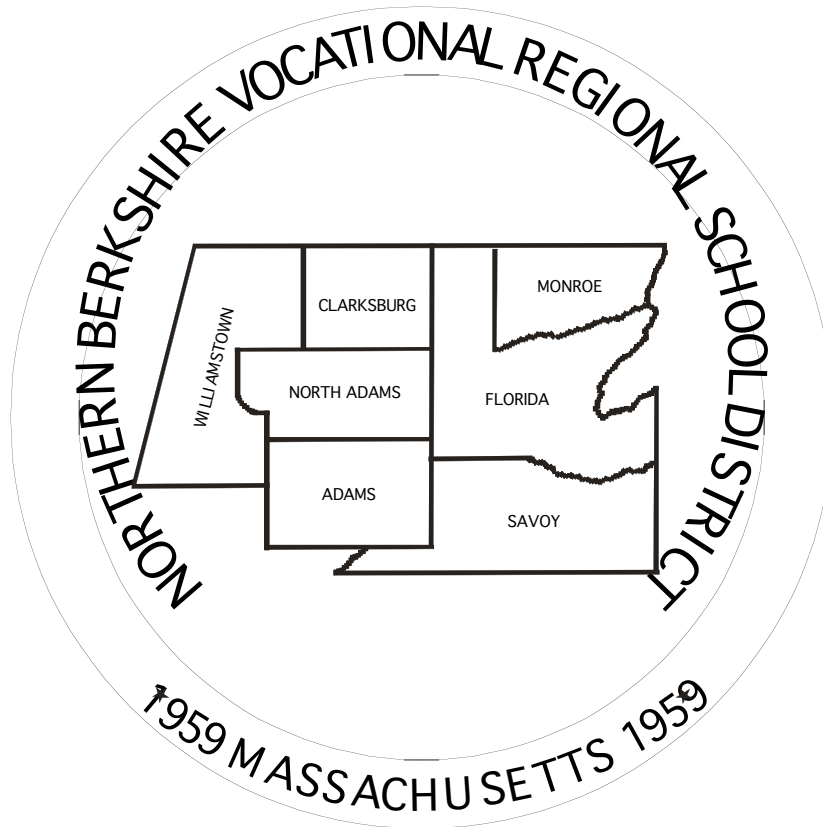


# Charles H. McCann Technical



## School Improvement Plan 2010-2011

Charles H. McCann Technical School Administration

James J. Brosnan – Superintendent-Director  
Kathleen Millard – Principal  
Justin Kratz – Assistant Principal  
Marylou Accetta – Director of Student Services

### **2009-2010 School Council**

Kathleen Millard– Principal – Co-Chairperson  
Bonnie Anderson– Parent  
Peter Chenail - Parent  
Perry Burdick – Information Technology –Parent  
Nancy Cook – Cabinetry Instructor - Faculty Member  
Sarah Coffin - English Instructor – Faculty Member  
Adam Kozik– Math Instructor- Faculty Member  
Sara Simonetti - Student (Class of 2010)  
Alison Borey – Student (Class of 2010)  
Nicole Burdick – Student (Class of 2011)  
James Nowak –Student (Class of 2011)  
Alexander Bona –Student (Class of 2012)  
Nicole Bona –Student (Class of 2012)  
Casie Field – Student (Class of 2012)  
Brodey Moran – Student (Class of 2012) - Co-Chairperson

### **School Committee**

Richard Bernardi – Clarksburg  
Susan Reinhartt – Savoy  
James Gazzaniga – Williamstown  
Michael Hernandez- North Adams  
Aaron Dean – Adams  
John Hockridge – North Adams  
Alice Houghtaling – Monroe  
Jana Hunkler-Brule - Florida  
Thomas Mahar – Williamstown  
Daniel Maloney, Jr. – Adams  
Joseph Allard – Adams  
George Canales – North Adams  
Paul Gigliotti – North Adams  
Gary Rivers – North Adams

## **Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District**

### **School Council**

The administration believes that the school is the key unit for educational improvement and change and that successful school improvement is best accomplished through a school – based decision making process. By involving those directly affected by any action or decision of the school council in the process of determining that action or decision, it helps to strengthen the commitment to those decisions by those most affected by its implementation.

The principal shall have primary responsibility for the management of the school. Decisions which are made at the school level must be aligned with the budget, policies, curriculum, and long range and short-range goals adopted by the school committee. In addition, decisions must comply with any state and federal laws and regulations and with any negotiated agreement of the school district.

