6) Making recommendations for the development, implementation, and assessment of the district curriculum accommodation plan

FMS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Christopher S. Green	Principal		
Maria Moore	Parent		
Michelle Alves	Parent	Pat Avellar	Teacher
Paula Faria	Parent	Kelly Flynn	Teacher
Diane Antone	Parent		

ATTAINMENT OF GOALS 2009-2010


Goal #1

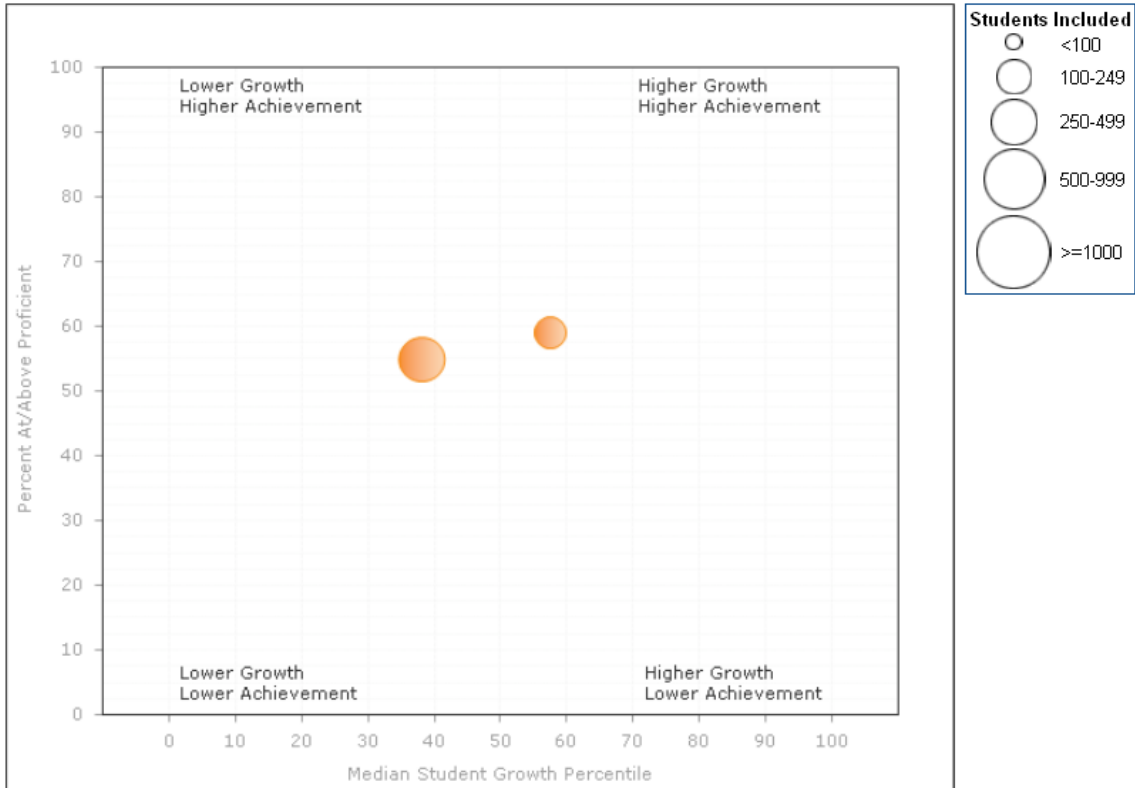
Improve student achievement in mathematics.

