

TO: Swansea School Committee
FROM: Robert F. Silveira, Principal & School Council Members
SUBJECT: Joseph Case Junior High School Improvement Plan
DATE: May 23, 2022

2021 – 2022 Joseph Case Junior High School Council Members

Mr. Robert F. Silveira, Principal, Co-Chair	Mrs. Jessica Cleary, Parent
Mrs. Tammy Greene, Faculty Representative	Mrs. Brenda Guertin, Parent, Co-chair
Mr. Michael Proulx, Faculty Representative	Mrs. Annette Griffin, Community Representative
Mrs. Sarah Hunicke, Parent	Mrs. Patricia Carreiro, Community Representative
	Mrs. Heather Souza, Community Representative

Meeting Dates: October 14, 2021 November 4, 2021 January 13, 2022 February 10, 2022 March 10, 2022 April 7, 2022 May 12, 2022

All meetings were held at 4:00 p.m. virtually via Google Meet

The school council has four major areas of responsibility. School councils are to assist principals in:

1. Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards
2. Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school
3. Reviewing the annual school building budget
4. Formulating a school improvement plan

The guidelines as set forth in the Massachusetts Education Reform Act of 1993 were followed in the establishment of the council as listed below:

1. Teachers were elected by the Joseph Case Junior High School Teachers
2. Parents were elected by the Joseph Case Junior High School Parents
3. The community representatives were appointed by the Principal

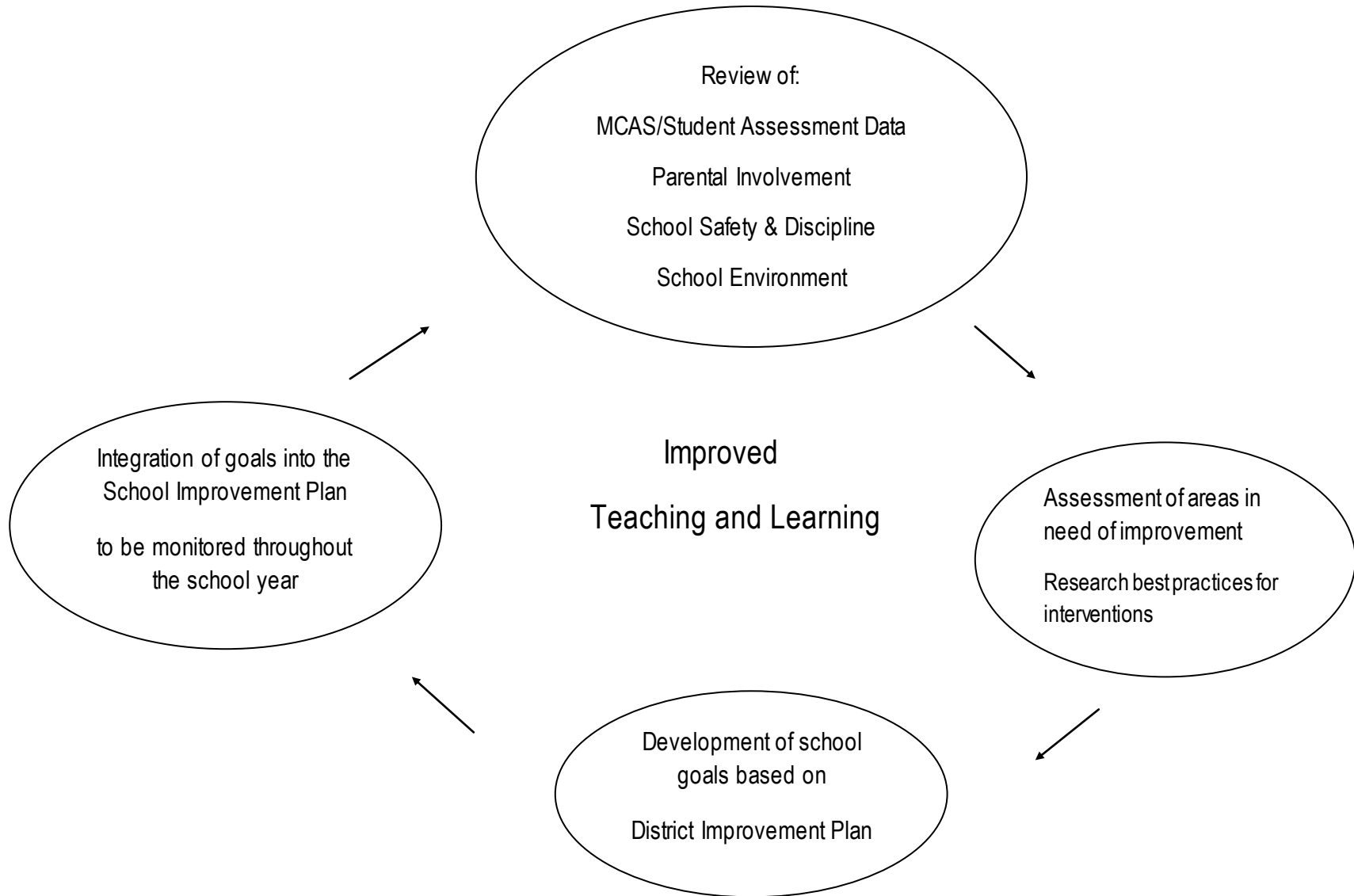
We are pleased to present the Joseph Case Junior High School Improvement Plan for 2022-2023