As enacted by the state legislature in the Education Reform Act of 1993, a school council shall be established in each school to advise the principal in specific areas of school operation. The principal, except as specifically defined in the law, shall have the responsibility for defining the composition of and forming the group pursuant to a representative process approved by the superintendent and school committee.

The following guidelines define the role of the school council:

The school council shall meet regularly with the principal of the school and shall assist in:

1. Adoption of educational goals for the school that are consistent with state and local policies and standards.
2. Identification of the educational needs of the students attending the school.
3. Review of the building budget.
4. Formulation of a school improvement plan that may be implemented only after review and approval of the superintendent and the school committee.

The following policy for the length of term for members of the Student Council will be as follows:

| Parent Representative  | Teacher Representative   | Community Representative  | Student Representative  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <p>A parent representative to the school council may remain on the council for as long as the parent has a child at McCann Technical School. A two year commitment to the Council is suggested</p> | <p>A teacher representative will serve a two year term. The terms will be staggered so that there will be greater consistency to the Council. The representatives will be elected to the Council by the faculty.</p> | <p>A community representative will be appointed by the Chair for a two year term.</p> | <p>A student representative will be elected to the Council by the student body for a maximum two year term. Student representatives may serve on the Council for additional term if reelected. A senior may serve the Council for a one year term, if elected. If no member of the student body come forward to seek a position on the Council, the principal will seek individuals to serve.</p> |

## **Northern Berkshire Vocational Regional School District**

### **Conduct of School Council Business**

The principal shall, by law, serve as co-chair of the council. The second co-chair will be elected annually by the council members at its first meeting of the school year. The co-chair will be responsible for the preparation of the agenda for the council meetings.

The school council shall meet at least once monthly during the school year. Meeting will be held outside of school hours. At its first meetings of the school year, the council will set its calendar of regular meetings for the year. Where circumstances warrant, the council choose to call additional meetings.

Consensus shall be used by school council as the primary method to resolve issues and to formulate recommendations. Votes by majority may be taken at the discretion of the principal and Roberts Rules of Order shall prevail if there are any questions of procedure.

All meetings of the school council shall conform to the Open Meeting Law, section 23 A, B, and C, which stipulates that all meetings be open to the public, that meetings be posted at least 48 hours in advance, and that minutes of the meeting shall be maintained as required. The scope of the school council does not require, and therefore does not qualify for executive session.

The superintendent shall receive agendas and minutes of all school council meetings. The superintendent shall provide copies of these materials to members of the school committee for information.

## **Mission**

The mission of McCann Technical School is to graduate individuals who are technically skilled and academically prepared to meet the challenges of a global economy.

## **Vision**

McCann Technical School is dedicated to being the recognized leader of quality technical education in the Commonwealth.

## **Educational Philosophy**

The educational philosophy of the McCann Technical School is to create a learning organization of school and community leaders, teachers, parents, and students that sustains a culture of continuous improvement through the use of student assessment and program evaluation.

School community members will:

- Create a learning environment that motivates and actively engages all students in mastering rigorous academic and technical curricula.
- Accept nothing less than accountable, high quality academic and technical student performance.
- Actively participate in professional development activities that advance professional and organizational goals, develop educational leadership, and honor accomplishments.
- Provide academic and career/technical education that is aligned to state and national standards and relevant to business and industry.
- Strengthen partnerships and alliances with business, industry, and higher education.

It is the policy of the Charles H. McCann Technical School not to discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, sexual orientation, creed, color, national origin or handicaps in its educational programs, activities, or employment opportunities.

The School Council recognizes its role in establishing educational and community goals that coincide with the mission, vision and educational philosophy of McCann Technical High School. As a mean to this end we put forth the following five goals in the 2010-2011 School Improvement Plan.

**The first goal of the School Council will address tenth grade MCAS testing.**

This goal will have three components.

- a. To achieve and maintain adequate yearly progress (AYP) in all three subject areas tested.
- b. To increase the percentage of students performing at the proficient and advanced levels in English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science as measured by the grade 10 MCAS test.
- c. To move all students to the Advanced or Proficient level by the year 2014.