Degree of Attainment to Date:

- 1) Mathematics teachers reviewed and updated curriculum (guides, maps, and benchmarks)
- 2) Regular curriculum committee meetings were held once each month
- 3) New math teacher placed into 8th grade math position
- 4) MCAS Prep and Study Island were utilized to refocus student achievement in math
- 5) Utilized Team Time for targeted academic instruction for students exhibiting difficulties in mathematics
- 6) School failed AYP in math – The aggregate was required to reach 84.3 (state performance target), but only reached 79.3.
 - a. % Passing vs. State
 - i. Grade 5: +6%
 - ii. Grade 6: +10%
 - iii. Grade 7: -10%
 - iv. Grade 8: -8%
 - b. Student Growth Percentile points to average growth
 - i. SGP 2008: 49
 - ii. SCP 2009: 49
 - iii. SGP 2010: 41

MCAS Student Growth Report - Albert F Ford Middle Sch

Subject: Year: Grade: 



School	Median SGP	% At/Above Proficient	Included in SGP
Acushnet Elementary Sch	57.5	59	100
Albert F Ford Middle Sch	38.0	55	469


Goal #2

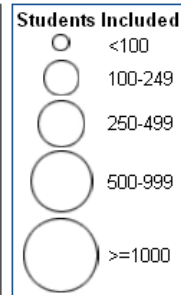
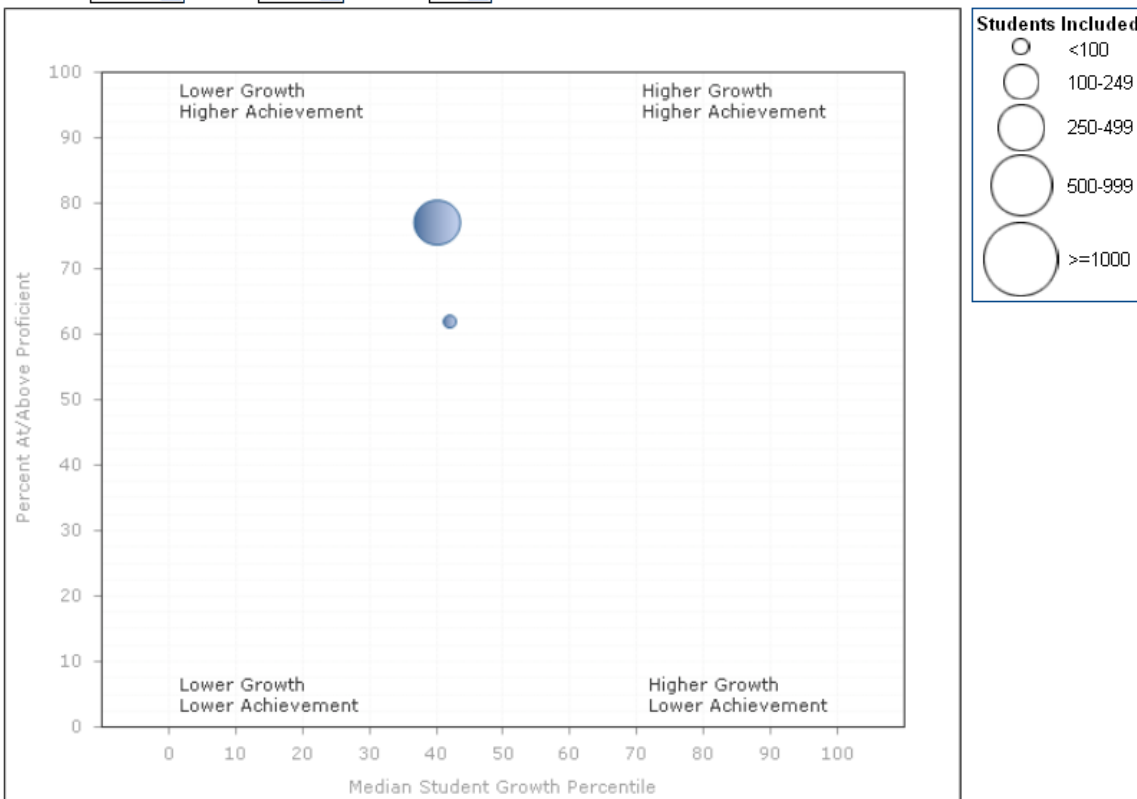
Improve student achievement in English/Language Arts

Degree of Attainment to Date:

