

*Acton-Boxborough Regional School District*

16 Charter Road

Acton, MA 01720

978-264-4700 [www.abschools.org](http://www.abschools.org)



Luther Conant School  
School Improvement Plan for  
2016-17 School Year

## School Improvement Plan Template

### School Council Membership

Name	Role	Year of Term
Damian Sugrue	Principal	
Abigail Dressler	(ad hoc member)	
Andrea Keenan	Parent	1
Michelle Brown-Droese	Parent	2
Ranjini Reddy	Parent	3
Christina Pharo	Parent	1
Kimberly Macey	Teacher	1
Jana Bardsley	Teacher	3

**Goal: Community:** Increase staff/student interactions

#### Background and Rationale:

- **Responsible Parties:** Principal, teachers, staff.
- In 2015 – 2016 many staff members were assigned “smile buddies” who were students identified as those who need some extra attention.
- Staff members made connections with these students at the beginning of the year.
- Many staff members stated they saw positive changes in student confidence and social skills throughout the year.

#### Strategies:

- Continue to facilitate weekly lunch meetings with small groups of students and the principal and assistant principal
- Hold weekly meetings with the guidance counselor, school psychologist, nurse, and administrative team to actively monitor students who are under extra stress
- In order to increase the level and variety of staff/student interactions, assign staff from across the school (teachers, janitors, kitchen and office staff) to certain students to be their “Smile Buddy.”
- Continue to hold short “Community” meetings with students and staff at each grade level
- Continue to hold “Bus Community” meetings to support positive staff/student interactions
- Expand the Tufts AIMS Buddy project, which was piloted during the 2015-2016 school year, into a school-wide social curriculum, taught consistently in every classroom

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### **Outcomes:**

- Develop a stronger community where more students feel safe enough to seek help with issues that affect them.

**Goal: Community:** Increase PTO membership, involvement and volunteering

### **Background and Rationale:**

- **Responsible Parties:** PTO officers, Principal, teachers, parents
- The PTO needs more people to participate in organizing activities.
- The PTO would like more families to support them financially.
- The PTO has made some strides in this area but are not where they want to be in order to support the school in the manner they would like.

### **Strategies:**

- Increase the number of informational parent evenings with speakers or meetings on topics like K-1 transitions, parenting issues, etc.
- Provide PTO updates during monthly staff meetings
- Support the PTO's transition to a team-based leadership model

### **Outcomes:**

- More volunteers for PTO events.
- Increased revenue from direct appeal and events.
- More and different officers in the PTO organization.

**Goal: Student Growth:** Implement the new science standards in all grade levels.

### **Background and Rationale:**

- **Responsible Parties:** Principal, teachers, staff.
- New frameworks for science have been published.
- Teachers must implement the new standards and eliminate concepts no longer required of their grade level.

### **Strategies:**

- Teachers will work in grade level teams to support the implementation of new science curricula
- Professional development time will be devoted to sharing student work and identifying best practices

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- A portion of each faculty meeting will be designated for teachers to share their successes
- The administrative team will encourage teachers to observe one another teach science
- General education and special education teachers who wish to collaboratively teach science will be supported and encouraged

#### **Outcomes:**

- Full implementation of all new science frameworks.

### **Assessment of Previous Year's School Improvement Plan**

**Goal:** Increase staff/student interactions

#### **Outcomes/evidence and means by which they were assessed:**

For the 2015 – 2016 school year Mrs. Dressler and Mr. Sugrue continued to hold lunches with small groups of students every Monday. We were able to have lunch with every student in the school. We were able to connect with many more students than we would have without these lunches. This was proven by the increase in the amount of children who chose to seek us out for interactions in sharing good news and seeking help. Meetings were also held with “bus communities” or grade levels to help alleviate disciplinary concerns. These small group meetings about specific issues were highly effective in encouraging appropriate behaviors. Staff members were assigned a smile buddy; this increased the overall number of positive student/adult interactions in the school.

**Goal:** Increase PTO membership, involvement and volunteering

#### **Outcomes/evidence and means by which they were assessed:**

The PTO made strong efforts to increase participation and involvement. They held meetings in the evening and in the morning to try to accommodate parents. They offered movie nights as community events, not fundraisers. They continued to increase their use of social media. They continued moving away from committee chairs to event planning teams to get things done. More parents are visible at meetings and some new people have volunteered for leadership teams.

**Goal:** Develop anchor papers to go along with our Narrative, Opinion and Information writing rubrics and prompts to further align our school wide writing program with Common Core Standards and have a mechanism for tracking student growth over time in writing

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### **Outcomes/evidence and means by which they were assessed:**

Teachers used professional learning time to work together to develop a packet of anchor papers for writing rubrics. The set of anchor papers is not yet complete but work will continue next year to complete them.