

**ROBIN HOOD SCHOOL  
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN  
2005 - 2006**

**REVISED**

**ROBIN HOOD SCHOOL COUNCIL  
2004-2005**

Alice Reilly .....	Chairperson/Principal
Mary Canavan .....	Community Member
Marilyn DeSantis .....	Parent
Maryellen Driscoll .....	Teacher
Estelle McDonough .....	School Nurse
David Maurer .....	Parent
Christine Olson .....	Teacher
Nick Stavre .....	Parent
Lyle Woodworth .....	Parent

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of the Stoneham Public Schools is to develop students who:

- Are creative, critical and independent thinkers
- Have respect and tolerance for self and others
- Know and apply communication and computation skills
- Are healthy and responsible contributors to society

We believe that this mission requires that we ...

- Commit to a common and understood purpose
- Hold high expectations for all children
- Honor teaching
- Value diversity
- Insist on competence and professionalism
- Foster innovation
- Seek new knowledge and growth
- Trust, respect and involve others
- Communicate directly, openly and honestly
- Listen with understanding
- Establish purpose before action
- Work together

## **2004-2005 GOALS REVIEW**

### **SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS**

Robin Hood School has continued to hold a working relationship with Shaws Supermarket. The P.T.O. and staff have been encouraged to submit requests to Shaws for donations of supplies and goodies. We were also adopted by B.J.'s this year in their "Adopt A School Program". B.J.'s has also been generous with donations. An entertaining activity night for Robin Hood School families was held at B.J.'s last fall. Student work has been displayed at their store throughout the year. Robin Hood School has continued to participate in Stoneham's Chamber of Commerce "Read-A-Loud Program". The School Council is grateful to these established partnerships and we look forward to continued participation with these groups in the 2005-2006 school year.

### **CLASS SIZE**

Class size was an area of concern at Robin Hood School. This year our enrollment was 372. While we were able to maintain reasonable class size in grades K-3, we housed fourth and fifth grade classes of 27 through 29 in each class. Because of these high numbers we were able to hire an additional teaching assistant to work in these classrooms.

### **SCHOOL ATMOSPHERE**

Our new building continued to provide all at Robin Hood School with a warm and inviting atmosphere. Students participated in a School Pride Initiative and have taken the ownership of the school to heart. Our P.T.O. has also been instrumental in establishing a pleasant school atmosphere. They began the year with a very festive opening day event to welcome students, staff and parents to Robin Hood School.

We continued to work on our respect initiative and our School Adjustment councilor provided students with lessons regarding character counts, anti-bullying, and Kids and Company. With the support of the PTO, we continued to foster a community spirit by sponsoring many school-wide family events.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

Many extra-curricular activities have taken place throughout the school year. These include our Poetry Recitation, our winter holiday program, after school classes, P.T.O. funded enrichment activities, field trips, our annual read-a-thon and field day. In addition the students have participated in a Choke Saver class, Back Pack Safety and visits from both a dentist and a veterinarian. Other visitors included both our local fire and police departments focusing on safety issues. The Council sponsored our winter after school programs, which included sports, knitting, computer lab, and cooking. Once again, the P.T.O. sponsored a writer/storyteller to work with our students on writing skills. This year we were able to expand this program to grades three, four and five. Our fourth and fifth graders continue to receive bi-weekly Italian classes. In addition, the championships of both the Patriots and the Red Sox added to our extra curricular events. We held several "spirit days" and held our own parades!

### **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

The involvement of parents at Robin Hood School has continued to be a key factor in our school culture. In addition to all the PTO Committee members, many PTO volunteers continued to work in their PTO room and throughout the building. Our dedicated parents are responsible for publishing our weekly newsletter and collating and distributing all our Friday notices. Volunteer work included room parents, library volunteers, field trip chaperones, learning centers, fundraising to provide enrichment and field trips, grant writing, cleaning up the school grounds, book fairs, recess/lunch room volunteers, after school programs, garden committee and our annual school Read-A-Thon.