JOSEPH CASE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

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School Improvement Planning Process



Faculty & Staff

Administration

Robert F. Silveira, Principal
Gregory Kelley, Assistant Principal

Guidance

Alyssa Mathieu
Monique Grauer
Tanya Provost

Nurse

Erin Silvia

Secretaries

Heather Montigny
Lucy Farrar
John Menke

Teachers

Sixth Grade

Barbara Baraby-Ferreira
Richard Cordeiro
Jessalyn Sadler Correa
Linda Ellis
Jennifer Xavier
Patricia LePage
Hollie Martin
Stephanie Sutherland
José Colón
Lauren Farinha
Michael Proulx

Eighth Grade

Cheryl Reis
Barry Mello
Alex Monteiro
Daniel Wenzel
Colin Sullivan
Cynthia Davis
Kelsey Duarte
Wendy Sullivan
Laura Pendleton
Sherry Reis

Seventh Grade

Jennifer Morin
Cheryl Borges
Amber Fulton
Timothy Irish
Erin Carrig
Stephen Savoie
Katie Smith
Peter Soares
Kasey Jeronimo
Melinda Pimentel

Health/Physical Education

Grant Hajder
Julie LaRoche
Laura Sauro

Paraprofessionals

Karen Lloyd
Jessica Bartlett
Marina Almeida
Carol Pelletier
Juli Cama
Kelly Raleigh

Special Education

Lindsey Alexander
Colleen Parrillo
Gary Rockcliffe
Robin Medeiros
Heather St. Yves
Mary Francisco



SWANSEA PUBLIC SCHOOLS MISSION & VISION STATEMENT & BELIEFS

Mission Statement:

Public education in Swansea shall provide each student a safe and nurturing environment in which to develop the values, knowledge and skills needed to foster lifelong learning, achieve full potential in his or her personal, social and work life, and to contribute actively to the civic, moral and economic spirit of our diverse and changing democratic community and society.

Vision Statement:

Swansea Public Schools serve to provide the instructional techniques that foster the 21st century skills and knowledge which will serve to prepare our students for our technological and global society.

The Swansea Public Schools are committed to ensuring that all of its programs and facilities are accessible to all members of the public. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion or sexual orientation.

The Swansea Public Schools reaffirms that it does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation in the admission to, access to, treatment in, or employment in its programs or activities. The Swansea Public Schools also affirms its commitment to maintain a school and work environment free of harassment based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability or sexual orientation. Any harassment on the basis of sex, race, national origin, religion, age, disability, or sexual orientation will not be tolerated. If you should have any questions about the policy, please feel free to contact the Administration office.

JOSEPH CASE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Joseph Case Junior High School is dedicated to providing a safe, diverse, and nurturing educational environment that values community and encourages lifelong learning and service. We will help empower students to achieve their maximum potential and to develop the academic, social, critical thinking, and problem solving skills to be successful in the informational, technological, and global society of the 21st century.

School Improvement Plan

Joseph Case Junior High School

Swansea, Massachusetts

2022-2023

District Goal: Goal 1: Curriculum, Instruction and Evaluation: To develop and implement programs that ensure quality instruction, high expectations for all learners, and result in steadily improving student achievement. Student assessment results, local benchmarks, and other pertinent data are used to improve student achievement and to inform all aspects of decision-making, including policy development and implementation, instructional programs, assessment practices, procedures, and supervision.

