Methacton School District

Strategic Plan (2022-2027)
June 2025 Update

Methacton School District

Mission

The Methacton School District will empower all learners to develop talents, encourage personal growth and successes, and inspire leadership to transform our future.

Vision

The Methacton School District is an exemplary student-focused and community-centered environment that prepares learners to meet the demands of our evolving world.

Core Values

Motivate to succeed

Empower all learners

Trust in teamwork

Honor our heritage

Appreciate our diversity

Commit to growth

Transform our future

Open new opportunities

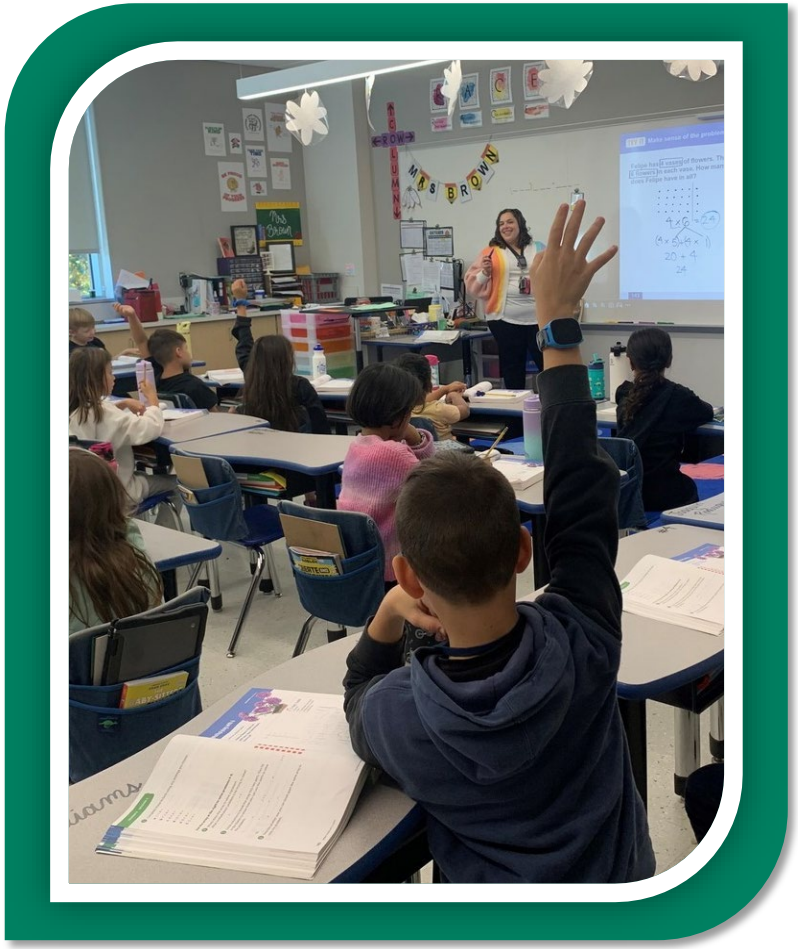
Nurture our talents

Strategic Plan (2022-2027)

ENSURE AN EXCEPTIONAL MSD EXPERIENCE FOR ALL

- Increase district ranking by 25 places in next 5 years
- Increase constituent favorable feedback by 25% in next 5 years

Agenda



- Strategic Plan Tasks Completed
- District Rankings
- College Acceptances
- Feedback Results
- Strategic Plan Progress
- Strategic Plan Accomplishments (‘24-’25)
- On the Horizon

Strategic Plan

Actions Completed

- ✓ New Arrowhead School
- ✓ Implemented STEM Teacher Certification Partnership with Wilkes University
- ✓ Windy Hill Café construction
- ✓ Planetarium - Completed rebuild of the Arcola Planetarium
- ✓ Interior blinds installation as a visual deterrent on the windows
- ✓ Instructional Coach Program
- ✓ Eagleville Elementary MEP project and entrance project
- ✓ High School canopies and pads project
- ✓ Implemented Frontline Employee Management System
- ✓ Implemented the Raptor Visitor and Volunteer Management System
- ✓ Completed Counseling Audit
- ✓ Student Voice Days - Arcola and MHS
- ✓ i-Ready Math implementation
- ✓ Literacy Audit
- ✓ Implemented Common K-4 Schedules
- ✓ Planning for implementation of STEELS Standards
- ✓ Kidwriting program at all 4 elementary buildings
- ✓ Full Day Kindergarten
- ✓ Whole Child Tenets along with Whole Child Resource Guide
- ✓ Strengthened District Physical, Behavioral, and Technological Posture
- ✓ Completed Chapter 339 Counseling Plan
- ✓ Completed internal data interoperability targets
- ✓ Implemented Data Warehousing Tool (Link-It)
- ✓ Updated Organizational Job Descriptions
- ✓ Established Unified Sports program
- ✓ Established unique district programs- Hydroponics Lab, Methacton CSI, Unchartered Learning Entrepreneurship
- ✓ Upgrading Video Surveillance and Phone Systems
- ✓ Established K-12 Career Counselor and K-12 DEI and Climate Counselor Positions
- ✓ Implemented REACH mental health services program K-12
- ✓ Established District 1:1 Chromebook program (K-12)
- ✓ Centralized District Student Enrollment process
- ✓ Partnership with Shannondell Focus on Methacton Schools
- ✓ Work with EduFab to develop HS Fab Lab scope and sequence/room design and equipment plan
- ✓ SEL staff team training

