



**Algonquin Regional High School
School Improvement Plan
2018-2020**



Algonquin Regional High School

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The Public Schools of Northborough and Southborough

Ten Schools, Three Districts, One Community of Learners

Vision Statement

The vision of the Public Schools of Northborough and Southborough promotes high expectations and excellence for all in a dynamic learning environment that inspires opportunities for thinking critically, solving problems, and engaging intellectual curiosity. We integrate relevant technology and foster innovation to set the stage for success in a global society. Our culture supports diversity, inclusion, discovery, resiliency, and effective communication in a safe environment.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Public Schools of Northborough and Southborough is to provide an exceptional educational experience for every student in a safe environment.

Core Values:

The Public Schools of Northborough and Southborough believe in:

Respect

- *Appreciates the diversity, differences, and dignity of all members of the community*
- *Fosters a community that promotes teamwork and collaboration*

Integrity

- *Prepares students to become ethical, responsible, and productive members of a global society*
- *Values honesty, integrity, and transparency in all our interactions with the community and with one another*

Communication

- *Develops a cohesive school community through effective communication*

Excellence

- *Promotes a culture of high expectations and excellence for all*
- *Supports innovation and risk-taking*
- *Provides a comprehensive educational experience to support and nurture all students' intellectual, creative, social and emotional development, and physical well-being*

Vision 2020: Areas of Strategic Focus

Focus 1: Communication
Focus 3: Student Support Services

Focus 2: Curriculum
Focus 4: Technology

Algonquin Regional High School

Algonquin Regional High School first opened on September 11, 1959, bringing together for the first time a total of 444 students from the towns of Northborough and Southborough. The school has continued to operate as a regional high school for the two towns. In 2003, Algonquin began a five-year renovation which resulted in the current building; the official grand opening took place on September 4, 2008. There are currently 1,446 students enrolled at Algonquin. The student body includes 9th through 12th graders and features exceptional programming such as the Tiny Tomahawks Preschool and the Life Skills Program which services individuals up to the age of 22. There are currently 205 faculty and staff at Algonquin who work together to provide a rich and comprehensive offering of courses, athletics, and extracurricular activities. The academic and athletic programs have won a variety of awards and recognitions, including consistently earning a top 15% placement of all high schools across Massachusetts regarding a variety of indicators by the community and school analysis company, Niche.

Core Values, Beliefs, & Learning Expectations

Algonquin Regional High School is a community committed to providing a safe, supportive, and challenging learning environment which fosters critical and creative thinking. We believe respect, responsibility, and collaboration are essential to individual growth and academic achievement.

Academic Expectations

Students at Algonquin Regional High School will...

1. Speak effectively for a variety of audiences
2. Write effectively for a variety of audiences
3. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate data and information
4. Read critically
5. Use technology constructively
6. Demonstrate innovation and creativity

Social Expectations

Students at Algonquin Regional High School will...

1. Take responsibility for their actions
2. Actively participate
3. Collaborate to achieve common goals

Civic Expectations

Students at Algonquin Regional High School will...

1. Recognize and respect different perspectives and viewpoints
2. Recognize that they contribute to their local, national, and global communities

Algonquin Regional High School Improvement Plan

2018-2020

Goal 1: The Algonquin Regional High School faculty and community will collaborate to create a **learning environment** that supports student achievement and application of skills.

Vision 2020: Areas of Strategic Focus

- Communication
 - Indicator 1- Communication with parents, teachers, and community members is informative, timely, and engaging
- Curriculum
 - Indicator 2- Develop 21st-century skills in all students
- Student Support Services
 - Indicator 1- Continue to build and support a dynamic learning environment for all students
- Technology
 - Indicator 2- Effectively expand the use of technology to meet the needs of all learners

Action Items:

- The administration and faculty will support the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) team as they develop and model writing strategies for all content areas. Additionally, support will be provided for the ongoing growth of the Algonquin Writing Center (AWC) and the expansion of the writing tutor program.
- Faculty and staff will expand the annual Community Career Day program to include the Math, Science, English, and Social Studies departments and create a resource of community-classroom connections. As an extension of this program, there will be an expansion of internship and partnership opportunities for students in the community as well as the exploration of a senior project/internship program.
- Algonquin will create a committee to examine the current bell schedule and investigate the best updates/changes. Through this process, they will devise a bell schedule to better meet student learning needs that will be tested and implemented during this School Improvement Plan (SIP) cycle.
- Faculty and staff will leverage Canvas and the Bring-Your-Own-Device programs to improve communication, meet individual needs, and promote academic achievement for students.

Goal 2: The Algonquin Regional High School faculty and community will collaborate to create an inclusive culture that supports the **social-emotional growth** of all students.

Vision 2020: Areas of Strategic Focus:

- Student Support Services
 - Indicator 1- Continue to build and support a dynamic learning environment for all students
 - Indicator 2- Provide training for staff that supports effective instruction and the delivery of services for all students
 - Indicator 3- Expand our collaboration with parents, community members and agencies, and outside providers, to ensure that our students' health and wellness needs are being met
- Technology
 - Indicator 2- Effectively expand the use of technology to meet the needs of all learners

Action Items:

- The administration and faculty will use data from a variety of sources to analyze current social-emotional trends and needs.
- The faculty will continue “Connections” work and ongoing schoolwide trainings and activities to promote personal connections between faculty and students.
- The school will utilize current committees and teams to establish and promote healthy boundaries and routines around the use of technology, including Canvas.
- Algonquin will continue community-wide efforts in regard to school safety, including partnerships with law enforcement and mental health professionals. This includes ongoing work by the School Assistance Team.

Goal 3: The school and district will ensure the ongoing **professional development** and growth of faculty and staff by providing meaningful learning opportunities and facilitating avenues of application.

Vision 2020: Areas of Strategic Focus:

- Curriculum
 - Indicator 3- Expand professional development opportunities that support ongoing PreK-12 curriculum initiatives

- Student Support Services
 - Indicator 2- Provide training for staff that supports effective instruction and the delivery of services for all students

- Technology
 - Indicator 3- Provide professional development to support district-wide goals in technology and promote innovation

Action Items:

- The faculty and leadership team (SBLT) will use the Instructional Rounds protocol to develop a question of inquiry and use the findings to improve teaching and learning.

- The administration and leadership team (SBLT) will provide professional development for teachers on differentiation of instruction, with a focus on Special Education and Sheltered English Immersion strategies.

- The administration and leadership team will continue to support Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) in all content areas that promote communication and collaboration.

(10/11/2018)