

# DEPARTMENTAL GOALS 2014-15

Pelham  
English  
Department

# 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

*Systemically integrate the principles and content of 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning into academic and co-curricular programs to prepare all students to meet current and future challenges.*

*Provide well-articulated coordinated networks of support as well as targeted instruction for every K-12 learner.*

*Foster the social-emotional development of all students to promote wellness of the “whole child” and to support every learner’s growth and success.*

*Build a professional culture of learning, effective feedback and growth for every employee, inspiring a standard of excellence for all.*

# 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN – FOUR PILLARS

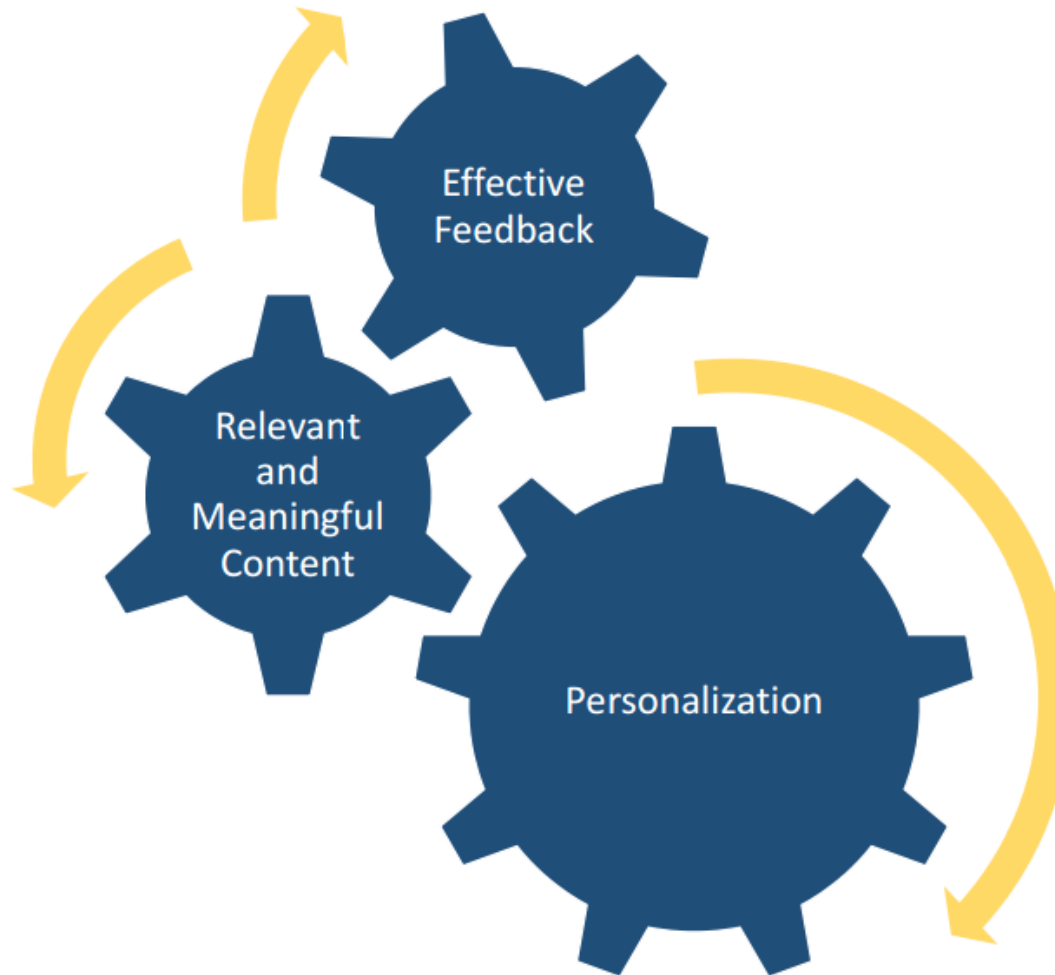
Principles and  
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Professional  
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# 5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN – CONNECTING THEMES



# GOALS, ACTION STEPS, PRIORITIES

<i>Target Area</i>	<i>Action Steps</i>	<i>Details</i>	<i>Evidence of Success</i>	<i>Results</i>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning</b>	<p>1 <b>Establish a K-12 Innovation and Creativity Steering Committee</b></p> <p>a. <b>Identify guiding principles of innovation, creativity and critical thinking</b></p> <p>b. <b>Re-examine current curriculum for relevancy to students' lives and 21<sup>st</sup> Century</b></p> <p>c. <b>Research and visit models in public and private institutions</b></p> <p>d. <b>Pilot innovation centers in schools</b></p> <p>e. <b>Develop a roster of community experts</b></p>	<p>Consider external partners (booklists, resources, grade level projects, assessments and course offerings)</p> <p>Makers' spaces; collaboration and creativity centers</p>	<p>Agendas and progress reports</p> <p>Recommendations to the Superintendent and Board</p> <p>Frequency of use across disciplines</p> <p>Products created by pupils</p>	

