



Student Opportunity Act

Cohasset Public Schools Plan 2024-2027

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Student Opportunity Act (SOA)

- Enacted by the State of Massachusetts in 2019
- Reduce the achievement gap
- Target specific subgroup
- Evidence-based practices
- Create ambitious 3-year targets



Current SOA

- Targeted sub-group: Students with special needs
 - Students determined to have a Specific Learning Disability (SLD) in the upper grades
 - Lower ELA MCAS scores and growth
- Evidenced-based program identified by DESE: Research-based early literacy programs in pre-kindergarten and early elementary grades
- School: Joseph Osgood Elementary
- Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS): Targeted instruction in foundational reading skills, specific intervention on targeted skills based on need, progress monitoring

Progress from Current SOA

- Improved data systems to inform teaching and learning
- Unified MTSS process
- Professional development on literacy instruction and intervention practices
- Implementation of evidence based literacy tools and assessment tools
- Added staffing
 - .5 reading and math specialists at each elementary school
 - Full time Special Education Reading Teacher at Deer Hill Elementary School
 - Full time interventionist in both reading and math at the middle school
- Training for general education and special education teachers designed to enhance instructional practices in a push-in model

Glows and Grows

- Reduced performance gap between all students and students with disabilities in grades 3-5
- Implemented practices designed to better meet the needs of individual students
- Percentage of all students meeting and exceeding expectations improves with each grade in both ELA and math
- Gaps in ELA and math persist in grades 3-8

Proposed SOA Target:

Reduce the Reading and Math Achievement Gap
for Students with Disabilities

Proposed SOA Strategic Objective 2:

Promote deeper learning so that all students engage in grade-level work that is real-world, relevant, and interactive

1. **Select and skillfully implement high-quality and engaging instructional materials that support culturally and linguistically sustaining practices and foster deeper learning**
 - **Comprehensive Approach to Early Literacy:** Develop and implement a comprehensive approach to early literacy education that is supported by high-quality literacy core curricular materials that encompass foundational skills

Proposed SOA Strategic Objectives

2. Use the MTSS process to implement academic supports and interventions that provide all students, particularly students with disabilities and multilingual learners, equitable access to deeper learning

- **High Leverage Practices for Students with Disabilities:** Train all staff in high-leverage instructional practices designed for students with disabilities. (e.g., providing scaffolded supports, explicit instruction, flexible grouping, and adapting curriculum and tasks based on students' specific learning goals)
- **Collaborative Teaching Models:** Develop or expand co-teaching and other evidence-based models that leverage collaboration to best-serve students with disabilities and multilingual learners

Cohasset SOA Plan

- Target Schools: Osgood, Deer Hill, Middle School
- Evidenced-based intervention programs in math and literacy
- Refine our systems using data to inform teaching and learning
- MTSS - continue to improve upon the process with district and building based data teams
- Expand co-teaching into grades 3-5
- Create data analysis and dialogue protocols
- Conduct an assessment audit

Literacy and Math Intervention K-8 Plan

- Explore, pilot, implement tier 1 and tier 2 intervention programs
- Investigate intensive Tier 3 math intervention programs
- Provide professional development for all staff on interventions
- Provide coaching for math specialists, reading specialists, and special education teachers
- Conduct assessment audit
- Continue to develop data teams and data dialogue protocols in Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

Monitoring Success of Outcome

- DESE Outcome Metrics:
 - MCAS Student Achievement: ELA and Math
 - MCAS Student Growth: ELA and Math mean student growth percentile (SGP)
- Custom District Metric:
 - DIBELS 8 Edition (K-5)
 - i-Ready Diagnostic in math and reading (K-8)
 - i-Ready My Path Personalized Learning (K-5)
 - Forefront data tools for math (K-5)

Stakeholder Engagement

- SOA plan will be shared with:
 - School Committee (March 27)
 - SEPAC (March)
 - Teachers (March, April)
 - School Council (April and May)
 - PSO (April and May)
- Yearly survey to assess SOA plan (target families, teachers, administrators)
- Instructional Leadership Team for Literacy will reconvene to create learning walk look fors for elementary literacy
- Create Instructional Leadership Team to create look fors for math K-8

Next Steps

- The SOA requires that the School Committee vote to approve the Cohasset SOA
- Approved plan will be shared with SEPAC, JOS, DHS, CMS School Councils, and PSOs
- SOA plan must be submitted to DESE by April 1, 2024 for review and approval