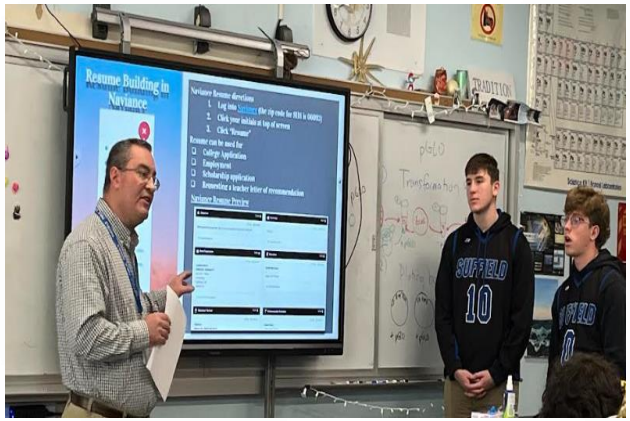
Curriculum and Instruction

2024-2025



Curriculum and Instruction 2023-2024 Program Highlights

- K-12 Science Instructional Coach – Increase in experiential learning and revision of science curriculum
- K-12 ELA, Math Instructional coaches continue to support teacher and administration in supporting curriculum development and align assessments to the curriculum.
- K-12 English Language (EL Program) - Reading Intervention Teachers, Academic Support, Classroom Teachers for 65 English Language students)
- K-12 Community Connections for continued growth (Veterans Day, Author, SEL assembly), Vertical meetings, Student Achievement meetings
- SHS American Government and Civics Textbooks and curriculum revision
- SHS Math Intervention Program – IXL Instructional Resource
- SHS Spanish Textbooks – Level 3
- SHS French Textbooks – Level 2
- SMS, MIS, AWS supplemental math resources – Freckle (adaptive program connected to STAR), Early numeracy screener
- SHS, SMS Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) consultant – Tier 1 instruction, Intervention Supports, Assessment alignment
- SHS, SMS School Counseling Department focus on Student Success Plans
- MIS Social Emotional Learning Program- Fly Five Instructional Resource

Curriculum and Instruction 2024-2025 Advancement Planning Initiatives

- Implement New Math Program 3-5 (Phase 1)
  - (Phase 2: Math 2025/2026 will include Grades K-2)
- Implement New Reading Program K-2 (Phase 1)
  - (Phase 2: Reading 2025/2026 will include Grades 3-5)
- Reading Interventionist to support Tier 3 students including Elementary EL students and Special Education students
- SHS New Textbooks:
  - Chemistry
  - AP Psychology
  - Modern World History

A. Ward Spaulding School

A. Ward Spaulding School
2023-2024
Program Highlights

- **Increase to 1.5 reading interventionists** this year. The additional support is targeted in servicing the 24 currently identified (English Language Learners (ELL) students with specific language acquisition instruction.
- **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) process** is continuing to identify, target and support struggling students. There are currently 23 tier 3 students in grades 1 and 2 who are receiving pull out support. Our focus this year is on tier 2 interventions both from a documentation aspect and a training/support aspect for classroom teachers.
- **Professional Learning Communities (PLC)** this year reviews and analyzes data and student outcomes regularly. Grade level teams set measurable goals, deliver targeted instruction, and adjust instructional strategies to meet the needs of all students. In addition to *Problems of Practice* that are shared during PLC, teachers are also completing peer observations and engaging all team members in a discussion about the instructional practices observed.
- **Instructional Coaches** continue their role in supporting curriculum development, modeling of appropriate instructional practices, providing resources, and implementing coaching cycles for teachers. They have been spearheading the collection of information pertaining to our exploration with reading and math curriculums. Their outreach to teachers is essential as we continue to move forward with the work at hand.

