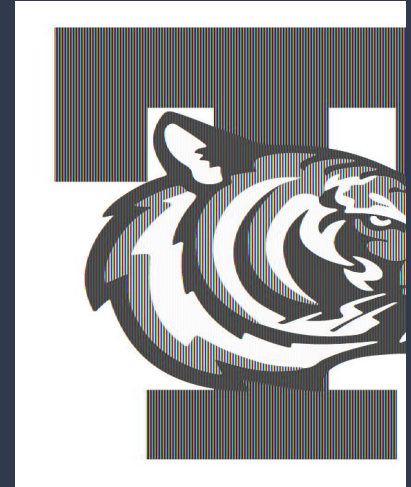


Tewksbury Township School District

Strategic Planning (2024-2029) Year 1 Review

Presented by: Dr. Shouffler
May 14, 2025



A Vision for our School District



Overview by

**Superintendent,
Dr. Jennifer Shouffler**

Three Goals

Goal 1 (Student Learning): To develop an environment that promotes creative and independent thinking with a focus on academic excellence and the arts; that is also adaptable to each student.

Goal 2 (Finance and Facilities): To create a financial framework so that the school district is fiscally responsible while supporting learning environments.

Goal 3 (Student Environment): To create a welcoming and supportive learning environment to foster a lifelong love of learning for all students; This includes robust connections to their school and wider community.



Goal 1– Objective 1a



1a. Create an environment of teacher excellence through effective professional development

- Create and sustain partnerships with educational experts to support best practices for teaching and learning in the area of literacy
 - Updated Reading Action Plan to guide professional learning, resources, and instruction.
 - Held 10 in-school workshops with Rutgers Reading Coach and K-4 teachers.
 - Coaching Topics Included: Multi-tiered System of Support, strategies for skilled-based groups, progress monitoring and data, intervention strategies for diverse learners
 - K-8 Teachers attended 17 out-of-district workshops to support Literacy skills and turn-keyed learning. Topics included: Science of Reading, Dyslexia, Language in PRe-K, Essay Writing, Phonics, and Small Group Instruction
 - Held April workshop for Grade 5-8 teachers on Student Engagement and Literacy with Reading Coach.

Goal 1– Objective 1a



1a. Create an environment of teacher excellence through effective professional development

- Improve strategies for teaching in inclusion classrooms
 - Held workshop in March for *all* teachers to learn how to improve classroom inclusion strategies with expert consultant.
 - Several K-8 Teachers attended four out-of-district workshops on the topics of co-teaching, intervention, inclusion strategies, and AI tools for inclusion.
 - Administrators observed all co-teaching partners throughout the district and collected data to determine areas of strengths and areas for growth. Analysis of data completed and discussed at May administrators meeting. This data will guide professional learning planned for Year 2.
 - Held professional learning for paraprofessionals: Workshop led by Behaviorist in February, Supervisor led workshop on Inclusion, and Out-of-district workshops.
 - Special Education Supervisor led workshop for all K-8 educators on the topic of ‘Student Self-Advocacy’

Goal 1– Objective 1a



1a. Create an environment of teacher excellence through effective professional development

- Support teachers in effective Professional Learning Communities to improve learning through targeted goals
 - Held several meetings with all K-8 educators in September and October to review student achievement data from NJSLA and AimsWeb
 - Superintendent presented to all educators in October on engaging in effective PLCs.
 - Organized PLC teams and collected goals sheets focused on improving student learning PK-8.
 - Held 7 monthly after-school PLC meetings this year. Administrators and Teacher-leaders facilitated.
 - Teachers worked on AI connections for supporting special needs students and attended an out-of-district workshop in October on the topic.
 - Topics included: Grade 1 Improving Subtraction through Problem-solving (Lesson Study), K-4 Special Education Co-teaching, Middle School Civics, Early Reading Skills
 - Purchased resources for teachers: NJSLA workbooks for Math and ELA Grades 5-8, Classroom books, Math Manipulatives.
 - Grade 1 teachers engaged in a full implementation of Lesson Study with two observed classroom research lessons, invited K teachers to observe and discuss lesson. Process supported by outside expert.
 - Teachers presented PLC outcomes to colleagues in May.
 - Surveyed all teachers after workshops to assess engagement. Received significant positive feedback from this year's professional learning initiatives.

Goal 1- Objective 1b

1b. Maintain small class sizes throughout the district

- Added Grade 1 Section for the 2024-2025 school year to reduce class size in early grades.
- Reviewed class-size as related to 2024-25 and 2025-26 Budget.
- Made recommendations based on budget needs and the goal for small class size.
- Enrollment reports shared with BOE each month.



