

The Brockton Public Schools District Curriculum Accommodation Plan 2017-2018

Massachusetts General Laws require school systems to develop district level Curriculum Accommodation Plans which may be modified to suit the needs of populations or individual students in schools within the district. The intent of this provision is to assist school leaders in planning and providing a general education program that will accommodate students' diverse learning needs and avoid unnecessary referrals to special education. The following section guides the development of the various components within the Brockton Public Schools District Curriculum Accommodation Plan:

Section 38Q1/2 A school district shall adopt and implement a curriculum accommodation plan to assist principals in ensuring that all efforts have been made to meet students' needs in regular education. The plan shall be designed to assist the regular classroom teacher in

(1) analyzing and accommodating diverse learning styles of all children in the regular classroom and in (2) providing appropriate services and support within the regular education program including, but not limited to, direct and systematic instruction in reading and provision of services to address the needs of children whose behavior may interfere with learning. The curriculum accommodation plan shall include provisions encouraging (3) teacher mentoring and collaboration and (4) parental involvement (numbering and emphasis is that of the Brockton Public Schools).

(1) Analyzing and Accommodating Diverse Learning Styles of All Children in the Classroom

In setting annual goals to improve student achievement, the Brockton Public Schools documents progress via the following:

- The Brockton Public Schools District Strategic Plan*
Plan development, 2013-14; Implementation, Year 1, 2014-15 and continues to be implemented to reach long term goals
- School Improvement Plans (Filed Annually)

Professional development focusing on assisting teachers in analyzing and accommodating various students' learning needs, including students who are English Language Learners (ELL), and students who have an Individual Education Plan or 504 Plan:

- Brockton Public Schools' Professional Development Plan as the guiding process for approving professional development opportunities in the district
- Minutes of the Professional Development Executive Committee, which document individual schools' and departments' professional development activities
- RETELL course offerings, for teachers and administrators
- Sheltered English Immersion coaching opportunities
- Training opportunities for paraprofessionals and monitor teaching assistants based relevant topics

Instructional delivery options within general education (including personnel resources):

- Direct and systematic instruction in reading and math
- Elementary Literacy and Stem Coaching positions in all elementary schools
- Instructional Resource Specialists at Brockton High School
- Associate Principals of Instruction or Instructional Resource Specialists in all middle schools
- Curriculum content department heads or coordinators at the 9-12 level
- Title I support at the Elementary and Middle Schools
- Use of Leveled Literacy as a reading intervention in the primary grades
- Responsive, flexible curriculum presentation in general education
- Differentiated instruction through a variety of instructional formats:
 - flexible grouping
 - modified scheduling
 - adjusting the level of time and support
 - using a variety of materials and instructional supports
- Increased time allotment for math and English Language Arts
- Sheltered English Immersion and Integrated Sheltered English Immersion classrooms at all levels
- English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers at every school to support the needs of English Language Learners in the mainstream and integrated SEI classrooms
- English Language Acquisition coaches with caseloads of students and teachers at each school
- Additional enrichment Math period at the Middle School level for any student who is not able to obtain proficiency
- Addition of Math Lab classes for all students during the Specialist Block
- FASTT Math as a math intervention – elementary
- Academic Support Services -- School Year and Summer Programs
- After-school options such as homework assistance and academic support
- Use of both co-teaching and pullout models, K-12
- Availability of in-school, after-school and summer remedial programs
- A variety of programs designed to address needs of students at-risk of failing
- Program for gifted and talented students in grades 4 and 5 (Angelo School)
- International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program at the Plouffe Academy
- International Baccalaureate course offerings and diploma program at the 9-12 level
- and peer coaching

Formative and Summative Assessment / Ongoing Analysis

- STAR Formative Assessment system in Math and English Language Arts, grades K-8
- Common Benchmark Assessment system in grades K-8 with 4 cycles of common assessments in all content areas
- Quarterly data meetings at each school to review STAR data and Benchmark Assessment data
- The use of standardized and criterion-referenced assessment data as one measure of student learning and indicator of student needs
- Kindergarten: Teaching Strategies Gold in all Kindergarten classrooms
- Iowa in grades 3 as one of the criteria for Talented and Gifted placement
- MCAS (electronic version) in grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8
- MCAS in grade 10
- Teacher-created common assessments in all content areas developed at site level meetings
- Creation, implementation, and analysis of unit tests in Math, ELA, K-8
- Creation, implementation and analysis of unit tests in Science and Social Studies, 6-8

