



Mid Year Goal Monitoring Update December 15, 2025

Goal 1: Academic Programming, Teaching, & Learning

Foster academic excellence through inclusive and culturally responsive teaching practices ensuring that all students regardless of background or ability receive equitable access to a rigorous curriculum and diverse learning objectives that prepare them for success in a global society.

Key Achievements & Outcomes:

- **Literacy and Math Implementation:** Completed the full implementation of the comprehensive K-2 literacy program. Initiated a pilot of the new 5th-grade mathematics program and a partial pilot of Eureka Math in grades 3–5. Summer curriculum writing updates were completed for Math and English Language Arts.

- **Academic Targets:** Established improvement targets for student subgroups for Math in grades 3–5. Set district goals to increase the number of students meeting or exceeding expectations on the NJSLA for ELA (Grade 3), Math (Grade 7), and Algebra 1 (Grade 9) by 5 to 10 percentage points by Spring 2026.

- **Instructional Support and Structure:** Expanded elective opportunities and increased the integration of multilingual learners into specials. Implemented an intensive phonics program targeting students qualifying for ELL support in grades 6-8. Expansion of MHS Dual Enrollment Partnerships with NJIT and Kean University. Connected the MHS AP Core to FMS faculty and students to ensure students and families are aware of the rigorous academic opportunities available at MHS. Leveraged the student data from the AP Potential Report to identify students who have not yet enrolled in an AP course to guide their future course selection. The Linear Algebra Course at Morristown High School (MHS) was expanded to offer college credit, aligning with the strategic plan's objective to enhance dual enrollment opportunities. Implementation of Pre-AP English 10 and World History grade 9. Expansion of Seal of Biliteracy - last year 65 students tested (55 receiving the Seal), this year 108 students scheduled to test.

- **Targeted Academic Support:** Established after-school programs at FMS, including a Homework Lab and Extended Instructional Support in Math and Language Arts, designed to provide high-intensity instruction aligned with state standards. Ongoing math intervention through Math Applications for identified 9th grade students.



Goal 2: Learning Beyond the Classroom

To create a cohesive community that builds upon our combined strengths to offer more opportunities to learn within and beyond our curriculum resulting in more well-rounded experiences and students.

Key Achievements & Outcomes:

- **Social-Emotional Learning (SEL):** With cooperation and support from TEAM and our community partners, implemented a SNAP relief benefit program. Prioritized initiatives related to SEL, including teamwork, empathy-building, and peer mentoring. Established the FMS Social Group to provide a safe space for students to interact and develop necessary social skills. Ongoing partnership with Bright & Beautiful Therapy Dogs Inc to provide students with access to a therapy dog several times each year. Implemented the NJ DREAMS grant, which allows 3 counselors to be trained as Champion Team Leaders and certified as trainers of the Nurtured Heart Approach. Our intended goal by the end of this school year is to turnkey the information to all K-5 counselors, select K-5 staff, and parents.
- **Student Voice and Culture:** Identified Student Voice and Leadership programs as key priorities. Affirmed the importance of cultural celebrations and school-wide inclusive assemblies and programs. Creation of the MHS Student Transfer Committee to provide support, voice and perspective of the transfer experience to newly admitted students. Completed the New Jersey Culture and Climate survey of all stakeholders; School Improvement Panels will review the results of the survey and make program enhancements and changes based on survey feedback.
- **Partnerships and Experiential Learning:** Expanded corporate collaborations. ACE Mentors Architecture Program; Morristown High School partnered with H2M Architects to provide opportunities for our students to collaborate with architects, engineers, and construction managers on a real-world design project while developing professional skills and industry connections. Greater Newark STEM Ecosystem @ NJIT; Morristown High School, Frelinghuysen Middle School, and Morris Plains Borough School joined the statewide STEM Ecosystem through NJIT. Students participate in STEAM Think Tanks, Classroom-to-Career Workshops, and NJIT convenings with college and industry partners. Sanofi Partnership – Internship Program; a new partnership with Sanofi is providing Morristown STEM students with mentoring, field experiences, and access to industry professionals. A summer intensive internship program is being developed to offer students hands-on experience in STEM careers.
- **Arts Mentoring:** Established the Young Artist Mentoring Program (YAMP) at MHS to support artistically talented students in refining skills and building portfolios for college or career opportunities. Alexander Hamilton School received a Morris Arts Residency Grant for the 4th grade.



Goal 3: Building Optimal Environments for Learning

Make facility investments that improve our academic ROI (return on investment).

Key Achievements & Outcomes:

- **Facilities Planning:** Established a clear goal of holding a Capital Referendum in Fall 2026. Initiated stakeholder input through a Facilities Improvements Survey and focus groups.
- **Infrastructure Prioritization:** Survey results highlighted Academic Excellence and systems improvements such as Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) upgrades and replacements for infrastructure like roofs as the highest priorities for bond funding.
- **Modernization Plans:** Proposed facility modernization includes upgrades to science labs, media centers, and classrooms to create flexible, collaborative environments. Plans involve a Chromebook overhaul and technology upgrades (e.g., interactive tools and document cameras), alongside the development of a 5-Year Tech Plan.
- **Ongoing Maintenance:** Completed asbestos abatement of the water heater exhaust flue at Hillcrest Elementary School. Completed the recoating of the auxiliary gym. Developing the punch list for the high school roof project.

Goal 4: Communication to Foster Community and Partnerships

Strengthen and foster meaningful pathways within the Morris School District and the greater community to create informed and intentional partnerships.

Key Achievements & Outcomes:

- **Referendum Communication Strategy:** Developed a comprehensive communications timeline for the Fall 2026 referendum, emphasizing transparency, consistency, and customized outreach to various audiences.
- **Digital Communication Planning:** Planning included a website overhaul with the creation of a unified landing page (Road to Referendum). Proposed development of a District Profile to clearly articulate the district's purpose and needs for community sharing.
- **Outreach Strategies:** The district will continue to share updates through email newsletters, the district website, and social media platforms. The district will employ text message alerts, QR codes, and community networks to engage alumni and residents who do not have students in the district.
- **Partnership Success:** Secured expanded corporate collaborations and the Morris Arts Residency Grant. Three complete cohorts of students in our Morristown College Promise partnership with CCM - graduating the first cohort this year.

MORRIS SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Goal 5: Career Readiness Skills

Explore career pathways through self-discovery and real-life experiences so all students are prepared for their transition from high school.

Key Achievements & Outcomes:

- **Mentoring and Internships:** Implemented the CTE Mentoring Program for females and students with disabilities, utilizing Perkins Stipend funding. Selected sophomores participate in a mentoring/job shadowing partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters and Sanofi, focusing on career exploration and life planning. Through guided goal setting and real-world exposure, students build the skills needed to envision and pursue their future pathways.
- **Programmatic Enhancements:** Identified plans to expand community partnerships for career days, 8th-grade business projects, and 6-12 career fairs. Enhanced dual enrollment and vocational pathways, including offering industry credentials and establishing STEM academies.
- **Career Counseling and Tracking:** Morristown High School continues to strengthen partnerships with CCM, the Workforce Development Board, and Atlantic Health, providing students with certifications, trade and apprenticeship exposure, and work-based learning opportunities. School counselors supported all 10th graders in completing the Naviance Career Interest Profiler, helping students identify strengths, explore career pathways, and make informed decisions about their future.
- **Real-World Exposure:** Prioritized establishing job shadowing and peer-to-peer opportunities for cross-grade and real-world job exposure activities. Planning included the use of Naviance for grades 6-12.