### **INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES**

The School Council has continued to support the special education team and parents in determining the most appropriate educational setting for each child. Robin Hood complies with State and Federal laws requiring the education of every student in the least restrictive and most inclusive environment. Special needs children have been serviced by special education staff within the school day. In addition, Robin Hood staff participated in a pre-referral process. A Teacher Assistance Team met weekly and offered a number of interventions and suggested modifications. The team provided remediation and intervention programs for students who displayed MCAS weaknesses with individualized student success plans.

In addition to our three integrated special needs programs at the kindergarten, first and second grade levels, we have housed the special needs program for hearing impaired students this year.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY AND DISCIPLINE**

The pick-up and drop-off traffic situation continues to be an area of concern. We have sent out notices to parents to explain the proper procedures. Our efforts to secure volunteers to assist with traffic supervision has been minimal. The Council thanks David Maurer for his efforts in this area.

Fire and building evacuation plans continued to be reviewed and improved as we began our second in the new Robin Hood School. A Crisis Management Plan and a Crisis Management Team continue to be in place. Ms. Reilly is now equipped with a police radio for use in the event of an emergency.

Locked doors and a security camera system have enabled the front office to monitor all visitors to the building. Visitors must sign in and out at the office and school volunteers must have a CORI check each year.

Playground safety also continues to be a concern. Our Physical Education teacher, Mrs. Cahill, as well as all staff, continue to implement a playground safety plan.

## **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

Student performance on MCAS tests was reviewed by staff early in the school year. Our students continue to perform well in MCAS and we once again met with success regarding our "adequate yearly progress" standard set by the state. An MCAS action plan was written and implemented by the staff. As we analyzed scores, we adjusted our curriculum. Our student writing skills have increased due to the successful implementation of the John Collins Writing Program. Other successful strategies regarding academic performance include "Problem of the Day", a thorough calendar and time routine each morning and enriching hands on lessons taught throughout the curriculum.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The staff at Robin Hood School continued to take courses, attend conference and participate in workshops as part of their professional development. A list of all professional development activities in which our staff has participated in is attached.

## **SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2005-2006**

In order to prepare for the writing of next year's school improvement plan, the school council distributed a comprehensive "Needs Assessment Survey" to all parents. The survey covered the following topics:

Educational Expectations and Programs  
Environment and Safety  
Communication and Teamwork Between School and Parents

Nearly 100 families responded to this survey. These results were analyzed by the Council and used to develop next year's improvement plan. While we are required by the state to report on class size, professional development, parental involvement, school safety and discipline, school climate, extracurricular activities, and mainstreaming of students, we have also included goals focusing on school partnerships, academic performance, and technology. While most of the survey results were favorable, it was class size and traffic safety issues that were of great concern.

## **SCHOOL GOALS 2005-2006**

### **SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS**

In addition to continuing our school partnership with Shaw's Supermarket of Stoneham, it is the hope of the School Council to develop a partnership with some community business in order to fund a homework club and/or a MCAS tutorial program. The Council has contacted area banks and businesses requesting support.

## **SCHOOL SAFETY AND DISCIPLINE**

Playground rules will again be posted and reviewed in the classrooms at the beginning of the year.

CORI checks will continue to be mandatory for all new school personnel and/or school volunteers.

Members of the School Council will continue to address general safety and ongoing traffic concerns. Traffic

regulations have been reviewed by the council and parents will be informed of any changes regarding traffic flow and parking. The Council will encourage waking and car pooling to alleviate traffic in the driveway and on the street.

Student and parental cooperation will be required to maintain a safe learning environment at Robin Hood School. The policies and procedures set by the Stoneham School Committee and the elementary school principals will be followed. Each family will be given the Stoneham Elementary Handbook, which reviews all such policies and procedures.

We will continue to insure a safe environment in our building with locked doors, visitor check-ins, a Crisis Management Plan and a Fire and Building Evacuation Plan.

### **INCLUSIONARY PRACTICES**

It is a goal of the Council that we continue to develop a fully inclusive, safe environment that embraces diversity and the dignity of the individual students.

