

Boston Public Schools “Turnaround Schools”

PROCESS AND MILESTONES: SEPTEMBER 2009 – SEPTEMBER 2010

DATA REVIEW AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Analyze student achievement results (MCAS proficiency) to identify schools in greatest need of improvement
- Identify seven key levers that foster accelerated school improvement / turnaround
- Conduct diagnostic school visits with cross-functional teams (ELL, SPED, Math, Literacy, etc.)
- Meet with families and staff

INTERVENTION AND INVESTMENT

- Institute immediate targeted interventions
- Provide additional academic support through Acceleration Academies during winter recess and Saturdays, increased after-school tutoring
- Assemble outstanding instructional teams (administrators and teachers)
- Convene school-based turnaround planning teams to develop School Improvement Plans
- Prioritize schools for summer programs, arts programming, and AVID program expansion
- Target federal funds for each Level 4 school
- Allocate funds for summer planning and implementation

MONITORING AND SUPPORT

- Conduct regular school visits
- Monitor individual student performance – classroom by classroom – to target and intensify supports
- Update the community and School Committee quarterly
- Assess and report school performance in 12 State-identified areas

January 14, 2010:
State legislature passes landmark education reform bill, giving districts new authority to transform low-performing schools.

March 4, 2010:
Mass. Dept. of Education announces State “Level 4” (underperforming) schools; Superintendent names “fresh start” schools and turnaround principals.

September 9, 2010:
New school year begins; full implementation of school improvement plans in Turnaround Schools.

November 18, 2009:
Superintendent Carol Johnson presents five-year Acceleration Agenda, announces 14 Turnaround Schools.

January 27, 2010:
Superintendent updates School Committee on Acceleration Agenda, including “fresh start” for at least six of the Turnaround Schools.

July 1, 2010:
In schools with leadership changes, new principals take office.