# HIGH SCHOOL GOALS

- **Strategic Goal:** *Systemically integrate the principles and content of 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning into academic and co-curricular programs to prepare all students to meet current and future challenges.*
  - Action steps:
    - 1. Investigate the possible expansion of secondary course offerings to include computer programming and at least one Asian language.
    - **How-**Survey student interest and research the availability of these existing courses at similar schools in the Tri State area.
    - 2. Promote flexibility among students' academic groupings at the secondary level
    - **How-** Review enrollment and success rates by course.
    - 3. Implement 1:1 Chromebook plan by supporting the implementation of the Google Chrome Book initiative as well as the use of Google Apps. for teachers.
    - **How-** Continue with professional development activities and the sharing of best practices for the teachers of Grade 9 courses.
    - 4. Integrate STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) strand.
    - **How-** Explore and determine appropriate courses in which these programs/ strands/opportunities can be incorporated.

# HIGH SCHOOL GOALS

- **Strategic Goal:** *Provide well-articulated coordinated networks of support as well as targeted instruction for every K-12 learner.*
  - Action steps:
    - 1. Build strong networks of support for all major points of students' transitions: 8<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup> transition plan as well as 12<sup>th</sup> -college/career transition plan.
    - **How-**Review current transitional supports, research best practices and make final recommendations.
    - 2. Employ professional development activities focused on implementing and evaluating differentiated strategies into instruction to support all learners.
    - **How-** Continue professional development activities with the faculty on differentiation during department and faculty meetings.

# HIGH SCHOOL GOALS

- **Strategic Goal:** *Foster the social-emotional development of all students to promote wellness of the “whole child” and to support every learner’s growth and success.*
  - Action Steps:
    - 1. Create and display visible messages that are positive and inspiring in order to promote a school environment at PMHS that is healthy, safe, supportive and engaging.
    - **How-** Showcasing student work throughout the building as well as displaying motivational and inspiring messages daily on the digital signs.



# DEPARTMENT GOALS

- **Strategic Plan Goal #1**
- Systemically integrate the principles and content of 21st century learning into academic and co-curricular programs to prepare all students to meet current and future challenges.
- **Related English Goals:**
- During the 2014-15 school year, to examine the current English curriculum (reading lists, projects, assessments, and course offerings) for relevance to students' lives and the twenty-first century.
- During the 2014-15 school year, to foster a culture where growth is at the center of learning.
- During the 2014-15 school year, to successfully integrate 1:1 Chromebook use into the eighth and ninth grade English courses.
- During the 2014-15 school year, to, in preparation for a Tri-States Consortium visit in 2015-16
  - Begin to develop interdisciplinary Performance-Based Assessments;
  - Explore best practices in the use of metacognitive strategies;
  - Align efforts under a clearly articulated vision statement.

# DEPARTMENT GOALS

- **Strategic Plan Goal #2**
- Provide well-articulated, coordinated networks of support as well as targeted instruction for every K-12 learner.
- **Related English Goals:**
- During the 2014-15 school year, to enhance professional expertise in providing effective feedback to learners in order to maximize their engagement and success.
- During the 2014-15 school year, to research the use of electronic student portfolios for student writing.

# DEPARTMENT GOALS

- **Strategic Plan Goal #3**
- Foster the social-emotional development of all students to promote wellness of the "whole child" and to support every learner's growth and success.
  
- **Related English Goal:**
  
- During the 2014-15 school year, to examine the curricula with an eye to the diversity of literary content and range of human experience reflected in chosen texts.

# LIST OF TASKS FOR 2014-15

- Prepare for Tri-States visit in 2015-16.
- Complete the Assured Writing Experiences project.
- Revise our Curriculum Maps in Rubicon Atlas.
- PADI (Performance Assessment Design Initiative).
- Explore the Middle Years IB (International Baccalaureate) program.
- Develop and implement Differentiated Instruction strategies.
- Strive to adopt a growth mindset.
- Review the current curriculum with an eye to relevance and diversity.

# ADDITIONAL TASKS

- Prepare students for the Common Core Regents exam
- Incorporate Turnitin ([www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)) into our students' writing process.
- Explore NYLearns Common Core modules.
- Explore Learnzillion resources.
- Integrate Chromebooks.
- Explore the ways we provide feedback to students (e.g., grading papers) including strategies for decreasing the grading load.
- Discuss capstone projects for grades 8 and 12.