Rankings

Rankings	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
U.S. News & World Report	65	56	62	49	68	*Expected to be released in Aug/Sept 2025*
Niche	59	74	67	51	50	51
School Digger	53	50	87	88	70	*Expected to be released in Aug/Sept 2025*

US News & World Report State Ranking = 68 out of 656 (Top 10%)
Niche = 51 out of 496 (Top 10%)

US News & World Report

- 68 / 656 ranked public high schools in PA
  - Methacton High School is in ***top 10% in State***
- 1,899 / 17,656 nationally ranked schools
  - Methacton High School is in ***top 11% in country***

College Acceptances - Class of '25

Albright College
Alfred State College
Allegheny College
Alvernia University
American University
Appalachian State University
Applications by College (2025)
Arcadia University
Arizona State University-Tempe
Auburn University
Baylor University
Bentley University
Binghamton University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowie State University
Bryant University
Bucknell University
Carlow University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Cedar Crest College
Centenary University
Chapman University
Chatham University
Chestnut Hill College
Clemson University
Coastal Carolina University
Colgate University
College
College of Charleston
College of the Atlantic
Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Commonwealth University " Bloomsburg, Lock Haven and Mansfield
Community College of Philadelphia
Cornell University
CUNY Bernard M Baruch College
Dean College
Delaware County Community College
Delaware Valley University
DePaul University
DeSales University
Dickinson College
Drake University
Drexel University
Drexel University (College of Engineering)
Drexel University (LeBow College of Business)
Drexel University (School of Biomedical Engineering, Science, and Health System)
Duquesne University
East Carolina University
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania
Eastern Kentucky University
Eastern University
Eckerd College
Emerson College
Emory & Henry College
Fairfield University
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Southern College
Florida State University
Fordham University
Franklin and Marshall College
Frostburg State University
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology-Main Campus
Gettysburg College
Gordon College
Goucher College
Greensboro College
Grove City College
Gwynedd Mercy University
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology
Hawaii Pacific University
High Point University
Hofstra University
Holy Family University
Immaculata University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania-Main Campus
Indiana University-Bloomington
Ithaca College
James Madison University
Juniata College
Kean University
King's College
Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
La Salle University
Lake Erie College
Lasell University
Lebanon Valley College
Lehigh University
Liberty University
Liberty University Online
Lincoln University
Loyola University Maryland
Manhattan University
Manor College
Marymount Manhattan College
Marywood University
Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Mercyhurst University
Miami University-Oxford
Michigan State University
Millersville University of Pennsylvania
Misericordia University
Monmouth University
Montclair State University
Montgomery College
Montgomery County Community College
Moore College of Art and Design
Moravian University
Morehouse College
Morgan State University
Muhlenberg College
Nazareth University
NCAA Eligibility Center
Neumann University
New College of Florida
New Jersey Institute of Technology
New York Institute of Technology
North Carolina State University at Raleigh
North Central College
Northeastern University
Northeastern University (College of Science)
Northeastern University (D'Amore-McKim School of Business)
Nova Southeastern University
Ohio State University-Main Campus
Old Dominion University
Oregon State University
Pace University
Palm Beach Atlantic University
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Pennsylvania State University-Penn State Harrisburg
Pennsylvania State University-Penn State Main Campus (School of Nursing)
Pennsylvania Western University
Point Park University
Princeton University
Purdue University-Main Campus
Quinnipiac University
Randolph-Macon College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rice University
Roanoke College
Robert Morris University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rollins College
Rowan University
Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Sacred Heart University
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Louis University
Saint Norbert College
Salem State University
Salisbury University
Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Savannah College of Art and Design
Seton Hill University
Shenandoah University
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
South Carolina State University
Southern Methodist University
St Olaf College
St. John's University-New York
St. Joseph's University - New York
St. Thomas University
Stevenson University
Stockton University
Stony Brook University
Suffolk University
SUNY College at Plattsburgh
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
SUNY Fredonia
Susquehanna University
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Temple University
Temple University (Fox School of Business)
Temple University (Northeastern Hospital School of Nursing)
Temple University (Tyler School of Art)
Texas State University
The Catholic University of America
The College of New Jersey
The George Washington University
The New School
The University of Alabama (Commerce & Business)
The University of Tampa
The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
Thomas Jefferson University
Towson University
Truman State University
Unity Environmental University
University at Buffalo
University of Akron Main Campus
University of Alaska Fairbanks
University of Alaska Southeast
University of Alaska Southeast, Ketchikan Campus
University of Alaska Southeast, Sitka Campus
University of Arizona
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Los Angeles
University of California-San Diego
University of Central Florida
University of Connecticut
University of Dayton
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Kentucky
University of Louisville
University of Maryland-College Park
University of Massachusetts-Boston
University of Massachusetts-Lowell
University of Miami
University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
University of Mississippi
University of Nevada-Las Vegas
University of New England
University of New Hampshire-Main Campus
University of New Haven
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of North Carolina Wilmington
University of North Texas at Dallas
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pennsylvania (College of Arts and Sciences)
University of Pittsburgh-Pittsburgh Campus (University Honors College)
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina-Columbia
University of South Florida-Main Campus
University of Vermont
University of Virginia-Main Campus
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Ursinus College
Valley Forge Military College
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Virginia Tech (Liberal Arts & Human Sciences)
Virginia Wesleyan University
Wake Forest University
Warner University
Washington & Jefferson College
Wellesley College
Wentworth Institute of Technology
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
West Virginia University
Western New England University
Widener University
Wilkes University
William & Mary
Williamson College of the Trades
Xavier University of Louisiana
York College of Pennsylvania