District Objective A: To ensure curriculum and instruction are aligned, consistently delivered and continuously improved/enhanced.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
Examination of course content to ensure it is at an appropriately high level, and teaches students higher order thinking skills and includes individualization and personalization and academic supports for struggling students.	Principal Leadership Team Members	Professional Development School visits as needed	2022 - 2023	Revised curriculum documents, meeting agendas and minutes

School Improvement Plan

Joseph Case Junior High School

Swansea, Massachusetts

2022-2023

District Goal: Goal 1: Curriculum, Instruction and Evaluation: To develop and implement programs that ensure quality instruction, high expectations for all learners, and result in steadily improving student achievement. Student assessment results, local benchmarks, and other pertinent data are used to improve student achievement and to inform all aspects of decision-making, including policy development and implementation, instructional programs, assessment practices, procedures, and supervision.

District Objective A: To maintain and review curriculum in all subject areas, and grade levels, to ensure horizontal and vertical alignment with MA State Frameworks and Common Core Standards.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To implement i-Ready mathematics in all grades to provide students with differentiated instruction and supports to lead them to individual paths to success and provide greater alignment from the elementary to middle grades.	Principal Math Leadership Team Members	Professional development	2022 - 2023	Common assessment data MCAS Data

School Improvement Plan

Joseph Case Junior High School

Swansea, Massachusetts

2022-2023

District Goal: Goal 1: Curriculum, Instruction and Evaluation: To develop and implement programs that ensure quality instruction, high expectations for all learners, and result in steadily improving student achievement. Student assessment results, local benchmarks, and other pertinent data are used to improve student achievement and to inform all aspects of decision-making, including policy development and implementation, instructional programs, assessment practices, procedures, and supervision.

District Objective B: To promote and maintain the District’s mission, vision and core values to support teaching practices that embrace rigor, quality student engagement, and effective methods of personalization and communication.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To work with teachers to create a deep understanding of 21 st century skills and to model the skills that we want students to develop and to Integrate 21 st century skills into staff professional development as a precursor to growing these competencies in students.	Principal Leadership Team Teachers	Professional development	2022-2023	Family survey data Faculty/staff survey data

School Improvement Plan

Joseph Case Junior High School

Swansea, Massachusetts

2022-2023

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District Objective C: To continue to implement the MA Educator Evaluation System in order to comply with all state regulations and expectations to improve teaching and learning.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To provide teachers with specific feedback on observable evidence of effective practices, noting the impact of the teacher’s behavior on the students and to attend to the teacher’s stated needs or area of focus.	Principal Assistant principal	Evaluation training	2022 - 2023	Completed evaluations Survey data

School Improvement Plan

Joseph Case Junior High School

Swansea, Massachusetts

2022-2023

District Goal: Goal 2: Teacher Quality and Professional Development: To provide highly qualified professional development to staff and support staff who are capable of implementing the curriculum, remaining current in their content area knowledge, able to maximize instructional and school/district-based instructional technology, observe, learn and practice research-based instructional strategies and develop and practice effective classroom management skills. Staff will be capable of examining a variety of assessments and practicing use in the classroom and analyze the results to (1) understand and report on student achievement; (2) identify gaps in student learning; (3) adjust instruction and acquire knowledge of learning styles, needs, and abilities of students; (4) acquire knowledge and skills to develop, and foster the social, emotional, critical thinking, problem solving, literacy and technology skills that students will need for success in the 21st century. Staff will be knowledgeable of, and participate in, the educator evaluation process.

District Objective A: To provide research-based strategies across the District that align with DESE standards for highly qualified professional development.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To work with district level administration to provide educators with meaningful professional development that is: of sufficient duration, that actively engages participants, includes modeling and demonstrations, and focuses on discipline-specific content.	Principal Assistant principal Leadership team	Professional development funding	2022 - 2023	Documented professional development activities Survey data

Joseph Case Junior High School

Swansea, Massachusetts

2022-2023

District Goal: Goal 4: Student Support Programs and Services: To provide quality programs for all students that are comprehensive, accessible and rigorous. To support students and staff through District discipline and behavior policies and practices that address the needs of all students and include attendance policies to ensure students complete their education.