A. Ward Spaulding School 2024-2025 Advancement Planning Initiatives

- ## Implement a New Reading Program K-2
  - In response to the requirements associated with the Right to Read Act legislation that was recently passed, we will be implementing a CSDE approved curriculum. While we understand there is no one program that will meet all the needs of our students, we do believe that the recommended programs will allow us to meet the phonemic awareness required for acquisition of foundational reading skills. This will supplement the systems, structures and procedures we have been working on for comprehensive reading instruction.
- ## Increase 0.5 Reading Interventionist
  - The additional .5 reading interventionist for the 23-24 school year has been extremely beneficial in our ability to target our English Language Learners. We are also able to provide targeted pull out intervention support for our learners who are struggling to acquire foundational reading skills and strategies. We are not readily able to push in to model and support tier 2 interventions for teachers within the classroom. The additional .5 FTE would address this need. It is essential that the tier 1 and 2 interventions continue to be implemented with fidelity. The .5 increase would provide two full time reading interventionists to meet the needs of all of our youngest learners.

McAlister Intermediate School

McAlister Intermediate School 2023-2024 Program Highlights

- **Increase to 1.5 Reading Interventionists** this year. The ability to increase our service of students with tier 3 literacy needs and to provide specific, targeted, intensive intervention.

- **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)** process is continuing to identify, target and support struggling students. While we continue to provide targeted intervention for our tier 3 students our focus this year is on tier 2 interventions both from a documentation aspect and a training/support aspect for classroom teachers.

- **Professional Learning Communities (PLC)** this year reviews and analyzes data and student outcomes regularly. Grade level teams set measurable goals, deliver targeted instruction, and adjust instructional strategies to meet the needs of all students. In addition to Problems of Practice that are shared during PLC.

- **Instructional Coaches** continue their role in supporting curriculum development, modeling of appropriate instructional practices, providing resources, and implementing coaching cycles for teachers. They have been spearheading the collection of information pertaining to our exploration with reading and math curriculums.

- **Academic support realignment** to McAlister to focus on the increase in English Language learners. This position was previously shared across buildings. This year the 1.0 FTE supports 27 students identified with English language needs.

- **Installation of a fully accessible new playground.** Installation should begin by the end of January 2024.

McAlister Intermediate School 2024-2025 Advancement Planning Initiatives

Implement a New Math Program 3-5

- As part of the ongoing improvements in math instructional practices new math curriculum resources have been reviewed to determine a shift to a new mathematics program. The intent of this shift is to better align our resources with the math instruction and standards mastery. While we understand there is no one program that will meet all the needs of our students, we do believe that a move to a new program will better support our students and lead to improved student outcomes.

Increase 0.5 Reading Interventionist

- The additional .5 reading interventionist for the 23-24 school year has been extremely beneficial in our ability to target our most struggling readers in the five areas of reading. An additional increase of a .5 FTE would support diagnostic reading assessments and support our increase in English Language learners.

Suffield Middle School

Suffield Middle School 2023-2024 Program Highlights

- **New Core Team Model** in grades 7 & 8 – including a hybrid team of teachers that are teaching both grade-level curricula – and adjusted the middle school schedule to continue to meet program expectations.

- **Enhancements to Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS),** procedures, and practices that collect and analyze student data to identify areas of emphasis to increase student achievement of identified grade-level standards.

- **Established ways to consistently measuring teaching practices** that positively impact the level of student engagement in the Tier 1 classroom environment.

- **Strengthened the alignment of the written, taught, and learned curricula to better measure student growth and outcomes** towards identified grade-level standards.

Suffield Middle School
2024-2025
Advancement Planning Initiatives

- Continue the professional growth and support for SMS staff regarding assessment data analysis and data-driven decision making processes to better enable curricular and pedagogical adjustments to improve student achievement of identified grade-level standards.
  - Continue to assess and adjust instructional practices and programming to increase mathematical achievement for students in all three grades.
  - Expanding the collection of texts in our English Language Arts program – with an eye towards including more complex text material – which, in turn, should continue to strengthen our students' reading proficiency.
  - Utilizing the proposed additional academic support personnel to increase the positive impact of differentiated levels of support for students in the ELA/Mathematics classrooms.

- Continue to enhance MTSS systems, procedures, and practices that collect and analyze student data to identify areas of emphasis to increase student achievement.
  - Strengthen the various student transitions into (6th-grade) and out of (8th-grade) the middle school by fostering further collaboration with sending (MIS) and receiving (SHS) schools.
  - Expand our precise problem-solving practices to advance learning opportunities for our staff and students.

- The continued evaluation and potential adjustment of our current middle school programming in the fine arts and unified arts courses. Planning to differentiate course offerings for next year's 8th-grade students – which will better align with course offerings within the various departments at Suffield High School.

