



# Milford Public Schools

## District Priorities and Goals 2016-2020

### Mission Statement (Milford Public Schools)

*Students who graduate from the Milford Public Schools will demonstrate mastery of reading, writing and numeracy. Students will comprehend, organize and analyze information in order to independently solve problems and articulate solutions. Students will demonstrate the attributes of good citizenship and community/school engagement.*

### Vision Statement (Milford Board of Education)

*Milford Public Schools will be a progressive school district in which students are prepared to achieve at their highest level, surrounded by an engaged community that is proud of its educational system.*

In fulfilling the Mission and Vision of the Milford Public Schools and Board of Education, District Four-Year Goals 2016 – 2020 will be established. These goals will reflect the **Board's Priorities**.

**Priority # 1:** Our schools will be safe, orderly and caring places that support and promote student learning and positive relationships.

**Priority # 2:** All students will have access to and engage in rigorous learning in every classroom. Instruction and curriculum will be aligned to the Connecticut Common Core and other content area standards, and will be measured by internal and external assessments as well as by the MPS Instructional Framework. Imbedded in student learning is the expectation that Milford Public School graduates will acquire knowledge and skills in the core academic disciplines\* to enable them to do the following.

- **Think critically and reason**, i.e., synthesize, interpret, analyze, evaluate and apply information.
- **Communicate**, i.e., employ oral, written, non-verbal skills and/or tools in multiple contexts to articulate ideas for a range of purposes.
- **Problem solve**, i.e., analyze data, use various types of reasoning, and utilize appropriate tools to find solutions to a variety of problems.
- **Collaborate**, i.e., participate effectively in group tasks and provide meaningful feedback to help both the group and individuals solve problems and accomplish their goals.
- **Receive and Give Feedback**, i.e., utilize and/or provide feedback – teacher to student, peer to peer – that leads to further understanding and extends thinking and learning.

**Priority # 3:** Teaching and learning will be supported by leaders focused on instruction, sound professional development, professional learning communities grounded in best practices, and appropriate and high quality instructional resources.

**Priority # 4:** Parent, community and business relationships will be built and supported recognizing that they contribute to increased learning for all students.

\* Milford's Core Academic Content Areas include English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Language, Health, Physical Education, Music, and Fine and Applied Arts.

## Milford Public School District Four Year Goals 2016-2020

### Safe, Orderly and Caring Schools

All Milford Public Schools will be safe and affirming places that support learning and promote the well-being of all students. (To be measured by Survey Data: parent, teacher and student.)

### Student Learning

It is our expectation that all students will demonstrate annual growth against the performance standards articulated below. (To be measured by assessment targets.)

**Milford Public Schools students will be able to read, write and speak effectively.**

#### **Goal #1: Improve student achievement in the area of literacy.**

Goal #1a: All students will be able to read accurately and fluently, and interpret and respond to grade level texts by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (PK-3).

Goal #1b: All students will be able to identify valuable information, research across multiple varied texts, synthesize information, and present it in a well-constructed, evidenced based response by the end of 7<sup>th</sup> grade (4-7).

**Milford Public Schools students will be able to define and solve problems.**

#### **Goal #2: Improve student achievement in the area of numeracy.**

Goal #2a: All students will formulate, select and apply mathematical practices in solving complex, grade level problems by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade (PK-3).

Goal #2b: All students will be able to problem solve, use reasoning, make connections, and represent mathematical ideas by the end of 7<sup>th</sup> grade (4-7).

**Milford Public Schools students will be able to solve complex problems and construct and engage in viable arguments based on evidence and research.**

#### **Goal #3: Improve students' ability to solve problems and take a critical stance based on evidence and research.**

Goal #3a: All students will be able to analyze grade level texts and construct viable arguments by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade (8-12).

Goal #3b: All students will be able to solve complex problems effectively through analyzing data, posing questions, and examining different solutions by the end of 12<sup>th</sup> grade (PK-12).

**Professional Learning**

Milford Public Schools will align its systems and staff to support student achievement and district goals.

- Milford Public Schools will align its professional development, curriculum writing, instructional practices, assessments, and resources to continuously improve student learning.
- Milford Public Schools will ensure that instructional leadership is aligned to district and school goals and continuously supports improvement in student learning.

(To be measured by academic goals and budget priorities)

**Parent, Community, Business Relationships**

The Milford Public Schools will outreach to parents, the community at large and the business community aimed at engaging them in and/or learning about the schools and student learning.

(To be measured by concrete evidence from schools and central office.)

Approved BOE: May 9, 2016