Goal 1– Objective 1c

1c. Encourage supportive parent-teacher communication

- Spoke with teachers on opening day meeting, at monthly faculty meetings, and communicated in emails the importance of responding to parents within 24 hours. No concerns about teacher communication received this school year.
- Superintendent met with all grade-level teams in September to discuss need for effective parent communication. Reviewed teachers' strategies and encouraged new ideas for communication.
- Teachers sent grade-level and content area newsletters, videos, and Padlets to parents.
- Implemented Monthly Parent Newsletter from the CST department.
- Refined the Monthly Newsletters from District, TES, and OTS
 - Added information from Grade-level teams and Departments in School Newsletters
- Refined twice-monthly reminder Cards from TES and OTS
- Regularly used OTS Sign, Weekly Virtual Backpack Reminder, and Facebook posts to highlight school happenings and events.
- Created grade-level and bus groups in Realtime to target communication alerts when needed.
- Explored 'Remind App' and discussed with Administrators/Teachers at meetings- determined that tool was cost-prohibitive and repetitive with our *Realtime* Alerts.
- Implemented new process to communicate information about OTS clubs/sports to parents- Announcement made to students if there are changes, emails and phone calls home when meetings are cancelled.
- Surveyed parents of students with an IEP- reviewed feedback at SEPAC meeting
- Added "Paws-itive Referrals" at TES to encourage communication on positive student behavior to parents from teachers.

Goal 1- Objective 2



Support content area and grade-level articulation to encourage consistency and coherence implementation of curriculum and pedagogical strategies between and among grades

- Articulation Meetings (Increase amount of time and improve the quality)
- Support a shared vision for teacher teams to implement a coherent and cohesive curriculum across the grades and through the grades
 - Summer Curriculum Projects completed: Updated K-8 Mathematics and ELA, Math and ELA Aspire, OTS STEM
 - Monthly Curriculum meetings held. Topics: Curriculum Updates, Hands-on Learning, Student Achievement.
 - Superintendent held grade-level meetings in Fall with all K-8 teachers to discuss: communication with parents, Aspire, ASAP, Capstone Projects, civics connections, and benchmark assessments
 - Imbedded extended articulation meeting time during PD Days on 8/26-27, 2/26, 3/10, and 4/28
 - Half-day of articulation in October with all grade-level teachers from Voorhees/NH connected schools
 - Half-day of articulation in October for all middle school and Voorhees H.S. teachers from same department.
 - Added OTS articulation meeting time for Math, ELA, SS, Special Ed., and Science departments in December, February, and April with sub-coverage to discuss curriculum, hands-on learning, and gifted education.
 - Added TES grade-level articulation time during the day for grades K-2 in November/December and grades 3-4 meetings in February and March to discuss lesson planning and to observe peers.
 - Added additional articulation meetings after-school through Curriculum Meeting time.
 - Covered educators to meet when needed: Grade 1 team on PLC, Teachers observed a demonstration lesson in January, Art teachers from both school in fall, and several meetings for counselors and nurses.
 - Implemented "Power-hour" with K-4 teams and Librarian to discuss literacy and books.
 - Held two grade 4 and 5 articulation meetings in February and April, along with special education teachers, to plan for student transition.
 - Organized articulation among Grades 3-8 teachers of science in April.
 - Led articulation for ELA teachers in April to discuss changes to the ELA Aspire program.

Goal 1– Objective 3



Develop robust experiential learning programs that expose students to applied skills, encourage artistic development, and civic awareness.

- Create opportunities for students to learn applied skills through programs, field trips, and assemblies
 - Revised Field Trip Approval Form lining trips to curriculum.
 - Reviewed Field Trips with BOE in Fall and Spring.
 - OTS: Grade 5 Bronx Zoo (math skills) and Biztown (financial literacy); Grade 6 Camp Bernie (team building) and Museum of Natural History (science); Grade 7 Camp Mason (character education); Grade 8 DC Trip (social studies/civics), Mykee Fowlin Assembly (anti-bullying), Broadway Show (arts)
 - TES: Grade K Police Station (civics) and Farm (science and history); Grade 1 Planetarium (science) and Play (ELA); Grade 2 farm (economics and environment) and Morris Museum (inventions); Grade 3 MPAC Science (physics) and Farm (ecosystems); Grade 4 MPAC (physics), Bears (science) and Nature Walk at Park (science)
 - Implemented grade 2 invention residency- “Bricks for Kids”
 - Held grade 2 and 5 Science Residency - “Our Changing Earth”
 - Piloted the OTS ‘Inspiration Cafe’: Presenters- Rower in the Olympics and Hunterdon Mayor.
 - Held the TES “Great Kindness Challenge” with several activities.
 - Several field trips for students with an IEP to support applied skills. Such as the Lifetown trip, Shoprite, Diner, Oakwood Lanes, and Mane Stream.

