

# PROGRESS REPORT OF THE HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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# Increased Expectations with Diminished Resources

- We have fewer dollars to spend on education than we had in FY07.

FISCAL YEAR	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET
FY07	\$13,105,919
FY08	\$13,105,919
FY09	\$12,770,000
FY10	\$11,876,872
FY11	\$12,500,000

- The school department budget is almost 5% less than FY07.

# Increased Expectations with Diminished Resources...continued

- Class sizes have increased.

<b>GRADE LEVEL</b>	<b>CLASS SIZE FY07</b>	<b>CLASS SIZE FY11</b>
<b>Kindergarten</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Grade One</b>	<b>16.5</b>	<b>18.5</b>
<b>Grade Two</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>19.5</b>
<b>Grade Three</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Grade Four</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>25.25</b>
<b>Grade Five</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24.66</b>
<b>Grade Six</b>	<b>18.2</b>	<b>21.25</b>
<b>Grade Seven</b>	<b>17.4</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Grade Eight</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>29</b>

# Increased Expectations with Diminished Resources...continued

- We no longer offer foreign language at the Memorial School.
- The following programs at Hull High School were eliminated:
  - Business
  - Industrial Technology/Shop
  - Virtual High School
- The school budget does not support:
  - Athletics
  - Drama
  - Student Activities

# Increased Expectations with Diminished Resources...continued

- The percentage of children living at or below the federal poverty level is significant.

SCHOOL	ELIGIBLE FOR FREE & REDUCED LUNCH	ENROLLMENT	PERCENT
JACOBS	159	490	32.5%
MEMORIAL	105	262	40.1%
HULL HIGH	94	353	26.6%

# School Enrollment

- The percentage of children residing in Hull who attend the Hull Public Schools continues to climb at all levels.
- The number of students attending the Charter School has declined markedly.
- The high school holds a highly effective open house for eighth grade students and their parents. As part of our recruitment effort, members of the high school staff visit all eighth grade classes.

# School Enrollment ...continued

- We have a *Pirate for a Day* program, through which children enrolled in private and charter schools are invited to visit our schools. Our efforts are modeled after private school recruitment practices and timed to coincide with private school outreach activities.

# Teachers and Administrators

- Staff is properly evaluated. All administrators take the Research for Better Teacher administrative course, *Observing and Analyzing Teaching*.
- Approximately 1/3 of our teachers have participated in a Research for Better Teaching course, *Studying Skillful Teaching*, which is the parallel course for teachers.



# Teachers and Administrators ...continued

- We have mentoring programs for new teachers and administrators.
- We continue to recruit and retain effective teachers and administrators.

# Savings

- Due to a reduction in staff, the business department has been reorganized. There is a team approach to assessing financial projections.
- The South Shore Educational Collaborative now has programs in all three schools, resulting in tuition credits and a reduction in special education transportation costs.

# Savings ....continued

- We have reduced the school bus fleet by one bus, saving approximately \$55,000 annually.
- We have increased the cost of school lunches, eliminating deficit spending in this area.
- We now charge tuition for full-day kindergarten.

# Savings ....continued

- We have user fees for athletics and drama.
- We rely heavily on the fund-raising efforts of the Boosters, the PTO, Friends of Hull High School Theatre Arts and HASC.

# Facilities Improvements

- The high school courtyard was loamed and hydro seeded and new benches were installed (thanks to the generosity of a Lowe's Home Improvement Grant and an Eagle Scout).
- A new practice field in the rear of the high school was installed largely through a volunteer effort.

# Facilities Improvements...continued

- The exterior sides of the west, north and south of the Memorial School have been waterproofed.
- The exterior of the gymnasium and the north side of the high school were waterproofed.
- 87 windows at the Memorial School have been re-caulked.

# Facilities Improvements...continued

- New rooftop exhaust vents have been installed to improve indoor air quality at the Memorial School.
- We participated in Aquarion Water Company's Water Balancing Program Installation, which assessed water usage, installed more efficient aerators and bathroom fixtures resulting in water and sewer savings.

# Facilities Improvements...continued

- The temperature in all school buildings is set to meet minimum heating guidelines set by OSHA.
- All buildings are kept clean, orderly and safe with very limited resources.
- Routine maintenance is attended to in an expeditious manner.



