

Newton Local Schools

Continuous Improvement Plan

Newton Local Schools

Continuous Improvement Plan

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MISSION OF THE DISTRICT

The mission of the Newton Local School District is to provide an appropriate educational program that is significant, durable and transferable and have a learning environment that is physically and psychologically safe. The program will include activities designed to meet student needs through special education, vocational education and academic education. The goal being to produce a responsible, productive, goal-oriented member of society and the student will with knowledge, skills and/or attitudes acquired live his/her life by being a life-long learner, apply learning to post-secondary education, to the world of work and/or to one's personal life.

MISSION OF THE NEWTON ELEMENTARY

The Newton Elementary mission is to provide continuous learning for students, parents, and staff and to enhance all children's self-concepts through achievement and success. Our goal is for students to have respect for themselves and others, work cooperatively, and take responsibility for their own behavior and learning.

MISSION OF THE NEWTON HIGH SCHOOL

Striving together for excellence, we learn by doing.

Student Data

Enrollment

The current enrollment of Newton Local Schools is as follows:

Kindergarten	42		
First Grade	47		
Second Grade	35		
Third Grade	42		
Fourth Grade	35		
Fifth Grade	38		
Sixth Grade	34	Elementary	273
Seventh Grade	33		
Eighth Grade	42	Junior High	75
Ninth Grade	39		
Tenth Grade	56		
Eleventh Grade	45		
Twelfth Grade	40	High School	<u>180</u>
		Total Enrollment	528

Community Data

Many factors contribute to the success of Newton Local Schools. The community and its religious, recreational, parent, and civic organizations are integral to the success of the School.

Religious organizations foster community spirit. The Barn ministry is a non-denominational, non-profit organization whose goal it is to encourage young people in their faith and commitment to God and others. A variety of church denominations, including the German Baptist churches, Brethren churches, and United Church of Christ have established services that are the foundations of the community.

A variety of recreational areas and programs are available to our students. Located within the township are Indian Hills 4-H Camp and Rolling Hills Girl Scout Camp. Brukner Nature Center and the Miami County Park District feature facilities and educational programs that are frequently used to support the School's curriculum. The summer baseball league and SAY soccer give the youth of our community an opportunity to compete and develop a variety of skills.

Parent and business organizations encourage and support the School. The Band Boosters is a very active parent group. This organization provides the band with much support, including the purchase of instruments, maintenance of uniforms and supplies, and subsidizing the expenses of many band activities. One of the Boosters' most ambitious projects is raising funds for a student trip to Florida every four years. Any time the school calls upon community members for any type of assistance, they come!

The School is the natural gathering point for many civic events. In the Fall, the annual Fall Fair is hosted by the FFA and FCCLA and highlights a variety of activities that commemorate the community's rural tradition. Additionally, throughout the year the School is the center for a variety of programs and events.

Financially, the School benefits from community support that exceeds the norm. For example, the Kiwanis Club sponsors an annual scholarship for a graduating senior and the Covington Eagles make monetary donations quarterly for needed school materials. Several families provided a number of additional scholarships to our students. The recent passage of the Income Tax is proof that the community supports Newton Local Schools.

Newton Local Schools
Continuous Improvement Plan

Committee Members:

Elementary:

Peppie Cochran
Sarah Copp
Janet Corbin
Danielle Davis
Mary Beth George
Hillary Kinninger
Susan McKamy
Jane Tackett
Judy York

High School:

Jeff Armentrout
Stephanie Collier
Scott Davis
Gary Fisher
Margie Heitbrink
Linda Manier
Eveline Purvis
Andrew White

MCESC:

Allen Smith

Newton Local School

SUI – Standard Unit of Improvement

Proficiency & Achievement Data		Baseline Data						
Year		2004-05		2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
		Standard	Score					
3 rd	Reading	75%	89.5	*	*	*	*	*
	Math	75%	92.1	*	*	*	*	*
4 th	Reading	75%	85.0	*	*	*	*	*
	Writing		87.5	*	*	*	*	*
	Math		P 82.5	*	*	*	*	*
	Science		P 75.0					
	Social St.		P 85.0					
5 th	Reading	75%	86.5	*	*	*	*	*
	Math			75.0	*	*	*	*
	Science				75.0	*	*	*
	Social St.				75.0	*	*	*
6 th	Reading	75%	P 100.0	*	*	*	*	*
	Writing		P 87.5					
	Math		P 96.9	*	*	*	*	*
	Science		P 71.9					
	Citizenship		P 87.5					
7 th	Reading							
	Math		46.3	56.0	65.5	75.0	*	*
8 th	Reading	75%	83.8	*	*	*	*	*
	Math		54.1	61.0	68.0	75.0	*	*
	Science				75.0	*	*	*
	Social St.				75.0	*	*	*
OGT	Reading	75%	95.6	*	*	*	*	*
	Math		86.4	*	*	*	*	*
	Writing		84.1	*	*	*	*	*
	Science		77.3	*	*	*	*	*
	Social St.		90.9	*	*	*	*	*

The asterisks above represent reaching the minimum goal of 75% for the remaining years.
 The numbers in the future year columns are the reasonable goal increments to achieve the minimum 75% goal.