Goal 1– Objective 3



Develop robust experiential learning programs that expose students to applied skills, encourage artistic development, and civic awareness.

- Provide Field Trips, Assemblies, and partnerships that expose students to the arts
 - Held student art shows at Whittemore in January, at Tewksbury Library in Spring, Hunterdon Art Museum, and TES in Spring
 - Implemented Poet in Residence for grade 3 in March
 - Implemented TES Mural with student engagement with the artist and process
 - Improved displays of student artwork in each school
 - Participated in Hunterdon Teen Arts show in April
 - Presented an active OTS Art Club with Art Show in May
 - Welcomed visiting artists: TES (Ellen Siegel) and OTS (Janet Wadler)
 - Artist visited Grade 7 in December from *Young Audiences: Arts for Learning-* Poems, Collage, and Connection to the Holocaust
 - Added Fall Theater Club at OTS with a December performance for grade 5 students
 - Added Theater Club at TES

Goal 1– Objective 3



Develop robust experiential learning programs that expose students to applied skills, encourage artistic development, and civic awareness.

- Offer opportunities for students to expand their civic awareness through classroom experiences and programs
 - Held workshop for Grades 2-4 teachers on Civic standards in February
 - Grade 4 participated in Service Learning Projects- The Pajama Project, Pennies for Patients, Food Drive
 - Held December Giving Tree for Women's Shelter
 - Held Fall team-time meetings with K-6 Teachers to discuss Civics connections in the curriculum
 - Grade 7 and 8 social studies teachers met in December to discuss Civics opportunities: ex/ Exploring Spring Flag Ceremony
 - Social Studies Teacher attended workshops to become a *Civically Engaged School*
 - Attended the Grade 5 *Biztown (Junior Achievement)* Field Trip in February: lessons on entrepreneurship, running a business, and financial literacy
 - Met throughout the year to make plans for grade 7 social studies curriculum update and civics related capstone for all seventh grade students
 - Grade 7 students attended Camp Mason field trip with civics connections
 - Held articulation meeting for K-8 teachers to discuss civics in the curriculum

Goal 1- Objective 4

Ensure that the child study team has the necessary staffing and resources to create the best environment possible for this community of learners.

Review staff and student data for special education programs and address areas of need

- Collected data and created chart on special education staff and students
- Added Special Educator for TES in 2024-25
- Added Two Sections of Special Education support at OTS in 2024-25
- Added One paraeducator at TES to support student needs in 2024-2025
- Evaluation of Program completed by Interim Supervisor
- Supervisor presented on special education program to BOE in February
- Administration reviewed staffing for 2025-2026
- Administered Special Education survey of parents in February and shared results at SEPAC



Goal 1- Objective 4



Ensure that the child study team has the necessary staffing and resources to create the best environment possible for this community of learners.

- Improve inclusion practices across the district
 - All teachers attend a workshop on how to improve classroom inclusion strategies with expert consultant in March
 - Seven K-8 Teachers attended out-of-district workshops on co-teaching and inclusion strategies
 - Administrators observed co-teaching throughout the district and collected data to determine areas of strengths and areas for growth. This will guide professional learning planned for Year 2
 - Held professional learning for paraprofessionals: March Workshop led by Behaviorist, Out-of-district workshops
 - Held de-escalation Training in November for Teachers and Paraprofessionals
 - Surveyed special educators in Fall on professional learning needs and supported those needs

Goal 1– Objective 4

Ensure that the child study team has the necessary staffing and resources to create the best environment possible for this community of learners.

- Improve and expand the Community-Based Instruction Program at OTS
 - Meetings held with MD Teacher and Paraeducators to brainstorm ideas
 - Met with OTS kitchen staff to create opportunity for students
 - Hired aides to help student participation in Sports and Clubs
 - Sold Halloween Treats and continue to explore other life skills opportunities
 - Organized field trips out of district
 - Supervisor met with unified sports representatives to plan for K-8 implementation of program in the fall
 - Implemented a “recreational sports” spring club to pilot interest in a unified sports program
 - CEP plan included review of inclusion data in after-school clubs



Goal 1– Objective 5



Support the academic and social emotional needs of gifted students through identification and Resources to ensure that these students are learning in an environment and at a pace that encourages them, understands their unique neurological profile, and aligns with their cognitive abilities per NJ law.

