

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

The School Committee of the Westfield Public Schools, recognizing a need to provide a concise and comprehensive framework for school councils to develop school improvement plans, adopts the following criteria for plan approval.

The School Committee establishes these criteria primarily to assist school administrators, working in concert with school councils and other staff, in developing plans to improve schools and student performance.

Criteria for approval of the school improvement plan shall include the following to gain approval, the plan must:

1. Align with the existing policies of the Westfield School Committee.
2. Create a culture of excellence that promotes caring, cohesive and collaborative school communities.
3. Provide students the opportunity to participate in and take ownership of their learning through active involvement. A special emphasis should be placed on students at risk, including language minority students.
4. Form an educational process which improves student outcomes in preparation for citizenship and the world of work. Multiple career pathways need to be available where applicable.
5. Provide a sequenced curriculum which stresses critical thinking and problem solving utilizing appropriate technology.
6. Measure student achievement and academic progress regularly by focusing on student outcomes through curriculum-related assessment, "on-demand" assessment, and portfolio assessment.
7. Be developed in consultation with the school council and with input from school staff and others in the school/community who are affected by the plan.
8. Insure that teachers, administrators and support staff participate in professional development designed to enhance their subject content knowledge, strengthen teaching skills and build in shared decision-making.
9. Build collaborative relationships among students, schools, parents, and the community. These will provide opportunities for students to maximize their potential.
10. Detail actions to be taken and how changes will be implemented.
11. Indicate anticipated costs and available funding sources.
12. Include a communication plan for gaining broad community input and support for the plan.

Adopted: November 16, 1993

Cross Refs: AD Philosophy

AE Goals & Objectives

ABA,ABC Student & Community Involvement

IF Curriculum Development

KA School-Community Relations Goals