Identification of Factors Contributing to Current Performance

The factors that contributed to our prior report card scores were identified by both the elementary and high school CIP Committees. The following sources of data were reviewed and analyzed: Past report card data; analysis of subscale patterns over two – three year periods at each grade level; and student and staff surveys at the high school.

- Our course content, subject vocabulary, and classroom assessments are not aligned with the proficiency tests and HSGQE requirements.
- There is a need for focused teacher training, inservices, and professional resources aligned with the proficiency test.
- A lack of coordination exists with our efforts to improve our report card scores.
- There is a need for a greater amount of high-level thinking skills to be incorporated into daily lessons.
- There is a lack of monitoring of student progress toward the proficiency outcomes prior to the test.
- Our curriculum includes repetition of material at different grade levels, as well as gaps in instruction.
- Our current non-college preparatory classes do not adequately prepare students to meet the HSGQE requirements.
- There is a lack of time for teachers to work together to make adjustments to the current curriculum.
- Educators in one discipline do not necessarily know the requirements/outcomes of the other disciplines.
- Students who attend a vocational school must pass the same HSGQE, although their course requirements differ from those of the students who remain at the high school all day.

HSGQE= High School Graduation Qualifying Exam

Newton Local Schools IMPROVEMENT GOAL

By the end of the 2000-2005 five-year improvement window, the Newton Local Schools will move from a State rating of "Continuous Improvement" to "Effective" by achieving or exceeding the State Performance Standard in 26 of the 27 proficiency, attendance, and graduation Standards and will meet or exceed all Standard Unit of Improvement requirements each year.

Priorities for Improvement

The priorities for improvement were determined by the elementary and high school CIP Committees after analyzing the factors and barriers that have adversely impacted our report card scores in the past.

Newton Local Schools Continuous Improvement Plan priorities are:

ELEMENTARY

- Align the elementary curriculum and materials to the Ohio Academic Content Standards.
- Increase student achievement across the curriculum.
- Provide ongoing professional development.
- Monitor and remediate student performance.

HIGH SCHOOL

- Increase math and science achievement at the 7th and 8th grade levels.
- Increase communication among all disciplines.
- Increase teacher knowledge, skills, and resources relating to inclusion and special needs students.

HSGQE= High School Graduation Qualifying Exam

Newton Local Schools STRATEGIES

The following strategies were developed by the elementary and high school CIP Committees to indicate the actions that each building will implement to achieve the district goal and to follow through with the determined priorities.

➤ Strategy: **Communication**

Beginning in the 2005-2006 school year, Newton Local School teachers will share resources and communicate ideas and strategies with each other to improve communication and instruction. We also will improve communication with the community about the school.

➤ Strategy: **Curriculum Alignment**

Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, all students in the Newton Local Schools will continue to participate in instruction from a curriculum that is aligned with the Ohio Academic Content Standards. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by an internal curriculum audit by goal teams, student assessment, and a review of lesson plans by the administration.

➤ Strategy: **Increasing Achievement**

All students in the Newton Local Schools will receive consistent instruction that reflects researched based proven best practices that is aligned to the Ohio Academic Content Standards. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by teacher reflection on the instruction of the content area and the analysis of data used to guide instruction.

➤ Strategy: **Monitor and Remediate Student Progress**

Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, each student's performance on the state mandated tests will be monitored on an on-going basis with remediation provided when necessary. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by an internal audit by goal or assessment teams, student assessments, student data, and a review of lesson plans by the administration.

➤ Strategy: **Professional Development**

Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, Newton Local School teachers will collaborate on ideas, strategies, and resources with teachers and other professionals to focus on providing ongoing professional development, in-service training, resources on best practices and instructional strategies to help improve student achievement. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by improved test scores.

***Newton
Elementary
Action Plan***

Strategy: Curriculum Alignment Beginning with the 2005-06 school year, all students at Newton Elementary School will continue to participate in instruction from a curriculum that is aligned with the Ohio Academic Content Standards. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by an internal curriculum audit by goal teams, student assessment, and a review of lesson plans by the administration.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Students will be given assignments and assessments which include higher level thinking skills and problem solving skills aligned to the Ohio Academic Content Standards.	All Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Bloom's Taxonomy, Sample Assessments, Standards and Indicators	Bloom's flip charts, achievement materials, OACS materials	More sample assessments	Local Funds	None
Students will answer content questions based on pre-tests, quarterly assessments, and post-tests in order to increase achievement scores.	All Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Sample student assessments	Sample assessments from the OACS materials	None	None	None
Students will become familiar with achievement style questions and vocabulary for each content area.	All Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	OACS materials	Sample assessments from the OACS materials	None	None	None