- 1) ELA & Literature curriculum were completed and presented to the school committee for their approval.
- 2) Regular curriculum committee meetings were held once each month.
- 3) Open Response writing expanded to all subject areas
- 4) Utilized DIBELS in grade 5 for student assessment
- 5) Utilized Team Time for targeted academic instruction for students exhibiting difficulties in ELA
- 6) School did not achieve AYP in ELA – The aggregate was required to reach 90.2 (state performance target), but only reached 89.8.
 - a. % Passing vs. State
 - i. Grade 5: -1%
 - ii. Grade 6: +4%
 - iii. Grade 7: +9%
 - iv. Grade 8: +9%
 - b. Student Growth Percentile points to average growth
 - i. SGP 2008: 48
 - ii. SCP 2009: 45
 - iii. SGP 2010: 40

MCAS Student Growth Report - Albert F Ford Middle Sch

Subject: Year: Grade: 



School	Median SGP	% At/Above Proficient	Included in SGP
Acushnet Elementary Sch	42.0	62	99
Albert F Ford Middle Sch	40.0	77	463

Goal #3

Continuous improvement of student achievement in science & technology.

Degree of Attainment to Date:

- 1) All of the teachers for the aforementioned subjects reviewed and adapted curriculum guides, maps and curriculum benchmarks that were presented to the school committee for their approval.
- 2) Regular curriculum committee meetings were held.
- 3) Utilized Team Time for targeted academic instruction for students exhibiting difficulties in ELA
- 4) School did well on science MCAS

a. % Passing vs. State	2008	2009	2010
i. Grade 5:	+9%	+18%	+4%
ii. Grade 8:	+6%	+5%	+5%

Goal #4

Continue to align curriculums to the state frameworks

Degree of Attainment to Date:

Although this is a continuing goal, we made significant accomplishments in this area:

- 1) Teachers in every discipline reviewed their curriculum maps, guides and benchmarks.
- 2) The new lesson plan format was utilized and plans were reviewed monthly

Goal #5

Improve communication within our school and between parents/guardians and the school

Degree of Attainment to Date:

This remains a continuing goal, but substantial progress was made in the following areas:

- 1) The school website was maintained and consistently updated, providing students, parents/guardians, and the school faculty and staff with up to date bulletins, school information, school forms, teacher voicemail extensions, and links to academic resources. Student/Parent/Guardian Handbook reviewed, updated, and placed on web site.
- 2) Weekly Academic Support Meetings (ASMs) again held, where guidance/administration and the grade level teams meet to discuss students and overall school concerns, address 504s, construct TATs, suggest potential referrals to special education, and create student success plans.
- 3) Special effort to contact news & media outlets to disseminate positive occurrences & happenings at school.
- 4) OneCall system was utilized for increased information dissemination
- 5) A video camera was utilized for taping school events; these recordings were delivered to the Acushnet Cable Channel for broadcast.

Goal #6

To provide a safe environment for all students and staff.

Degree of Attainment to Date:

- 1) Successful changes were made in the parent/guardian-student handbook.
- 2) Convey resources from the outside to help staff and students recognize bullying, teasing and harassment.
- 3) Enhanced the secure lockdown procedure that was used several times throughout the school year.
- 4) Revised the morning and afternoon duties to provide maximum supervision for the students.
- 5) Revised passing routes for students to reduce or eliminate cross-grade contact
- 6) Mandatory ID's were worn by all staff members.