- Provide teachers with professional learning and resources to support gifted education and neurodevelopmental teaching strategies
 - Resources purchased: Art supplies, Advanced Novels, Math Problems Solving books
 - TES Aspire attended the Gifted and Talented Conference in April
 - OTS Aspire Teachers attended workshops to improve skills: Math Practices in Action and Engagement in the Writing Process
 - Analysis of Student Data completed and shared with teachers

Goal 1- Objective 5



Support the academic and social emotional needs of gifted students through identification and Resources to ensure that these students are learning in an environment and at a pace that encourages them, understands their unique neurological profile, and aligns with their cognitive abilities per NJ law.

- Strengthen opportunities for students seeking challenges in the area of mathematics
 - Updated Math Aspire curriculum in the summer 2024
 - Implemented Grade 7 Math Honors for the 2024-2025 school year
 - Updated criteria for Aspire on Website
 - Updated process for parent/student waiver into the OTS Math Aspire program
 - Met with Grade 7 and 8 Math Teachers to review student placement at the end of MP1
 - TES Math Club and Math/Art Fusion Club
 - Ongoing meetings with teachers and administrators this year to review program

Goal 1- Objective 5



Support the academic and social emotional needs of gifted students through identification and Resources to ensure that these students are learning in an environment and at a pace that encourages them, understands their unique neurological profile, and aligns with their cognitive abilities per NJ law.

- Strengthen opportunities for students seeking challenges in the area of English Language Arts
 - Updated ELA Aspire curriculum in the summer 2024
 - Planned and Implemented Art and ELA connections in the Grades 2-6 curriculum
 - Updated Scheduling and Staffing of ELA Aspire courses at OTS
 - Met with ELA Teachers at OTS in Fall to discuss ways to encourage challenges in ELA
 - Encouraged ELA Aspire Teachers to connect with the ELA Honors Society program
 - OTS Teachers planned showcase of student work at a May Open House for families
 - TES Schoolwide Enrichment Program during recess time
 - Parent Meeting for Aspire held in January and Spring
 - Ongoing meetings with teachers and administrators this year to review program
 - April meeting with grades 5-8 ELA teachers to plan ELA Honors program for 2025-2026
 - Updates to grades 5-8 Math and ELA Aspire curriculum planned for summer 2025

Goal 1- Objective 6



Develop capstone programs and extra experiences (i.e., science fairs) at every grade-level.

- Provide students in Grade K-4 with capstone experiences that demonstrate learning in various content areas, align with curriculum, and allow for opportunities to share learning with others
 - Meetings held with teams in the Fall to plan 2025 Spring Capstone Projects,
 - Chart created aligning plans with learning goals/standards(NJSLS)
 - Grade K- Community Helper Day in March/April 2025 (civics connection)
 - Grade 1- Solarbration in late March 2025 (science/art connection)
 - Grade 2- Poetry Cafe in early May 2025 (writing/art connection)
 - Grade 3- Research Presentation in late March 2025 (literacy connection)
 - Grade 4- Science Fair in March 2025 (science connection)

Students, teachers, and parents found these capstone experiences worthwhile and enjoyable.

Goal 1– Objective 6

Develop capstone programs and extra experiences (i.e., science fairs) at every grade-level.

- Provide students in Grades 5-8 with culminating experiences that demonstrate learning in various content areas, align with curriculum, and allow for opportunities to share learning with others
 - Meeting held with teams in the Fall to plan Spring 2026 Capstone ideas
 - Chart created aligning plans with learning goals/standards(NJSLS)
 - Grade 5- Rising Fifth Graders Transition with penpals, buddies, lunchroom experience, and a visit (character education- piloted in May 2025)
 - Grade 6- Shark Tank Presentations (interdisciplinary)
 - Grade 7- Action Research (civics connections)
 - Grade 8- Washington DC Project and Presentation (interdisciplinary)

Goal 1- Objective 6

Develop capstone programs and extra experiences (i.e., science fairs) at every grade-level.

- Improve student experiences in the arts
 - Expanded supporting roles for students from grades 5-7 in Musical, Main for grade 8
 - New OTS Theater Club and TES Theater Club
 - Held Art shows in the community
 - Implemented TES art club and active OTS art club
 - Held Grade 4 Dance Artist in Residence
 - Created TES Rock Pond- Students painted rocks
 - Implemented Schoolwide Enrichment at TES- in the areas of Art, Music, Spanish, Library and STEM
 - Created TES Mural-Artist Connection for students
 - Planned TES art show with the PTA with ice cream social



Goal 2- Objective 1

Create outdoor learning spaces to enrich the physical learning environment and promote student learning.

