

*Plains Elementary School
School Improvement Plan
2024-2026*



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Executive Summary

Plains Elementary School serves the youngest children in South Hadley. It is an integrated pre-school comprised of four classrooms, six full day kindergarten classrooms and six first grade classrooms. The current enrollment is 310 children. All teaching faculty are Highly Qualified by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and certified.

The following information is an overview of Plains School's current demographic:

African American	1.5%
Asian	2.6%
Economically Disadvantaged	35.8%
English Language Learners	3.8%
Hispanic	18.5%
Multi-race / Non-Hispanic	6.4%
Native American	0.8%
Students at Risk	52.8%
Students with Disabilities	31.7%
White	70.2%

Source: MA DESE profile (2022-2023 School Year data)

Mission Statement

Plains Elementary is a safe and peaceful place where all children have the opportunity to learn. It provides a nurturing environment where students are safe, well cared for and respected by all. Our school-wide philosophy is characterized by a strong belief that our students feel supported in order to access content to thrive in the classroom and in life.

Core Values

We believe:

- In promoting excellence in education. We are committed to providing the necessary tools and level of challenge to ensure that each student achieves high standards and is prepared to meet the challenges of lifelong learning.
- In recognizing student achievement with the expectation that each student will use the resources available and strive to reach grade level standards and beyond.
- In a cooperative, responsive community, marked by the realization and respect of individual differences. All members of the Plains School community will exhibit respect for themselves and clothes by demonstrating tolerance through what they say and do.
- In providing a safe environment which nurtures respect, curiosity, dignity and self-worth for each individual.

The main pillars of focus: English Language Arts (ELA), Mathematics, Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and Content Integration.

ELA

Plains School continues to focus on English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum alignment with the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks / Common Core State Standards with a science of reading lens. It will be the second year using ***UFLI (University of Florida Literacy Initiative)*** which focuses on explicit and systematic phonics instruction.

Math

Plains School is going to focus on the Mathematics curriculum. This School Improvement Plan will focus on the new math series ***Illustrative Math*** and Standards for Mathematical Practice (SMP) which describe expertise that mathematical educators at all levels should seek to develop in their students. The primary focus will be Number sense and operations; Measurement and Data; Geometry; and Statistics and Probability.

Social Emotional Learning

The new program ***Sown to Grow*** will be implemented this year district wide. There will also be a focus on the ***Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center (MARC)*** resources available to staff which offer anti-bullying programs to all schools in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at no cost.

School Wide Goals:

Goal #1 - Curriculum, Instruction and Data: Plains Elementary School will enable students to think deeply, make meaning for themselves and become aware of their own learning processes.

Objectives	Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Timeline
A - To increase student achievement in English Language Arts. 80% of students will be on grade level. 70% of Multilingual Language Learners (ML) will be on grade level.	1. To participate in district wide professional development. 2. Participate in grade level PLC's. 3. UFLI - next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● District Administration● Principal / Assistant Principal● Teachers● Paraprofessionals ● Principal / Assistant Principal● Teachers ● Principal / Assistant	9/2024 - 6/2026

	<p>4. Review district scope and sequence.</p> <p>5. Create cross grade collaboration; i.e., reading buddies.</p> <p>6. i-Ready Reading program next steps</p> <p>7. Review and utilize Tier 1 targeted supports.</p> <p>8. MTSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal • ELA Coach • Reading Specialists • District ELA Team • ELA Coach <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal / Assistant Principal • ELA Coach • Teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District ELA team • District Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Administration • Principal / Assistant Principal • Teachers • Paraprofessionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal / Assistant Principal • ELA Coach • ELA Interventionists • Data Team <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principal / Assistant Principal • ELA Coach • ELA Interventionists • Data Team 	
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	<p>9. Foster data cycle conversations through the use of assessments, collaboration and instructional support.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● ELA Coach ● ELA Interventionist 	
<p>B - To increase student achievement in mathematics.</p> <p><i>Illustrative Math</i> will be implemented in Kindergarten and Grade 1.</p> <p>Students will show academic growth as evidenced by end of the year building assessments - 100% of students will make gains.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participate in professional development for <i>Illustrative Math</i>. 2. Participate in grade level PLC's. 3. Review district scope and sequence. 4. Analyze and review math data. 5. i-Ready Math program - next steps 6. Review and utilize Tier 1 targeted supports. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Central office staff ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● ELA Coach ● District Administration ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals ● Principal / Assistant 	<p>9/2024 - 6/2026</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principal ● Teachers ● Math Coach 	
	7. Establish a new math PLC calendar for teachers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Math Coach ● Principal / Assistant Principal 	
C - 100% of special education and general education teachers will implement and write education plans to each student's needs, ensuring compliance with legal requirements, and tracking progress meticulously during the 2024-2025 school year.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. August PD on new IEP. 2. Staff meetings to focus on writing new IEPs. 3. Crossover of current IEPs to new IEPs. 4. Current data will be supplied at all meetings - SAT, IEP, annuals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Director of Student Services ● Teachers 	8/2024 - 6/2026
D - MTSS - To increase building wide knowledge of MTSS. To provide students with access to multiple tiers of support as needed.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MTSS - whole systems approach: A - all can have flexible minds; B - belong to the whole building; and C - can do this. 2. Interventionists in ELA and Math as Tier II as well as Tier III. 3. Interventions used to benefit student's academic, social and behavioral outcomes. 4. Improve instruction and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● District Vertical Teams ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals 	9/2024 - 6/2026