ALBERT F. FORD MIDDLE SCHOOL GOALS 2010 –2011

Goal	Improvement Objectives	Strategies to Accomplish Objectives	Time Line	Responsibility	Assessment	Fiscal Impact
<p>GOAL #1</p> <p>Improve student achievement in mathematics</p>	To increase grade 5-8 mathematics MCAS scores	<p>*Increase the amount of class time spent on mathematics by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Transferring from site-based to online Accelerated Math program, and continuing to use during all grade Academic periods 2) Continue utilizing Team Time (30-35 minutes per grade) to allow for targeted academic assistance for students exhibiting difficulty in mathematics. Students will be pulled in small groups based on individual need. 3) Adding an additional mathematics teacher in 7th grade (provided the budget supports this additional teacher) 4) Incorporate mathematics into every topic and subject area. 	<p>Sept thru June</p>	<p>Administration & Staff</p> <p>Mathematics Teachers</p>	<p>Annual Data Analysis Report</p> <p>Teacher Evaluations</p> <p>The Completion of Courses, Workshops, and Conferences Related to a Teacher's Subject Area</p>	<p>Salary for a Math Teacher \$42,755</p> <p>Conferences/ Workshops, and Travel Reimbursement- \$5,000</p> <p>New math series -\$40,000</p> <p>Accelerated Math - \$2,750</p> <p>Math Consultant - \$6,000</p>
	To exceed the state average for MCAS scores in mathematics grades 5- 8	<p>*Annual evaluation of MCAS results in order to identify areas of weakness</p> <p>*Institute additional mathematics testing provided the budget supports this testing (This testing would be reinstated in order to provide teachers with another means of identifying areas of weakness for this subject area)</p>				
	To adopt new math textbooks as needed	<p>*Continue to enhance mathematics curriculum guide, curriculum benchmarks, and curriculum maps</p> <p>*Purchase new math series (K-8 series to include pre-algebra and algebra) to address curriculum gaps and align curriculum to the Common Core of Standards</p> <p>*By practicing and modeling good MCAS answers in all grade levels before MCAS testing</p> <p>*Professional development opportunities including: courses, workshops, conferences related to a teacher's subject area, and a consultant</p>				

<p>GOAL #2</p> <p>Improve student achievement in English/ Language Arts</p>	<p>To increase grade 5-8 ELA language & literature MCAS scores</p> <p>To exceed the state average for MCAS scores in ELA language & literature grades 5-8</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Evaluation of MCAS results in order to identify areas of weakness *Continue to enhance English/Language Arts curriculum maps, curriculum benchmarks, and curriculum guides; align curriculum to the Common Core of Standards *Continue DIBELS in the 5th grade * Continue utilization of Accelerated Reader – but move to online version, allowing for more selection and updated features * Reinstigate STAR Reader testing (This testing will be reinstated in order to provide teachers with another means of identifying areas of weakness for this subject area) *Increase the amount of MCAS prep time and English/Literature time devoted to answering open response questions *By practicing and modeling good MCAS answers in all grade levels before MCAS testing * Continue utilizing Team Time (30-35 minutes per grade) to allow for targeted academic assistance for students exhibiting difficulty in mathematics. Students will be pulled in small groups based on individual need. *Expand student writing skills in all subject areas *Increase reading of plays in all grades *Read more non-fiction novels in all grades *Require summer reading assignments for all incoming 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students *Professional development opportunities including: courses, workshops, and conferences related to a teacher's subject area 	<p>Sept thru June</p>	<p>Administration & Staff</p> <p>English/ Language Arts Teachers</p>	<p>Annual Data Analysis Report</p> <p>Teacher Evaluations</p> <p>The Completion of Courses, Workshops, and Conferences Related to a Teacher's Subject Area</p>	<p>Conferences/ Workshops, and Travel Reimbursement- \$5,000</p> <p>Accelerated Reader - \$2,750</p> <p>STAR Reader - \$1,200</p>
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<p>GOAL #3</p> <p>Improve student achievement in science & technology</p>	<p>To increase grade 5 & 8 science & technology MCAS scores</p> <p>To exceed the state average for MCAS scores in science & technology grade 5 & 8</p> <p>To adopt new science textbooks as needed</p>	<p>*Evaluation of MCAS results in order to identify areas of weakness</p> <p>*Continue to enhance science & technology curriculum maps, curriculum benchmarks, and curriculum guide</p> <p>*Increase the amount of class time spent on science & technology instruction by adding a Science Skills teacher (provided that the budget supports this additional teacher)</p> <p>*During tech class, add more time covering manufacturing in the 8th grade</p> <p>*Professional development opportunities including: courses, workshops, and conferences related to a teacher's subject area</p> <p>*Purchase new science series (6-8 series) to address curriculum gaps</p>	<p>Sept thru June</p>	<p>Administration & Staff</p> <p>Science & Technology Teachers</p>	<p>Annual Data Analysis Report</p> <p>The Completion of Courses, Workshops, and Conferences Related to a Teacher's Subject Area</p>	<p>Salary for Science Skills Teacher \$42,755</p> <p>Conferences/ Workshops, and Travel Reimbursement- \$5,000</p> <p>New science series -\$30,000</p>
<p>GOAL #4</p> <p>To form a consistent instructional approach that will raise student achievement</p>	<p>To update and streamline school curriculum guides</p> <p>To enhance curriculum benchmarks and curriculum maps</p> <p>To adopt new textbooks as needed</p>	<p>*Continue to hold twice-monthly subject area Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment team meetings</p> <p>*Use data from DESE Data Warehouse to determine student weaknesses</p> <p>*Add an additional team planning period to the schedule that will be partly used for interdisciplinary curriculum planning</p> <p>*Require staff during a team plan or two during the month to work on updating curriculum, curriculum maps, and benchmarks</p> <p>*Continue to utilize a lesson plan template that documents essential lesson plan elements.</p> <p>*Add curriculum leaders in each subject area (if the budget supports this position)</p> <p>* Purchase new social studies textbooks</p>	<p>Sept thru June</p>	<p>Administration & Staff</p>	<p>TestWiz</p> <p>District Professional Development</p> <p>The Completion of Updated Curriculum Guides that are Aligned to the State Frameworks</p>	<p>Conferences/ Workshops, and Travel Reimbursement- \$5,000</p>