**Recommendations for implementation:**

- The data team will meet to review MCAS data and identify programmatic strengths and weaknesses and determine student strengths, weaknesses, and learning gaps.
- Teachers will use formative and summative student assessment data to match instructional practice with students needs.
- Faculty and students will continue the Collins Writing program across all disciplines
- Faculty will incorporate HSTW recommendations for student learning.
- All students will read a minimum of four supplemental reading books throughout the school year. Students will read two supplemental reading books in English, one supplemental reading book for Science, one supplemental reading book for Math, and one supplemental reading book in honors History. Students in honors history courses will read one additional book.

Supplemental reading books will be assigned based upon the following schedule:

Quarter 1: Science  
Quarter 2: English  
Quarter 3: Math  
Quarter 4: English

- To implement in all disciplines, the restructuring of assignments and assessments to include open response questions, and to promote higher order thinking skills.

- To improve student learning through the use of multiple forms of student assessment data to develop instructional strategies and techniques.
- To develop specific interdisciplinary instructional units that are standards-based.
- Develop common standards based assessments.
- To utilize the “SMART Goal” model as a means of making educational improvements throughout the school. The “SMART Goal” initiative, implemented during professional development sessions, uses data to help faculty identify areas that need improvement, create action plan, and measures the effectiveness of the changes implemented.
- Ensure rigor in college-prep courses.
- Continue with plans to add AP Calculus to the curriculum and offer an additional AP course yearly until all academic core subjects are included.
- Continue to provide professional development annually for all staff in the Collins Writing program, HSTW 10 Key Practices, and Using Data to Inform Instruction

**The second goal of the School Council will address school safety:**

This goal will have two components:

- a. To update the existing school safety plan and familiarize all students and staff members with the safety procedures.
- b. To provide safety training for all staff members.

**Recommendations for implementation:**

- The emergency team will be reassembled, and a plan will be put in place to schedule emergency practice drills.
- The school emergency plan will be practiced a minimum of twice a year with each practice session including different scenarios.
- Debriefing and brainstorming will occur after each practice session.
- Provide professional development annually for all staff to increase awareness of school management safety plan.

**The third goal of the council will address school climate.**

This goal will have two components:

- a. To improve participation among students and faculty in spirit building activities.
- b. To improve school pride among faculty and students.

**Recommendations for implementation:**

- Council will schedule monthly spirit activities.
- Activities will be diverse to accommodate all student interests.
- Participation in spirit activities during the school day will be free.
- Council will schedule two dances during the school year.
- Council will schedule seasonal school-wide clean up days.
- Council will review activities at monthly meetings to evaluate success and implement changes needed to increase participation.

**The fourth goal will address school and community collaboration.**

This goal will have two components:

- a. To adopt a school wide community service plan
- b. To improve community awareness of school based projects.

**Recommendations for implementation:**

- To create an annual community improvement project.
- To create a community awareness team to develop guidelines for promoting the school.
- To include the cleaning, repairing, or revitalizing of public spaces in the local area. School council members and volunteers will choose the annual location.
- To continue to develop and expand existing articulation agreements with institutions of higher education.
- To create innovative programs that uses the school as an expanded community resource.

**The fifth goal will address recruitment of new students to McCann.**

This goal will have two components:

- a. To update past recruitment policies and explore new avenues for increased enrollment.
- b. To increase community awareness of opportunities for students at McCann

**Recommendations for implementation:**

- Produce two informative videos. One to be shown to students and one for parents and community members.
- Show videos on local access T.V. periodically, as well as at recruitment events.
- Invite current McCann students to accompany Mr. Naughton on school visits to speak with junior high students.
- Implement community service learning projects that target the younger students in grades six through eight.

## **Northern Berkshire Vocational School District**

### **Submission and Approval of the School Improvement Plan**

The written school involvement plan shall be submitted by the principal to the superintendent and the school committee for review and approval each year. Because the implementation of the plan is dependent on school committee approval, it is important that the school council be aware of certain expectations of the school committee regarding the school improvement plan. The school improvement plan should:

- \* Focus on improvement of student learning.
- \* Specify expected student outcomes and measurable/observable results.
- \* Align with the Mission and any goals and policies of the school district.
- \* Clearly identify actions to be taken on how changes will be implemented.
- \* Include a plan on how to solidify community support for the changes being developed.
- \* Indicate anticipated costs and available funding sources.
- \* Delineate the method of evaluating and reporting progress and results.

If the school improvement plan is not approved by the superintendent and the school committee, it shall be returned to the principal with specific comments as to the reason(s). The principal shall revise the plan in cooperation with the school council and resubmit it for approval.