- Plan and begin to refine inner courtyard space at OTS to encourage increased learning use
 - Completed summer 2024 with the help of the PTA-New planters and landscaping
 - Space is now used for: Grade 8 lunch courtyard privilege, Teacher meetings, Class Meetings
- Plan and begin to expand outdoor “Discovery Den” at TES
 - Planters and materials purchased
 - Met with PTA in September to enhance play area
 - Principal met with grade 3 students to get feedback and ideas for outdoor learning
 - Planting and structure completed Spring 2024
 - Students continued to use the Discovery Den for play during recess time, to work collaboratively with classmates to build structures.
 - Will hold a Spring meeting with staff/students/parents to plan for any additions
 - Received TES Garden Club grant and purchased items
 - Held March outdoor learning meeting at TES with PTA
- Research additional outdoor spaces at both schools
 - Superintendent visited other schools in September 2024
 - Proposal presented at several Referendum BOE Committee Meetings in the Fall
 - Added new playground equipment at TES with PTA grant



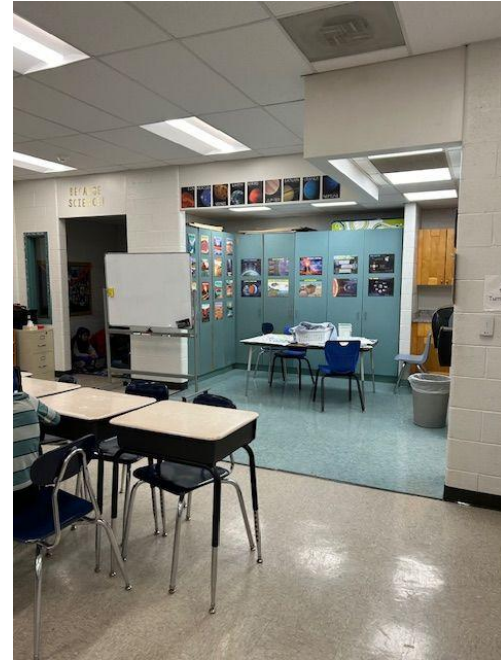
Thank you to Mr. Drew Madlinger, owner of Madlinger Exterior Design, and the Tewksbury PTA, for beautifying the outdoor courtyard at OTS. Ms. Zisk and Mr. Lovering are already enjoying an outdoor work session.



Goal 2- Objective 2

Upgrade our Art, Science, and Technology classrooms at OTS to support engaged learning and interdisciplinary connections.

- Make upgrades to OTS Art Room and Technology Room
 - OTS Kiln fixed and working
 - Meeting held with teachers, administrators, and architect in November
 - Meetings held with Referendum BOE Committee in Fall/Winter to discuss proposal
- Upgrade the 5th and 6th grade science classrooms
 - Met with teachers, administrators, and architect in November
 - Met with Referendum BOE Committee in Fall/Winter to discuss proposal
 - Administrators and teachers visited other schools planned in March (Readington, South Hunterdon, and Flemington)
 - Administration reviewed pictures of other schools with architect
 -



Goal 2- Objectives 4

Upgrade the OTS Stage, including the structure, audio, and lighting.

- Renovate the OTS All Purpose Room
 - Reviewed cost estimates from Architect in October
 - Refined quote in November
 - Met with Architect and BOE Referendum Committee on multiple times throughout the 2024-2025 school year
 - Visited Readington Middle School
 - Details on stage plans submitted to the NJDOE for referendum application



Goal 3- Objective 1

Expand enrichment and co-curricular programs to provide engagement with others, in-district and out-of-district.



- Enhance extracurricular experiences for all students
 - Collected data on current clubs and enrollment, shared with BOE in May
 - Increased communication to families on clubs in Newsletters and on Website
 - Met with teachers over the summer to plan clubs (Odyssey of the Mind and Model UN)
 - Added OTS and TES Theater Club and OTS presented a Play in December to students and parents
 - Added Model UN, Youth Government, and Lego Club at OTS
 - Attended OTS STEM Bridge Building competition against over schools in Hunterdon
 - Attended Enthusiastic Reader Competition against other schools
 - Student received Unsung Hero Award through Hunterdon County
 - Held OTS Spelling Bee in Spring
 - Administration met with PTA in the Fall to plan TES clubs
 - OTS Clubs: Odyssey of the Mind, Battle of the Books, Art, Gaming, Jewelry, Homework, Crafts, and Recreational Sports
 - TES Clubs: Odyssey of the Mind, Safety Patrol, Math, Art, Yearbook, Many PTA Clubs
 - OTS Sports: Ski Club, Softball, Baseball, Soccer, Basketball, Cheering, Track, Cross Country, Volleyball

Goal 3– Objective 1



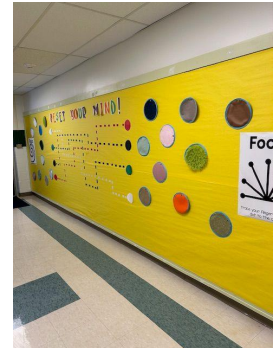
Expand enrichment and co-curricular programs to provide engagement with others, in-district and out-of-district.