<p>GOAL #5</p> <p>Improve communication within our school and between parents/guardians and the school</p>	<p>To continue improvements in communication, within our school, between home and school, and with the community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Continue to enhance the school website by adding new information and updating schedules Continue to update the internal web site for easy teacher access and information *Provide communication between home and school using school and teacher web pages, e-mail, voice mail *Enhance and disseminate a more comprehensive teacher handbook that better describes school and district policies and procedures *Continue to hold weekly Academic Support Meetings (ASMs), where guidance/administration and grade level teams meet to: discuss students and school concerns, address 504s, construct TATs, suggest potential referrals to special education, and create student success plans) *Add all forms to web site for easy teacher accesses. * Continue 5th grade orientation day/night for all incoming students * Continue to utilize the OneCall system to notify parents/guardians of upcoming events, report card dissemination, etc. 	<p>Sept thru June</p>	<p>Administration & Staff</p>	<p>The Addition of Useful Information to the School Website</p> <p>Updated the Teacher Handbook</p> <p>The Completion of all Student Success Plans and 504s</p>	<p>Supplies & Materials for Teacher Handbook-\$100</p>
<p>GOAL #6</p> <p>Provide a safe learning environment for students and staff</p>	<p>Students will be apprised of school safety, procedures and policies through each school's updated handbook and through a day one assembly conducted by the principal and assistant principal</p> <p>Staff will review the district's safety and civil rights procedures annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Revise and purchase student planners/handbook *Revise Teacher handbooks *Revise our school handbook with district policies *Review policies and procedures annually *Practice emergency response scenarios along with fire drills *Continue to practice lock downs and fire drills * Implementation of district anti-bullying plan * Anti-bullying classes at all grade levels * Establish a climate, conditions, and culture committee * Establish a safety and discipline committee at both schools 	<p>Sept thru June</p>	<p>Administration and Staff</p>	<p>Completed Handbooks</p> <p>Training Log for Review of District's Safety and Civil Rights Procedures</p> <p>The Successful Implementation of the District Emergency Response Plan</p>	<p>The Purchase of Student planners/handbooks-\$3,500</p>