

# WESTPORT CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

# 2017-18 DISTRICT GOALS

## SPRING PROGRESS REPORT OF MAY 8, 2018

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To: **Board of Education**

From: A. Paul Scott, Interim Superintendent of Schools

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**Goal #1: Continue** to bolster student achievement and our instructional program, reflecting higher state and local expectations for student learning and success.

1. **Enrolled** 57% of our 63 high school students in at least one of seven honors classes; enrolled 23% of our high school students in taking at least one of three Advanced Placement [AP] classes; and enrolled 19% of high school students in at least one of eight dual-enrollment college credit-bearing courses in partnership with North Country Community College.
2. **Sustained** our high level of academic “time on task” for students provided by teachers and other instructional staff initiated at the September 7, 2017 first day of classes.
3. **Authorized** 138 faculty, program administrator and support staff requests to attend particular in-service workshops, with the majority of those requests requesting authorization to attend workshops sponsored by this region’s BOCES focused on bolstering student success, strengthening professional practice, expanded expectations for student achievement, federal and/or state mandates, and/or bolstering tradecraft among practitioners by engaging practitioners with seasoned specialists.

**Goal #2: Adopt** a set of 2017-18 district goals and provide periodic reports on progress toward those district goals.

1. **Adopted** and **periodically reported on** progress toward a set of seven Board-approved 2017-2018 district goals.
2. **Delivered** to the school board a monthly set of single-sheet snapshot reports from each program administrator, operations supervisor and particular others as part of enabling the Board to discuss, examine and/or track key data points, month to month.

**Goal #3: Establish** and **sustain** a 2017-18 timetable of public reports on instructional programs and support operations.

1. **Established** and sustained progress on a Board-approved timetable of thirty public reports on particular instructional programs, support operations and management functions across the 2017-2018 school year. The final three reports are slated for public session at the June 2018 regular monthly meeting.

2. **Continually expanded** the Web-based repository of Interim Superintendent's Updates page of the District's Web site, providing stakeholders with highlights and PDF editions of the above-mentioned public reports and associated progress reporting.
3. **Implemented** the winter-spring 2018 budget development timetable to help gather feedback and suggestions regarding budget development matters associated with constructing a proposed expenditures plan for the fiscal year ahead.

**Goal #4: Identify** strengths and emerging challenges associated with sustaining into the near-term future the school district's legacy of solid academic programs and support operations at Westport CSD.

1. **Successfully administered** an August 2017 public yard sale intended to help the school district declutter the campus and its storage spaces of miscellaneous outdated, obsolete district property items, including yet not limited to unserviceable old furniture items.
2. **Approved** a substantially revamped and updated 2017-18 district safety plan, pursuant to several sections of NYS Education Law, as part of updating safety and security plans and protocols. Particular sections of that district safety plan are kept confidential, as per State Education Department guidelines and in the interest of student and staff safety.
3. **Completed** an October 2017 meeting of the audit committee and the independent auditor, to examine and discuss the draft independent audit report for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. A five-year financial forecast was published spring 2018 as follow-up.

**Goal #5: Engage** with the merger study process, in collaboration with Elizabethtown-Lewis Central School District.

1. **Launched** and sustained through April 2018 a twenty-seat merger study advisory committee, with half [10] of those seats filled by the school board from among those who had previously expressed interest and availability to serve on that committee. The other ten seats were filled by the Elizabethtown-Lewis CSD school board. That advisory committee completed all seven scheduled meetings with the merger study consultants.
2. **Published and distributed** two special education district newsletters to district residents via the Postal System to district residents, focused on the merger study process underway. A third edition is slated for June 2018 publishing & distribution.

**Goal #6: Replace** the heating system's boiler in expedited fashion, in close collaboration with the State Education Department and the school district's architectural & engineering firm, as follow-up to the school board's July 28, 2017 actions declaring the emergency nature of that necessary work, and authorizing the school district to fund that necessary work via this fiscal year's budget.

1. **Expedited** the necessary and time-sensitive replacement of a heating system boiler by action taken at the July 2017 special Board of Education meeting, thereby taking action on a Board-enacted declaration of an emergency need for boiler replacement.
2. **Engaged** with the school district's architectural & engineering firm to launch the process of detailed plans and specifications to be submitted to the State Education Department

as part of State-mandated procedures to ensure the necessary work is state-aided.

3. **Actively participated** with all necessary parties to see to it the replacement boiler was installed and received the necessary post-installation testing and supplemental inspections as needed to ensure the schoolhouse's heating system was functional for October 2017 forward.

**Goal #7: Commission** the Interim Superintendent to collaboratively engage school district employees and appropriate others in identifying likely 'top priority' repairs, updates and/or modernization needs of our K-12 schoolhouse and associated outbuildings, as part of the Interim Superintendent preparing a public report on such district matters for winter 2018 school board examination and discussion.

1. **Gathered** perceptions regarding near-term future 'top priorities' for our year 1933 K-12 schoolhouse from forty-one [41] district employees who completed a September 2017 voluntary staff perceptions survey. Five categories of schoolhouse infrastructure were identified by 37% or more of those completing that perceptions survey: classroom information technology wireless device capacity [68%]; information technology network hardware and software system updating [54%]; heating system and heating control system modernization [44%]; fresh air venting and fresh air filtering systems modernization [39%]; and updating and expanding the schoolhouse electrical systems and electrical outlets [37%].
2. **Published** a fall 2017 five-year capital facilities plan<sup>1</sup> intended as a 'ready reference' to the school board and school community that identifies a \$3.181M scope of near-term future 'top priority' repairs, renovations and modernization for Westport CSD's year 1933 K-12 schoolhouse that's been in use the past 83 years, along with the year 1958 transportation garage that's been in use the past fifty-nine 59 years.

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<sup>1</sup> The New York State Education Department mandates such a capital facilities plan be published by each school district and revised, from time to time, as part of stewardship, multi-year planning and submitting requests for state aid associated with voter-approved capital projects and/or Board-approved emergency capital work. A recent example of emergency capital work was the summer 2017 emergency replacement of an oil-fired boiler that is a key component of the schoolhouse's central heating system.