- Enhance enrichment experiences for students within our current courses and programs
 - Added Math 7 Honors Course at OTS
 - Participating in the ELA Honors Society through Aspire
 - Increased support for Grade K and 1 Aspire with additional help from Art Teacher
 - Furthered the Schoolwide Enrichment Program at TES with: Sewing Fun, Bucket Drumming, Canva Basics, Painting game, Paper Stained Glass making
 - Implemented Inspiration Cafe at OTS: First presenter was a rower at the Olympics and second presenter for a Hunterdon Mayor

Goal 3– Objective 2

Expand flexible learning environments to include seating, visual aids, and upgrades to educational Technology.

- Create sensory environments at both schools
 - Completed Sensory Wall at OTS and is used by students often
 - TES' Sensory Walk is used daily
 - Created TES Sensory Room and planned for OTS room for 2025-12026
- Create flexible seating and student/staff workspaces at TES and OTS
 - Updated OTS World Language room with new desks and chairs
 - Updated Grade 7 ELA room with new desks
 - Replaced chalkboards with whiteboards at both schools
 - Purchased additional Wobble Stools for Kindergarten and Grade 1 classrooms
 - Purchased and will install sliding whiteboards in a Grade 1 and a Grade 4 classroom to increase opportunities for student engagement
 - Purchased wooden easels for group learning in Kindergarten
 - Purchased and installed additional whiteboards in TES Art room to display student artwork
 - Viewed seating alternatives at state conference (TechsPo and School Boards)
 - Met with teachers to discuss seating through classroom observations and team time



Goal 3– Objective 2

Expand flexible learning environments to include seating, visual aids, and upgrades to educational Technology.

Improve classroom with Visual Aids (board space) and Technology at TES and OTS

- Upgraded screencasting tool to Vivi at OTS allowing for greater functionality for students and teachers
- Upgraded Grade 6 Special Education classroom with additional whiteboards and moving Smartboard for better classroom engagement
- Replaced chalkboards with whiteboards
- Purchased additional ipads for Kindergarten
- Surveyed TES teachers on Smartboard use
- Ongoing replacement of Chromebooks
- Purchased additional iPads for Kindergarten
- Purchased some standing desks for teachers



Goal 3– Objective 3

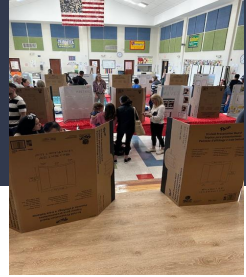


Prioritize group and interpersonal interaction among students and teachers while reducing reliance on screens for school work/projects whenever possible.

- Meet with Teachers to discuss the need for engaging, hands-on lessons and student discourse
 - Met with teachers several times this year to discuss this goal: team meetings, faculty meetings, post-observation conferences, and curriculum meeting presentation
 - Teachers were given additional articulation meeting time this year to discuss the need for increased hands-on learning opportunities
 - Principals met with teachers this spring to prioritize purchase of digital tools for the 2025-26 school year
 - Provided Tech-free learning periods with 'No Homework Breaks', No Social Media OTS Assembly, and reduced Social Media use via OTS challenge
 - Collected Data on Chromebook usage per month for each grade-level: reviewed at administration meeting and shared information with teachers at faculty meetings

Goal 3– Objective 3

Prioritize group and interpersonal interaction among students and teachers while reducing reliance on screens for school work/projects whenever possible.



- Offer Professional Learning for Teachers to support student engagement and reduce the use of technology
 - Researched articles on hands-on learning strategies and shared with teachers, connected to classroom observations
 - Updated curriculum areas in summer 2024 to increase student engagement: K-8 ELA, K-8 Math, Aspire, and STEM
 - Several teachers attended out-of-district workshops to learn new strategies for increasing classroom engagement and student discussion: Science convention, Math practices in action, Hand-on phonics, PE conference, Music workshop, STEAM workshop, Gifted students conference, Literacy instruction.
 - In-district professional learning focused on Hands-on learning: Grades K&1 Math fluency cards, Classroom Libraries use K-4, Science Labs Gr 5-8, Civics opportunities in grades 2-4.
 - Presented to all staff in January on the topic of research on the negative impact of technology on learning
 - Held workshop in April for OTS ELA teachers on hands-on learning strategies for literacy instruction
 - Discuss hands-on learning strategies at several articulation meetings with grade-level teams and content area teams

Goal 3– Objective 3



Prioritize group and interpersonal interaction among students and teachers while reducing reliance on screens for school work/projects whenever possible.