District Objective A: To create and maintain an environment in which students’ diverse backgrounds, identities, strengths and challenges are respected.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To provide resources for families in all subjects to assist them in supporting students outside of the school day.	Principal Leadership Team members	Access to materials to pass on to families.	2022-2023	Survey data

**Joseph Case Junior High School
Swansea, Massachusetts
2022-2023**

District Goal Goal 4: Student Support Programs and Services: To provide quality programs for all students that are comprehensive, accessible and rigorous. To support students and staff through District discipline and behavior policies and practices that address the needs of all students and include attendance policies to ensure students complete their education.

District Objective A: To create and maintain an environment in which students’ diverse backgrounds, identities, strengths and challenges are respected.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To conduct a comprehensive review of student discipline policies and practices to ensure equity and improve educational outcomes for all students and to make corresponding changes to our student handbook.	Assistant Principal Leadership Team	Professional development Resources for best practices	2022 - 2023	Discipline and attendance records Updated student handbook

**Joseph Case Junior High School
Swansea, Massachusetts
2022-2023**

District Goal Goal 4: Student Support Programs and Services: To provide quality programs for all students that are comprehensive, accessible and rigorous. To support students and staff through District discipline and behavior policies and practices that address the needs of all students and include attendance policies to ensure students complete their education.

District Objective D: To promote positive social and emotional learning and relationships between students, staff, and all members of our educational community.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
Implementation of a universal screening tool to identify students who may be at risk for poor learning outcomes, including academic, behavioral, social, emotional, school completion, and college and career readiness outcomes.	Principal School Counselors	Professional development	2022 - 2023	Screening results Discipline and attendance records Anecdotal notes from teachers

Joseph Case Junior High School Swansea, Massachusetts 2022-2023

District Goal Goal 5: Leadership, Governance and Communication: 1. To establish and maintain an administrative team that will continue to implement and continuously evaluate the cost effectiveness and efficiency of policies and procedures that are standards-based, focused on student achievement data, and designed to promote continuous improvement of instructional practice and a high achievement for all students. 2. To promote public confidence, financial commitment and community support by routinely communicating to the public leadership actions and decisions related to the attainment of District and School goals.

District Objective A: To foster a culture of shared leadership and decision making practices to enhance effective communication with all stakeholders.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To develop new and innovative ways to communicate our mission statement and core values to all stakeholders including information about how these items are used in our day to day practices.	Principal Assistant Principal	Literature on effective practices for use of mission statements	2022 - 2023	Survey data

Joseph Case Junior High School Swansea, Massachusetts 2021-2022

District Goal Goal 5: Leadership, Governance and Communication: 1. To establish and maintain an administrative team that will continue to implement and continuously evaluate the cost effectiveness and efficiency of policies and procedures that are standards-based, focused on student achievement data, and designed to promote continuous improvement of instructional practice and a high achievement for all students. 2. To promote public confidence, financial commitment and community support by routinely communicating to the public leadership actions and decisions related to the attainment of District and School goals.

District Objective A: To foster a culture of shared leadership and decision making practices to enhance effective communication with all stakeholders.

School Based Activities	Person Responsible	Resources	Timeline	Evaluation
To conduct an analysis of our open house and parent/teacher conferences to improve both of these events to maximize the impact of these events on communication and relationships with all stakeholders.	Principal Assistant Principal Leadership team	Meeting time	2022 - 2023	Revised schedules for open house and parent/teacher conferences

Ongoing School Improvement Activities

To increase diversity in our workforce by ensuring equity in the hiring process and identifying and removing potential biases in the screening and interviewing of qualified, diverse candidates.

To develop policies and procedures for one-to-one student computer use during the school day and to support teachers as they develop the necessary strategies and skills to make the most effective use of these devices.

Evaluation of learning space and environment to ensure that safe and appropriate school facilities support the work of educators and students to provide students and faculty with the best possible environment for teaching and learning.

Review of extracurricular activities and addition of new activities to appeal to students with diverse interests.

Department meeting time in all four core academic subjects with targeted discussions regarding differentiated instruction, writing across the curriculum, ways to engage struggling learners, and ideas to close the achievement gap.

Research and employ methods of helping students already at very high levels of functioning achieve even higher levels by facilitating their interaction with still more advanced peers or with instructors and by using advanced learning materials.

Professional development for regular education teachers regarding providing effective instruction, accommodations, and modifying the curriculum for students with special needs.

