

Warren-Prescott School  
Site Council Meeting  
November 2018

6:05pm

Welcome and Introductions

MCAS 2.0 Indicators/Quality School Plan  
Karen Scholz - Instructional Coach.

The MCAS test has been given in Massachusetts for about 20 years. In 2001, it became a requirement for 10th graders to graduate. The test was initially designed to test basic knowledge, but was not a good measure of success. It was updated and to focus on critical thinking and making connections (readiness for college and career). The updated test was referred to as "next gen." In 2017 the next gen test was used by the WP for ELA and Math. This spring that will be expanded to include science.

Warren-Prescott students did very well on the 2017 test.

Instructional Focus - a school's instructional focus determines how the school works towards goals. BPS has four essentials and each is focused around the idea that Boston as a district has not provided for all students in general. The idea is to look for culturally sustaining practices for all students. Every school must pick from the four essentials when developing an instructional focus. The Warren-Prescott instructional focus aligns with access and engagement.

Three priorities in the WP action plan - *see presentation*. The gist of the action plan is to support and challenge all students regardless of student ability. Collective planning is done for all students.

The purpose of the accountability system is to provide clear actionable info to parents and families about how schools and district are doing.

#### Absenteeism

Absent - going on an attendance plan. If student is absent 8 days, he/she may be on track to be chronically absent for the entire school year. A daily list of absent students is generated - and families are called - this seems to be helping as the policy is explained and WP is seeing an uptick in attendance. Attendance marks against the school - the WP get points if it can reduce the number of kids who are chronically absent. This is a statewide indicator that the school we can improve. Schools are awarded points based on reduction in absenteeism, achievement, ESL and other indicators of success.

Bottom 10% of schools are ineligible for top designation and designated as schools for intervention. Schools must get more than 75% of all potential points to get to meeting targets,

WP is at 70%. Every school has a % amount. Distinguished, Meeting, Partially Meeting, Intervention

The WP achievement score is much higher than Boston and high among the state.

Build BPS (Warren Prescott Facilities Need)

On November 2, BPA released its BuildBPS plan and it specifically stated no new investment in Charlestown. For years, WP families have been asking for a plan to improve the facilities at the WP, so this was quite disappointing. During the meeting, parents agreed that it was time to share our concerns with our local politicians and work towards getting some funding for the school. The immediate ask is for some modular classrooms. Those classrooms will alleviate the crowding situation that students experience daily and preserve our current three strand K-8 structure. Parents will reach out to local leaders and BPS as a group and as individuals.

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