- Observe teaching and learning and offer feedback/instructional tools on ways to increase engagement while reducing dependency on technology
 - Administrators met in September and October to review strategies for observations
 - Areas for growth and strengths were identified and shared with teachers via observations
 - Data was collected and reviewed at administrator meeting to identify areas for increased professional learning
 - Notes on student engagement, and specifically hands-on learning, were shared with staff in all observations through the school year

Goal 3- Objective 4



Create more opportunities for community service projects and family/community involvement.

- Create opportunities for students to connect with the community through various events
 - TES service learning projects: Pajama Project, Pennies for Patients, Seeing Eye Dog donations, Food Drive with Tewksbury Police, Giving Tree for Women's Shelter, Candy collections for the Troops, Family Assistance Fund collection at concert, Week of Respect, Kindness Challenge.
 - TES community events: Holiday Concert, Family Bingo, Grade 2 Poetry Cafe, Spring Fling, Art shows, Family Math.
 - OTS projects: Week of Respect, Food Drive, Giving Tree, Hurricane Victims Fundraiser.
 - OTS community events: Holiday Concert, Art shows, Specials/Aspire Showcase in Spring

Goal 3- Objective 4

Create more opportunities for community service projects and family/community involvement.

- Provide opportunities for families and community members to support our outdoor learning spaces
 - Families invited to help with the TES garden (Discovery Den) in spring/summer 2024. Additional opportunities in spring 2025.
 - OTS space completed by PTA and parent support. Space is in regularly used by students and staff.
- To connect students with people in and outside our Tewksbury community to learn about various careers and jobs
 - Implemented Inspiration Cafe at OTS
 - Held Family Math in February at TES
 - Implemented 'Community Helpers' Kindergarten Capstone Project
 - Added new Grade 5 Field Trip- Biztown in February to learn about jobs and financial literacy
 - Students attended several MD Class trips
 - Grade 8 students attended DC trip to the Naval Academy
 - TES Fields Trips connected students with other careers (ex/ Farm visit and Naturalist)
 - Held Arbor Day celebration at TES with Tewksbury Mayor and DPW
 - Held student assembly on 'No Social Media' in March



Goal 3- Objectives 5a

5a. Cultivate an inclusive climate where student differences are celebrated to promote a sense of belonging including kindness initiatives and more exposure to diverse cultures and backgrounds.



- Educate staff and create more inclusive opportunities for Special Education students.
 - Administrators reviewed schedule and teachers' assignments, made changes to support co-teaching based on teachers recommendations
 - Completed observations of co-teaching classes with data collection. Data will include focus for future PD.
 - Held workshop for all teachers on inclusion in March
 - Held workshop for paraeducators in March
 - Seven teachers attended out-of-district workshops on the topics of inclusion
 - Grade 4 and 5 transition meetings discussed specific transition needs for students with IEPs/504s
 - CEP meetings were held to review after-school data and inclusion needs for clubs/sports
 - TES PLC discussed inclusions needs across the grades
 - Held TES special-area teacher meeting on the need for inclusion
 - Held Counselor meetings with teams on 504 needs
- Expand inclusive opportunities for special education students in clubs and afterschool activities
 - Hired teacher-aides at clubs/sports so all TES and OTS students could participate
 - Explored the possibility of adding a Unified Sports Club by meeting with representatives
 - Implemented a spring Recreational Sports club for all students at OTS

Goal 3– Objectives 5a



5a. Cultivate an inclusive climate where student differences are celebrated to promote a sense of belonging including kindness initiatives and more exposure to diverse cultures and backgrounds.

- Expand character-education opportunities for OTS students through the Advisory Program, supporting kindness and belonging
 - Implemented the Camp Bernie experience for Grade 6 to build student relationships
 - Implemented New Grade 5 learning goals for students through Advisory
 - Peer Leadership connected with the Advisory program this year to encourage more school-wide activities
 - Held assembly for Grade 8 on Anti-Bullying
- Expand character-education opportunities for TES students, supporting kindness and belonging for all
 - Held September training for staff in Responsive Classrooms and purchased teacher resources
 - Held Kindness Challenge at TES
 - Researched additional opportunities for special needs students: art programs, Hunterdon Outreach
 - Implemented New Hip-Hop Dance program to support kindness at TES
 - Enhanced Den Program activities to allow for increased cross-grade collaboration

Goal 3– Objectives 5b

Expand opportunities for students to learn world languages.