At Robin Hood School we will continue to house three special needs integrated programs, as well as the program for hearing impaired students. Special needs students will be serviced by special education staff. The School Council will continue to support our special education team and parents in determining the most appropriate educational setting for each child. Special education students will be serviced by both the special education staff and classroom teachers. Together, these teachers will modify students' work and provide necessary accommodations.

The TAT process (Teacher Assistance Team) will be reviewed with parents and staff at Back To School Night. The Team will continue to meet weekly and offer a number of interventions and suggested modifications to teachers in order to help struggling students. The Team will serve as a pre-referral process for special education.

### **PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

With the assistance of our P.T.O. the School Council will continue to encourage parental involvement at Robin Hood School. Opportunities to assist both in and out of the classroom will be publicized. At Back To School Night in the fall of 2005, classroom teachers will provide information about their curriculum and a written explanation of their assessment procedures. Information for parents will be posted in a weekly newsletter, on a website and on cable TV. The School Council will host parent forums on various educational topics throughout the school year. The Council will survey parents as to what types of forums they would attend and what time of day is more appealing.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

With the assistance of the P.T.O's Enrichment Committee, we will continue to sponsor both in school and out of school extra curricular activities.

Enrichment programs will include, but are not limited to,

- Magic of Maps
- Techsploration
- Eyes on Owls
- Rock Hopper Hop
- Michelle's Menagerie
- Jeff Kelly (author and writer)
- Bugworks
- Traveling Treasure Trunk
- Traveling Tidepool
- ZAP
- Whales
- Johnny The K Show
- The Matter of Fact
- Field Day
- Annual Poetry Recitation
- A Musical Performance

## **SCHOOL ATMOSPHERE**

Robin Hood School will continue to maintain a warm and supportive school atmosphere. The Council will initiate programs focusing on anti-bullying and respect for all. With the assistance of the School Adjustment Counselor and the School Psychologist, we will offer Friendship Groups, Peer Coaching and Conflict Resolution. Students will be encouraged to continue taking pride in their school and keeping the building safe, clean and happy. Parents will continue to be encouraged to be active participants in the running of Robin Hood School.

Our PTO's Community Awareness Committee contributes a great deal to the school atmosphere. We are a generous community as demonstrated in our yearly Thanksgiving baskets donations, our holiday gift giving program with the Salvation Army, our annual coat drive, and other charitable causes.

## **CLASS SIZE**

Class size has become an area of concern over the last two years. While we have been able to maintain adequate class size at the kindergarten – Grade 3 levels, parents and staff are concerned with the large class sizes in our upper grades. Hopefully, as the budget process unfolds we will be able to return to housing at least three sections of each grade. The Council will continue to hold class size as a top priority in the coming year. With the PTO, the Council will encourage all parents to attend meetings that impact their child's education. At press time, the Council is concerned with class size in general, but in particular in grades 3 & 5.

## **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE**

Robin Hood School continues to pride itself in the academic performance of all students. We are now required by law to issue annual "report cards". This "report card" gives us information regarding teacher qualifications, school achievement in mathematics and reading and school performance ratings. Robin Hood School has met with success in these areas and continues making adequate yearly progress according to the standards set forth by the state. We will continue our practice of analyzing MCAS scores and adjust our curriculum accordingly. An MCAS action plan will be written and implemented by the staff. MCAS scores (Spring 2004) are attached. Our students have continued to perform well in all MCAS subjects. The Council would like to see a remediation and intervention program for students who perform below average in their MCAS testing.

Staff will continue to implement the successful teaching strategies that enhance students' academic performance.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

The staff at Robin Hood School will continue to take courses, attend conferences, and participate in workshops as part of their professional development. All teachers will continue to work towards their five year recertification requirement required by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Our para-professionals (teaching assistants) have also begun taking professional development workshops on topics pertaining to their assignment at our school. It is the hope of the Professional Development committee to expand these opportunities for our teaching assistants.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

It is a goal of the school council to develop a school website for parents, students, and staff in the upcoming school year. This communication vehicle for our school community will enable us to share information, share academic activities, publicize events, and much more.