Ivy League Acceptances

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Brown University	🎓	🎓			🎓			
Columbia University		🎓		🎓		🎓		
Cornell University		🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓
Dartmouth University	🎓	🎓						
Harvard University	🎓				🎓	🎓		
Princeton University		🎓		🎓				🎓
University of Pennsylvania	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓	🎓
Yale University		🎓		🎓	🎓			

Internal Feedback – Students and Staff

Student Feedback

Strong Sense of Belonging – 93%
Instructional Engagement – 86%
Learning Environment – 86%

Students Value Academic Success – 99%

85% rated academic success “Extremely” or “Quite Important.”

Student Safety – 70%

30% of students believe online bullying is at least somewhat likely to happen at school.

Staff Feedback

School District Leadership – 85%
Professional Development Structure – 93%
Workplace Morale & Optimism – 88%

Capacity to Address Diversity in the Classroom – 99%

Nearly all staff report that they feel they can handle sensitive issues with confidence.

Technology Infrastructure – 72%

54% of staff believe technology updates are needed.

Based on 2024 Survey

External Feedback - Family and Community

Family Feedback

Leadership Communication and Trust – 93%
Clarity in Evaluations & Equity/Fairness - 90%
School Safety (Perception) – 74%

School Climate – 94%

94% positivity across indicators (student enjoyment, lesson motivation, and valuing diversity).

Family Engagement – 53%

In-person teacher meetings (11%) and volunteering at school (36%).

Community Feedback

Classroom Instruction – 97%
Hiring, Developing, Retaining Best Staff – 92%
Physical Facilities – 93%

Student Activities & Extracurriculars – 99%

54% rated this area “Extremely” or “Quite Well.”

School Leadership – 90%

. 26% of respondents rated it “Slightly Well” or “Not At All Well.”