- Expand student experiences with the Spanish Language
 - Created new pen pal program with Grade 4 and Grade 5 students and students in Madrid
 - Implemented OTS/TES World Language Reading Buddies
 - Held revised Schoolwide Enrichment program with sessions for Grades 1-4 in additional Spanish time
 - Led music connections with Spanish songs at TES
- Create opportunities for students to explore other world language
 - Led exploration of other world languages during class and during TES Schoolwide Enrichment Program
 - Explored digital tools to learn other languages during TES enrichment period
 - Japanese language exposure at OTS
 - Implemented additional World Language class, once per week for both Grade 6 and Grade 8 students to learn about other languages and cultures (used Duolingo and other apps)

Goal 3– Objective 6

PLEASE JOIN US

TUESDAY

JANUARY 28, 2025

Increase collaboration within and between the schools. (i.e., students move up day for all grades)

- Enhance opportunities to support students as they transition between schools
 - Held meeting with principals and counselors in December and January to better support Grade 4>5
 - Planned for additional counselor visits in Spring to TES
 - Grade 4 students visit to OTS for a full-day in Spring, including a visit to the lunch line
 - Adding a 'Sneak Peak' for rising Grade 5 students in summer 2025
 - Worked with PTA to offer OTS item to rising fifth graders
 - Planned grade 4>5 Parent Open House in Spring
 - Held meetings with new HS Transition Coordinator in Fall to plan additional support for transition to Voorhees
 - Created new Google site with increased information from Voorhees HS, shared with students and parents
 - Music students visited Voorhees to attend a concert and learn about music program in February
 - Grade 8 visited Voorhees in winter to observe during a school day
 - January SEPAC meeting discussed transitioning to new school/grade
 - Held individual CST meetings with parents/students transitioning to Voorhees
 - Held additional CST meetings with Voorhees CST to plan for transition
 - Families of students with IEPs visited Voorhees
 - Presented to BOE on HS transition plans in May

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Increase collaboration within and between the schools. (i.e., students move up day for all grades)

- Create opportunities for greater student engagement between TES and OTS
 - Held Grade 4/5 teacher-meetings on transition: Pen Pals, OTS Visit by Grade 4 in Spring
 - Grade 4 students paired with grade 5 buddy for visit to OTS
 - Held K-8 Art Shows
 - Coordinated Grade 5 Spanish students reading to TES students in June
 - OTS Play was performed at TES in Spring
 - Discussed TES Den groups continuing at OTS for 2025-2026

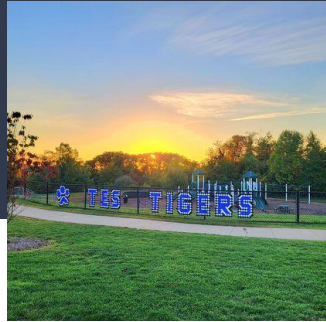
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Increase collaboration within and between the schools. (i.e., students move up day for all grades)

- Support students as they transition to next grade level within their school
 - Revised Kindergarten parent event and summer Playdate
 - Revised “Registered Students Day” at TES in Spring
 - Continue ‘Sneak Peeks’ into TES classrooms in August and added Grade 5
 - Held “Newcomers” counselor meetings at TES
 - Added supporting roles in school Musical for Grade 5-7 students
 - Held Peer Leaders meeting with 5th graders to help parents tour OTS

Goal 3– Objective 6



Increase collaboration within and between the schools.

- Increase teachers' articulation meeting time between grade levels to study the curriculum
 - Held monthly Curriculum meetings at both schools held. Topics: Curriculum Updates, Hands-on Learning, Student Achievement
 - Held grade-level team-time meetings K-8 teachers and administrators in Fall to discuss curriculum and assessment
 - Imbedded extended articulation meeting time for cross-grade discussion during PD Days
 - Half-day of articulation on Oct 14th with like grade-level teachers from Voorhees/NH connected schools; Half-day of articulation on Oct 14th for middle school teachers and Voorhees High School teachers from same department
 - Added OTS Department Articulation time for Math, ELA, Special Education, Social Studies, and Science in December, February, March, and April during the day with sub-coverage to discuss curriculum.
 - Added Grade-Level Articulation time for grades K-4 with sub-coverage to discuss lesson planning.
 - Held additional Articulation meetings after-school during Curriculum Meeting time
 - Covered classes for teachers so they could meet when needed.
 - Implemented "Power-hours" with K-4 teams and Librarian to discuss literacy
 - See other examples in Goal 1

Thank you to
Board of Education
members, parents, staff
members, school
administrators, and
community members who
help to create this
5-year plan.