# Facilities Improvements...continued

- SchoolDude is utilized for facilities scheduling and work orders.
- We have contracted with a part-time HVAC Technician/Energy Consultant who has made modifications to supplement the Energy Management Systems that will result in energy savings.

# Facilities Improvements...continued

- We have an extended contract to purchase natural gas in the open market through a joint effort with South Shore Energy Collaborative, saving approximately 20% annually.

# Outside Reviews

- The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has completed a very positive review of the Hull Public Schools in the areas of special education, civil rights, and English language learners.
- Boston Magazine has ranked us among the 50 Best Massachusetts High Schools 2 of the past 3 years.

# Curriculum

- We have standards-based elementary report cards.
- We have implemented *Month-by-Month Phonics* in grades K-4.
- We have implemented a new 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade social studies program – *History Alive*.

# Curriculum...continued

- A new science program, Scott Foresman, has been implemented in grades K-5.
- We have consistent implementation of the English Language Arts program including reading strategy instruction in grades K-8, due in large part to the coordinated efforts of our part-time reading coaches.

# Curriculum...continued

- Algebra I is now taught in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, positioning most students for more advanced high school mathematics courses.
- MCAS review and preparation in the elementary, middle and high schools is now standard practice.

# Curriculum...continued

- We have expanded the LEAF program into the middle school and we are making plans for further expansion into Hull High School.
- We have implemented a puberty education program for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents.

# Curriculum...continued

- We have implemented a social/emotional anti-bullying curriculum preK - grade 8.
- We continue to offer high school students the opportunity to take Quincy College courses during the school day.
- SAT Prep courses are now offered during the school day.



# Curriculum...continued

- We continue to receive the South Shore Workforce Investment Board School Year Grant, which provides training and work experiences for 8 at-risk high school students.
- We continue to receive the South Shore Workforce Investment Board Summer Grant, which provides training and work experiences for up to 25 additional at-risk high school students.

# Indicators Developed Spring 2010 to Demonstrate School Improvement 3-5 Year Targets

## ■ Jacobs School MCAS scores

– English – Target 67% students in Advanced and Proficient

■ FY2009: 59%

■ FY2010: 61%

– Math – Target 66% students in Advanced and Proficient

■ FY2009: 58%

■ FY2010: 51%

# Indicators Developed Spring 2010 to Demonstrate School Improvement 3-5 Year Targets

## ■ Memorial School MCAS scores

– English – Target 81% students in Advanced and Proficient

■ FY2009: 75%

■ FY2010: 67.3%

– Math – Target 54% students in Advanced and Proficient

■ FY2009: 46%

■ FY2010: 56%

# Indicators Developed Spring 2010 to Demonstrate School Improvement 3-5 Year Targets

- High School 4-year completion rate –  
Target: 94%
  - FY08: 89% (state average=81%)
  - FY09: 83% (state average=81%)
- Drop-out rate – Target: at or below state  
average
  - FY08: 4.3% (state average=3.4%)
  - FY09: 5.7% (state average=2.9%)

# Indicators Developed Spring 2010 to Demonstrate School Improvement 3-5 Year Targets

- SAT scores – Target: increase each by 10 points

## – Class of 2009

■ Reading:	485
■ Math:	491
■ Writing:	485

## – Class of 2010

■ Reading:	495
■ Math:	491
■ Writing:	484

# Indicators Developed Spring 2010 to Demonstrate School Improvement 3-5 Year Targets

## ■ AP Exams

– Number of AP tests being given – Target 100

■ FY09: 81

■ FY10: 74\*

■ FY11: 76\*

\*Unable to offer AP Euro because of reduced staffing

– Average scores – Target 2.75

■ FY09: 2.4

■ FY10: 2.7

# Indicators to Demonstrate School Improvement 3-5 Year Targets

- Percentage of students attending 2-year and 4-year colleges.

Target: Due to the economy, the target is to maintain or increase. As the economy improves, we will re-examine this target.

- Class of 2009: 84%
- Class of 2010: 90%

We continue to make every effort to improve academic programs for children, but quality programs require adequate resources.