Based on 2024 Survey

Strategic Plan
Tasks Progress

456 tasks completed

Name	Progress	Done
STEM ACADEMY METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	26/34	26
SAFETY/FACILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	102/115	102
PUPIL SERVICES METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	59/94	59
GROWTH/ACHIEVEMENT METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	112/161	112
FINANCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	48/68	48
EXPERIENCE METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	53/82	53
COMMUNICATIONS METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	23/37	23
ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES METHACTON STRATEGIC PLAN	33/59	33

Growth & Achievement and STEM

Curriculum & Resources

- Curriculum Review Cycle completed in the following areas, including identification, pilot and recommendation of resources:
  - Science (STEELS adoption K-12)
  - World Language 7-12
  - Counseling - Character Strong K-12
  - 7-8 English Language resource pilot and adoption
- Preparing for Personal Finance course requirement at HS in 2026-2027
- Added Developmental Spelling Inventory to the Assessment Calendar for MTSS process & core instruction
- Development of Data Science & Cybersecurity elective courses
- Implemented University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI) resource for phonics
- Implemented the (SIPPS) Systematic Instruction of Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, and Sight Words intervention resource

Professional Learning & Growth

- Structured Literacy Training per Act 55
- Dyslexia Simulation with staff
- Completed 7-8 Literacy Audit
- Develop and Implement Literacy Plan for 2024-2028
- Established Lesson Plan expectations K-12
- Instructional Coaching program K-12; with focus on newly hired staff

Programming

- IB Feasibility Study Completed: Recommendation NOT to proceed
- Strengthened focus on AP, Dual Enrollment, Vocational Pathways
- New Dual Enrollment Course: Intro to Education
- PBIS Implemented K-8
- Implemented application process for MHS students for Pennsylvania Seal of Biliteracy
- Proposed and adopted the Comprehensive Plan 2025-2028
- Partnered with Ursinus for student teaching placements and presented on several occasions
- Career Fair held at all schools
- Initiative to revamp Science Fair (K-6) and promote district consistency
- $150K Secured for Fab Lab Development

Pupil Services

- Completed Homeless audit with score of 98%
- Implemented Handle with Care training with Lower Providence Police
- Implemented Administrator Training on Mandated Reporting with Office of Children and Youth
- PBIS Implementation: all elementary schools and Arcola: Year 1; Skyview: Year 2
- Drug Education Planning with the Morgan Heckler Foundation
- Parent Training: Cyber Safety: Protecting Your Child in the Digital Age
- Parent Presentation on Belonging, facilitated by our Climate Counselor
- Teacher Training: Supporting Students Who Aren't Connected
- Special Education Supervisor Training: Conflict Resolution
- Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) data review
- Special Education Cyclical Monitoring completed
- Coaching with special education teachers, related service providers, and school psychologists
- Training for psychologists on comprehensive evaluation procedures
- CPI-De-Escalation Training for building crisis teams; trained supervisors as trainers
- Revamping special education program with focus on oversight, structure, compliance and 3rd party vendors

- Gifted Audit completed; results pending
- Counseling Audit recommendations implemented
- Career Day
- Job Fair
- Character Strong teacher training
- Implemented a Drug and Alcohol Counselor at MHS through a partnership with The Lincoln Center
- Updated our College and Career planning guide
- SAP team: Updated training
- Restorative counseling for suspended students
- De-escalation strategies training for Teachers and Instructional Assistants
- Provided mental health services to 343 students
- Awarded $3,500 American Red Cross Scholarship
- 9 new District AED machines installed
- Simon's Fund Heart Screening held

Experience

- Hired new K-12 DEI School Counselor
- Dreaming Forward Consortium
- International Fair
- How to de-escalate and respond to bullying - teacher training
- Implemented DEI monthly messaging calendar
- PBIS
- Unity Day
- Lenape Symposium at Ursinus
- “H.E.R.O.S. in the Making” initiative with Lower Providence Police Department
- English Language Development parent night in October
- Anti-bullying assemblies: Arcola and Skyview
- Safe2Say posters deployed in all buildings
- Relocation of Backpack Program to Arcola
- Implementation of Communication Boards K-6

Safety, Facilities & Infrastructure

- Developed 13-year Master Facilities Plan
- Installed new playgrounds at Eagleville and Woodland
- Repairs, recoating, and striping of the Arcola tennis courts
- Hand towel dispenser replacement district-wide with annual cost savings of $52,000.
- High School ESports room established
- Roof replacement at Arcola
- Installation of Facilities electric vehicle charging stations (50% grant funded)
- Applied for and received $2,500 in PECO energy rebates for the installation of new dishwashers at Woodland, Arcola, Worcester, and the High School plus heat pumps at Skyview and Woodland
- Advertising and sale of Audubon Elementary School property
- Security Detection System Funded & Implemented
- Installed additional safety features in all school buildings
- Printed new Emergency Management Plan binders

- Secured grant for (9) additional AED's including exterior installation at Methacton High School, Arcola and Skyview
- Completed 2024 Risk and Vulnerability Assessments
- Received Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Grant Award of $184,055
- Chief of Police position established
- PaySchools implementation (Food Service accounting system)
- Projector Installations - 40 new projectors at MHS, Arcola, Skyview, Woodland and Worcester
- Completed converting all schools to new digital signage software
- Implemented new anti-virus software on district computers and servers