	<p>curriculum alignment across the school, both general and special education.</p> <p>5. Continue to enhance Tier I instruction at all levels, including the active use of DCAP to assist Tier I learning objectives for all students.</p>		
E - To increase English proficiency of one grade level for 100% of our Multilingual Language Learner (ML) students.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Professional development of instructional rounds in ELA classrooms. 2. Differentiation of instruction and assessments for all students. 3. Use of sentence frames and all SEI strategies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Instructional coaches ● EL teacher ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals 	9/2024 - 6/2026
F - To implement a new Standards Based Report Card during the 2024-2025 School Year.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish District-wide Standards Based Report Card Committee (SBRCC). 2. Create a new report card that is aligned between the two elementary schools. 3. Decide on conferences and report card dates. 4. Roll out of new report card: December 2024. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers 	8/2024 - 6/2025
G - To continue to implement and support revised curriculum and related pedagogical practices to support	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide professional development in the use of curriculum guides and instructional tools. 2. Integrate contemporary best practices in pedagogy into development at building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● ELA Coach ● Math Coach ● ELA interventionist ● Math 	8/2024 - 6/2025

frameworks aligned to curriculum and instruction.	level with ELA and Math coaching.	interventionist	
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Goal #2 - School Community Social Emotional Health and Wellness: Plains Elementary School will continue to foster constructive school and district wide partnerships for the purposes of enriching the learning environment for students.

A - To improve and sustain communication and engagement with families and the community at large.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inform families of building happenings / Class Dojo for all. 2. Sown to Grow implementation 3. School community participates in a meaningful, local charitable endeavor. 4. Math/ELA literacy nights where families engage with academic work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Support staff ● Parents ● District Mental Health Coordinator ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● School Adjustment Counselor ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals 	9/2024 - 6/2026
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Embrace and cultivate the belief that all are committed to initiating and supporting policies, practices and pedagogies that promote social justice, diversity and inclusion. 6. Portrait of a graduate - first phase: setting committee, picking guiding words and formatting. (Including topics like academics, respect for human differences, caring, mental health.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● PTA Teacher Representative ● PTA President ● District Administration ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals ● Community members 	
<p>B - Intervention Systems - Sown to Grow</p> <p>By the end of the year, 100% of students increase their understanding and appreciation for diverse perspectives and cultures by providing targeted instruction and opportunities for discussion and reflection.</p> <p>The end goal of this implementation of a dedicated 30 minutes per week SEL</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. August professional development training 2. Sown to Grow training 3. MARC training 4. Student assessments 5. Feedback from students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Director of Mental Health Services ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● ETAs / paraprofessionals 	<p>9/2024 - 6/2026</p>

<p>activity helping to improve mood and behavior by the end of the school year.</p>			
<p>C - DEIB goal</p> <p>To increase the knowledge of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging to meet the needs of students in order to strengthen a sense of belonging of all staff and students.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Attend district's DEIB committee meetings and bring them to the building level. 2. Activities offered by PTA will be chosen with a DEIB lens. 3. Survey students at the beginning of the year and at the end of the year on feelings of inclusivity at Plains. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Director of Mental Health Services ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● ETAs / paraprofessionals ● PTA president 	<p>9/2024 - 6/2026</p>

Goal #3 - Improved Special Education and General Education Alignment: Plains Elementary School will empower students to become healthy active participants in their community.

<p>To improve the social and emotional wellbeing for all students. 96% of students will feel positive about Plains School and enjoy coming each day.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reinforce trauma informed teaching practices so that staff can respond to those impacted by traumatic stress. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals 	<p>9/2024 - 6/2026</p>
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	<p>2. CPI training</p> <p>3. Collaboration with South Hadley High School with new music in schools.</p> <p>4. Conversations about Project Based Learning (PBL).</p> <p>5. Provide support for social and emotional learning for all students.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Teachers ● Paraprofessionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principals / Assistant Principals at SHHS and Plains ● Teachers at SHHS and Plains <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● Teachers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Administration ● Principal / Assistant Principal ● SAC ● Teachers 	
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