Professional Development presentation of effective strategies by principal, assistant principal, leadership team and faculty members based on identified interests and needs.

Develop innovative new ways to recognize, develop and promote our most talented educators. Documented recognition of accomplishments, exemplary work, and practice in fostering students' achievement, participation and growth.

Ensure vertically aligned curriculum in grade 8 to increase achievement and aid in student transition from grade eight to nine.

Behavior/SEL Team to analyze discipline and SEL data, identify areas of concern, provide support to teachers around implementing appropriate interventions, and establish methods for monitoring the interventions.

Ongoing discussions with our leadership team to analyze our schedule and investigate possible future changes to maximize time on learning.

Identify students chronically absent and mentor and support students to improve attendance.

Support from Administration, articles, tips, professional development opportunities, faculty meeting trainings related to data analysis and the use of item analysis and disaggregation to improve student achievement.

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Capital Improvement Projects

- Drop Ceilings, second floor
- Repair of cement steps, front of school

JOSEPH CASE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

2021-2022 School Report

In the 2021-2022 school year, Joseph Case Junior High School continues to meet the many challenges associated with education today. The administration, faculty, and staff of Joseph Case Junior High School continually provide opportunities for learning and improving student achievement while offering a safe, diverse and nurturing educational environment for all students. We seek to foster a growth mindset in our entire educational community.

The dedicated and highly qualified faculty and staff at Joseph Case Junior High School strive for excellence and are dedicated to providing the best possible learning experience for all students while ensuring 21st century readiness. Joseph Case Junior High School is a progressive junior high school of five-hundred students, forty-seven teachers, two guidance counselors, a school adjustment counselor, a school nurse, five paraprofessionals and three secretaries.

Meeting state standards and our goals for improvement continue to drive our curriculum and instruction. We continue to direct our remediation and intervention in all content areas to provide our students with every opportunity to be successful. We remain committed to addressing areas of concern and focusing our efforts towards continued improvement in all areas as we continue to implement the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks with continuous curriculum review.

The improvement of 21st century teaching and learning is the goal of our district and Joseph Case Junior High School. Our focus in professional development continues to be in the area of instructional strategies and instructional technology to achieve 21st century student outcomes. This school year, we have continued our focus on social and emotional learning (SEL) to help our students be successful in all aspects of life. This is more important than ever considering the challenges of the last two and a half school years. We are also working hard to improve our cultural proficiency to ensure equity for all members of our school community.

Our faculty remains committed to the learning and development of strategies and skills to incorporate instructional technology in the classroom. This year, our school has received tremendous support from the district in the area of instructional technology. Each of our students as well as our teachers has a dedicated Chrome Book for use throughout the day. Information, media, and technology skills are an important part of our global society and we strive to incorporate development of these skills into every lesson.

Our school continues to value our students' participation in extra-curricular activities and athletics. This has been a challenge this school year with the restrictions that have been placed on our school. Still, we have been able to offer many opportunities for student participation beyond the classroom. These activities provide our students with the opportunity to experience positive enrichment and growth after school hours and to develop socially, emotionally, and academically.

We are most proud of our school's designation by Special Olympics of Massachusetts as a Unified Champion School. This is due to our efforts to include all students in all aspects of our school. We have unified teams in bocce and basketball. Students with special needs participate in our leadership groups and we have an inclusive after school activity we call Case Cardinals Care.

At Joseph Case Junior High School, we believe in interacting with the community and recognize the importance of collaboration, cooperation, and communication between the school, the community, and parents. Our students continue to be involved in activities of community service and supporting the elderly and less fortunate of our community and abroad. Our National Junior Honor Society continues to engage in fundraising activities contributing to various community programs. For the fourteenth straight year, all members of our school community participated in our Thanksgiving Turkey Trot. Proceeds from this event were donated to the Bristol County Veterans' Association to assist them in their efforts to provide meals for veterans in need. This year we also held a very successful food drive in support of this organization as well. We are proud of the successes and achievements of our students, faculty and events at Joseph Case Junior High School.

We have learned a great deal from the many changes we have had to implement during the pandemic. This will help our school move forward and be a better place for students to learn and grow. We look forward to continued support for Joseph Case Junior High School in the future, which will enable us to continue to grow as a school and a community and prepare our students for the challenges of high school and beyond.