FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

STRATEGIC PLANNING REPORT
FOR
WINCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL

Huge Thank You to:

- The Working Group
- The Steering Committee
- Steering Committee's Subcommittee
- John Pierce, Consultant

Why a Strategic Plan?

In a rapidly changing world, WHS must rise to the challenge of providing a top quality education and the skills and knowledge to succeed in the new global society.

Data Collection

- 2 Community/Parent Focus Groups
- Teacher Focus Group
- Information collected from student leadership workshops
- Parent Survey
- Teacher Survey
- Student Survey

Findings- The Positives

- Outstanding Teachers
- Highly Motivated Students
- Supportive Parents
- Increasing MCAS and SAT Scores
- Increasing number of AP courses and number of students taking AP classes
- Innovative curriculum program

Findings: Areas Needing Improvement

- Facilities/Technology
- More Unified School Culture
- Consistent Academic Expectations
- Improved Support Services
- Increased consistency in the application of policies and practices
- Quality of instruction

The Action Plan

- Articulates key goals, specific action steps, and measurable benchmarks.
- Is a living, working document that will be periodically evaluated and revised.
- Presents long term action steps as well as short term steps that address immediate concerns.

Strategic Plan Focus Areas

- 1. Expectations and Communication
- 2. School Culture
- 3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- 4. Technology
- 5. Facilities

Focus Area 1: Expectations and Communication

GOAL: Ensure consistent, timely communication and clear expectations throughout the school community.

Action Steps: Expectations and Communication

- **SHORT TERM**: Clearly define and communicate school-wide expectations regarding the purpose, quality and quantity of student homework.
- **LONG TERM:** Use semi-annual online surveys of parents, students, and faculty to monitor progress toward WHS goals and assess evolving needs and concerns of the WHS school community

Focus Area 2: School Culture

- GOAL: With strong leadership and broad-based support, establish a more unified, inclusive school culture that reflects mutual respect, cooperation, and a strong sense of community for all.

Action Steps: School Culture

SHORT TERM: Institute a WHS Honor Code

LONG TERM: Pursue the establishment of the administrative position of Dean of Student Activities to provide more unified support for all students.

Focus Area 3: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- Implement instruction and formative assessments for all students that is supported by current research and is directed at the achievement of high standards for each child with curriculum aligned with state and national standards.

Action Steps: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- **SHORT TERM:** Establish WHS standards for faculty staff hiring.

- **LONG TERM:** Embed common planning time for teachers into the regular schedule.

Focus Area 4: Technology

- Provide a robust technology infrastructure that supports state-of-the-art classroom instruction and collaboration tools for students, teachers, and staff. Deliver educational technology support and instruction to allow for multidimensional learning.

Action Steps: Technology

- **SHORT TERM:** Establish a formal process to share effective, technology-rich, lesson plans within and between departments.
- **LONG TERM:** Establish and maintain an ongoing plan to ensure a robust and reliable infrastructure to support WHS technology needs.

Focus Area 5: Facilities

- **GOAL:** With a broad base of representative involvement, develop a comprehensive short and long-term facility plan that meets the needs of WHS and the community now and well into the 21st century.

Action Steps: Facilities

- **SHORT TERM:** Develop a prioritized maintenance plan and update it annually to address cleanliness, safety, air quality and the appearance of the existing building.
- **SHORT TERM:** Meet the needs of increased enrollment at WHS before the building project is complete.