Finance & Human Resources

- Hired and onboarded nearly 100 employees across all employee groups, including the development of three key leaders:
  - Arcola Principal
  - Director of Business Services
  - Coordinator of Communications
- Internal certification pathway for non-certified staff ensures long-term pipeline development
- $80K in projected software cost reductions for 25/26 budget
- Early-Bird Contract Negotiations: Teamsters approved
- Approved MESPA contract
- New Budget Forecasting Model in Use (PFM)
- Produced 10-year budget forecast
- Psychological Services Grant Awarded: $155K
- Kutztown coaching program to support instructional excellence
- Processed Right to Know
- Completed Civil Rights Data Corporation (CRDC) report

Communications

- Migrated website content and redesigned layouts for district website and 7 school sites
- Established comprehensive communications plan
- Established framework for social media strategy
- Expanded Spirit of Methacton recognition
- Completed District editorial calendar
- Developed Instructional Assistant hiring and marketing campaign
- Revised and expanded community education programming
- Developed student intern program and onboarded two high school interns
- Created monthly staff messaging and Superintendent forums to enhance transparency and morale, including five instances of “What’s Brewing with Dr. Zerbe”
- Coordinated with Methacton Education Foundation to market events and showcase grant work

Volunteering in Methacton

2,164 Active Volunteers

4,450 Building Sign-Ins

Position Volunteer

Organizations

- Home & School Association members
- Booster Club members
- Theatre Company
- Watch Dog Dads

Chaperones

- Dances
- Post Prom
- Field Trips
- Outdoor Ed

Building Helpers

- Recess Monitor
- Cafeteria, Library & Classroom Helper
- Kindergarten Kid Writing
- Reading and Math Tutor

Mentors & Coaches

- Volunteer Coach
- Mentor for IncubatorEDU

Guest Volunteer

Activity Helpers

- Fun Day
- Field Day
- Classroom Parties
- Post Prom/Theatre Production – set building
- Backpack Program
- Concession Stand

Presenters and Guests

- Career Day
- Assembly (presenters or guests)
- Guest Readers
- Guest Speaker for IncubatorEDU

Athletics & Activities

- Online Ticketing (Hometown Ticketing) rolled out to all HS activities
- E-Sports program launched
- New Athletic Training vendor
- Athletic Training Services review process
- Athletics and Activities newsletter
- Established eligibility among sports and clubs/activities
- Reviewing points for all levels
- Updated Parent Booster, Student Activity and Athletics Handbooks
- Developed New Hire packet for coaches
- Began updating job descriptions with HR department
- Unified livestreaming service under Hudl
- Updated MethactonWarriors.org website
- Re-established process for all PIAA and NFHS courses for coaches
- Developed CADY Media Days

On the Horizon

- Determine path forward with HS and Master Facilities Plan
- Paving project for drive lanes and parking areas at the Arcola/Skyview campus
- Implementation of screening system - PCCD Grant
- Continuation of ALICE training
- Classlink analytics for ROI on application usage
- Implement Wi-Fi 6 access points across district
- Determine path forward with DEI/Climate/Belonging
- Monitor STEELS Implementation
- Continue progress forward with PBIS implementation
- Document MTSS process
- Monitor Character Strong implementation
- Organize and implement District run transitional services
- Implement K-4 emotional support classroom
- Implement additional low incidence classroom
- Life skills/ Autistic support program audit K-12
- Executive Functioning programming review and delivery K-12
- Formulate implementation plan based on Gifted Audit recommendations
- Undertake ELD program audit through MCIU
- Audubon property sale in process
- Continue efforts to increase district/school spirit
- Conduct a review of the District's Home and School Visitor services, including caseload and resource allocations
- Expand Unified Sports program
- Increase communication with non-parent/guardian district residents
- Increase frequency and value of communication to staff and parents
- Improve Substitute Teacher experience
- Increase opportunities for English Language Learners
- Monitor Fab Lab implementation at Skyview and begin progression to Arcola
- Establish strategic AI integration to empower educators and enhance outcomes
- Pilot the Community Cares program
- Explore relocation of Transportation Center and Administration Building
- Implement a comprehensive Instructional Assistant Development Program
- Develop a transition services program to run in-house
- Review School Safety Response Communication systems
- Increase volunteer involvement and recognition
- Provide concept options for High School renovation
- Increase online anti-bullying programs with students and parents