- Use of the Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test for students entering grade 8 Algebra
- School-based Language Assessment Teams to facilitate placement and supports for English Language Learners

Curriculum and Materials

- Massachusetts Frameworks Common Core aligned standards-based report cards at the elementary level
- Availability of a wide variety of curricular and instructional materials including computers, Smart Boards, LCDs, tape recorders, and taped/large print books, CD Players, SME, Study Island, Lexia, Elmos, Promethean Boards, Imagine Learning & Math
- Developmentally appropriate, culturally and linguistically sensitive curriculum
- Student choices in assigned reading materials
- Scientifically research-based core text in grades K-5 Reach for Reading & Envisions Math)
- Discovery Education Techbook used for delivery of science content, K-8

Instruction and Learning

- Analysis of WIDA ACCESS test results for classification and support of ELL students
- A variety of teaching approaches, including teacher modeling, teacher-directed instruction and practice, group discussion, problem solving, cooperative learning, and research projects
- Emphasis on Differentiated Instruction/Checking for Understanding and formative assessment strategies in the classroom
- Immediate and specific feedback about student performance
- Co-teaching and team teaching
- Active and varied learning activities across subject areas
- Both oral and visual directions for assignments, along with visual, auditory, and tactile prompts
- Use of Backward Design for the planning of units of study that are aligned to the Common Core state standards, K-8
- Writing Rubrics to assess student writing in a variety of modes, K-8
- Lesson plans that include an activating and summarizing activity
- Homework assignments that further student learning and reinforce it

(2) Services and Support within the Regular Education Program

(Including services to address the needs of students whose behavior may interfere with learning)

- Brockton's process for addressing students who have not met achievement targets
- Three-tiered Instructional Model
- Regular meetings of instructional support teams or student support teams with the purpose of setting interim goals and assessing progress
- Guidance Services Handbook
- Helping Traumatized Students Learn training at multiple sites
- Second Step Program in all elementary schools
- Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) in all elementary schools
- Morning Meeting component of Responsive Classroom implemented at 8 elementary schools
- Yale School Development Program, Comer Model in one elementary school
- Clinical Consultation Team to provide building level support for students with significant social,

- emotional, and behavioral difficulties
- Functional Behavioral Assessment and Behavior Support Plans
- Assertive Discipline and Cooperative Discipline Programs in various schools
- Implementation of Skills for Life character education program at one Middle School
- School discipline codes, annually revised and disseminated/translated for families
 - o Elementary School Student/Parent Handbook
 - o Middle School Student/Parent Handbook
 - o Brockton High School Student/Parent Handbook

(3) Teacher and Leader Mentoring and Collaboration

- Teacher Mentoring Program
- New Teacher Symposium
- Mentor Teacher Handbook
- New Teacher Survival Guide
- Annual Internship Program
- National Institute for School Leadership Program (NISL); just concluded Cohort 4
- Course offerings and workshops for teachers in their first few years

(4) Parental Involvement

- Title I Parent Involvement Program Materials
- Title I Breakfasts
- Title I Book Bags
- Parent Academy offerings
- Parent Advocacy Centers with native language support reflective of dominant languages in the community
- Community and Family Engagement offerings
 - “My Child Can...” parent resource companions for the elementary standards-based report cards
 - “Welcome to Kindergarten” parent resource guide
- Kindergarten Showcases (4 per year)
- Strategies for use of community agencies and volunteers to assist students and teachers
- Partners in Excellence Handbook: Brockton Public Schools Volunteer Program*
- Services of the Community Schools' Adult Learning Center
- Family Learning Program
- Family Connections Program
- Providing information for parents to understand school programs and options available for their children through www.brocktonpublicschools.com
- Annual open houses and two parent conferences at all levels
- Multiple curriculum nights at the elementary level
- Monthly parent newsletters from all schools
- Information regarding testing programs provided in a variety of formats o District and school parent advisory groups
- Coordinated School Wellness Programs
- Educational Access: <http://www.brocktonpublicschools.com/page.cfm?p=33>