- The continuation of the process of enhancing the work of our middle school Student Support Team to meet the ever-growing social and emotional needs of our students.

Suffield High School

Suffield High School 2023-2024 Program Highlights

- **FTE Alignment and Scheduling** to allow for frequent and consistent common planning time for all departments, curriculum writing, revision of curriculum aligned to State Framework requirements, collaboration with special education case manager, and data analysis to inform Tier 1 & 2 instructional shifts.

- **Programming to support a wide-range of defined pathways** including career, AgriScience and technical, college experiences and internship opportunities appealing to the diverse needs of our school population.

- **100% of AgriScience students met the SAE/FFA/Community Service program requirements** and were active members of the National FFA, courses expanded to all SHS students.

- **In the 2022-2023 school year, there were 15 Advanced Placement courses**. In total, students took 315 Advanced Placement and Early College Experience course taken in 2022-2023.

- **Transition Coordinator programming** led over 66 work skills outings, 18 independent living outings, the Fall and Spring Transition Fairs, the Post-Secondary training programs and Trade Expo. There were over 31 senior planning meetings and 14 junior planning meetings to prepare students for their post-graduate plans.

Suffield High School
2024-2025
Advancement Planning Initiatives

- **Improve targeted use of Tier 1 instructional strategies to improve student outcomes (SEL/ Academic).**
  - Math intervention and iXL allowed for targeted Tier2 support for students lagging pre-requisite math skills.

- **Utilization of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)** to identify three problems of practice related to student success and develop plans (instructional shifts) to support student growth as measured by SMART Goals and reported out at school-wide achievement meetings.
  - 8.2% increase in NGSS scores of students earning level 3 or higher through targeted instruction aligned to NGSS Standards.

- **Enhance our systems (drop-ins) that address student engagement (increased opportunities to respond) to improve student outcomes.**
  - Partnership with EASTCONN to analyze trends observed in classrooms focused on increased student engagement aligned to increased opportunities to respond and improved attendance.

Athletics and Student Activities

Athletics & Student Activities 2023-2024 Program Highlights

Athletics

- Multiple Conference Championships
- Multiple All League, All State and All New England Athletes
- Varsity Girls Soccer in State Championships
- SMS Girls Soccer CRAL League Quarter Finals

Clubs and Activities Key Highlights

- Resurrection of SMS & SHS Ski Club
- Increased participation in multiple clubs and activities
- Addition of clubs at SMS and SHS
- Formalized Clubs and Activities Handbook for Advisors, Parents and Students

Athletic Program Objectives 2024-2025

- **Continued partnership with OT Sports** (formerly known as Hosiery Center of the South) in the rebranding of Athletic uniforms.
- **Establishment of engraved brick and paver fundraiser** to support large scale improvements to facilities.
- **Research and submission of multiple grants** to improve the overall athletic department.
- **Continued implementation of Suffield High School and League Sportsmanship Committee.**
- **Establishment of multiple ways to highlight and promote Middle School Athletics in the School and Community.**

Athletic Participation

- Sports Teams
  - SMS - 10 programs
  - SHS - 40 programs
- Athletes
  - SMS - 239 total
  - SHS - 386 total

Clubs and Activities Program Objectives 2024-2025

- **Continue to research new and innovative clubs and activities based on interests of students.**
- **Increase promotion of current clubs and activities** through social media and school publications
- **Continued support of Advisors** on how to improve the overall achievement, engagement, and success of clubs and activities

Clubs and Activities Participation

Clubs & Participants

* MIS
  * 4 clubs
  * 200 participants
* SMS
  * 11 clubs
  * 158 participants
* SHS
  * 29 clubs
  * 487 participants

Athletics and Student Activities 2024-2025 Advancement Planning Initiatives

- **Fall 2023 Athletic Awards**
  - 21 All NCCC athletes
  - 10 All State athletes
  - 1 All New England
- **Fall 2023 League All Academic Awards**
  - 93 Varsity Athletes with a GPA above 88%
- **Resurrection of the SMS & SHS Ski Club**
  - 72 Students & 27 Volunteers
- **Added 3 new clubs to list of 45 clubs/activities**