Strategy: Increasing Achievement All students at Newton Elementary will receive consistent instruction that reflects researched based proven best practices that is aligned to the Ohio Academic Content Standards. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by teacher reflection on the instruction of the content area and the analysis of data used to guide instruction.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Teachers will participate in dual grade level meetings to communicate students' strengths and weaknesses on the OACS.	Principal and Teachers	Continuing Fall 2005	Student Data	Student Data	Assessments and Time	Local Funds	Local Funds
Teachers will determine areas of repetition and gaps in curriculum and make adjustments to increase student achievement.	Principal and Teachers	Continuing Fall 2005	Teacher-identified gaps and repetition	OACS and aligned materials	Additional aligned materials, Time	Local Funds	Local Funds
Student progress will be measured and monitored through on-going assessment of student growth in relation to the OACS.	Principal and Teachers and Students	Continuing Fall 2005	Data Charts, Data Folders and Data Reports	Data Charts, Data Folders and Data Reports	None	Local Funds	Local Funds
Teachers will plan and provide differentiated instruction aligned to the OACS and based on student achievement.	Principal and Teachers	Continuing Fall 2005	Data Charts, Data Folders and Data Reports	Data Charts, Data Folders and Data Reports	Variety of Assessments and Instructional Materials, In-class Intervention	Local Funds	Local Funds

Strategy: Increasing Achievement (Continued)

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Teachers will communicate student progress to the parents and assist them in identifying strategies to provide academic support at home.	Principal, Teachers and Parents	Continuing in 2006	Communication with parents: Progress Reports, State Report Cards, Conferences	Progress Reports, State Report Card, Conferences	School Website	Local Funds	Local Funds

Strategy: Monitor and Remediate Student Progress Beginning with the 2005-06 school year, each student's performance on the state mandated tests will be monitored on an on-going basis with remediation provided when necessary. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by an internal audit by goal teams, student assessments, student data, and a review of lesson plans by the administration.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Student progress will be monitored on an ongoing basis.	All Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Data, Data Folders, On-line Data Analysis, Item Analysis Charts, Pre-tests, Quarterly Assessments, and Post-tests	Pre-tests, Quarterly Assessments, and Post-tests, Test Ready, Blast Off	Time for record keeping, Early release time, OASIS	School Fees and Local Funds	Local Funds
Intervention will be provided to at-risk students as needed.	All Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Intervention Materials	Technology/Software (CCC Lab, Study Island, Reading A to Z, Accelerated Reader)	Remediation materials, Funds for stipends, Teachers	Local Funds	Stipend and Materials
Student progress will be monitored using value added data analysis.	All Teachers	Beginning 2006	Value Added Data Analysis Reports	Data disks of current assessment results	Battelle For Kids	Local Funds	Local Funds

Strategy: Professional Development Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, Newton Local School teachers will collaborate on ideas, strategies, and resources with teachers and other professionals to focus on providing ongoing professional development, in-service training, resources on best practices and instructional strategies to help improve student achievement. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by improved test scores.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Teachers will be provided workshops and inservices that enhance the teaching of OACS.	Principal	Beginning Fall 2005	Professional Development Form	None	Professional Consultants and Coaches, Teacher Substitutes	Professional Development Grants and Local Funds	Funds for staff development
Teachers will be encouraged to attend workshops beyond the local level that focus on best practices and instructional strategies that enhance the learning of all students.	Principal and Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Professional Development Form	None	Information about workshops, funds and release time to attend	Professional Development Grants and Local Funds	Funds for staff development
Teachers will share information gained from workshops with other teachers.	Workshop Attendee	Beginning Fall 2005	Summary of workshop	None	Common meeting time	None	None
Teachers will participate in grade level meetings on a regular basis.	Principal and Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Meeting Dates	None	Common meeting time	None	None

Strategy: Professional Development (Continued)

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Goal teams will be created to increase communication within the building.	Principal and Goal Team Members	Beginning Fall 2005	Summary of Goal Team Meetings	None	Meeting Times	None	None

***Newton
High School***

Action Plan

Strategy: Communication Beginning in the 2005-06 school year, Newton Local teachers will share resources and communicate ideas and strategies with each other to improve communication and instruction. We also will improve communication with the community about the school.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Continue to hold department meetings to determine ways to improve student performance.	Staff	Beginning Fall 2005	Agendas, Meeting Dates, Notes from meetings and Action Plans	Department Chairpersons	Time, Assessment Data	Local Funds	Materials
Teachers will participate on assessment teams to improve knowledge of other disciplinary indicators.	Co-Facilitators & Principal	Beginning Fall 2005	Agendas, Meeting Dates, Notes from meetings and Action Plans	Assessment Teams, Supplemental Materials and Consultants	Co-facilitators	Local Funds	Professional Development, Materials
Develop a communications team that will facilitate communications between student to student, student to teacher, teacher to student, and school to community.	Principal	Beginning Fall 2005	Principal newsletters, Website, Student Newspaper, Student Weekly Broadcast, Daily Ann., Scrolling Electr. Board in Café.,	Scrolling Electronic Board, Video Camera, Newspaper Staff and Software	Time, Subscription Fee for Newspaper	Local Funds	Materials

Strategy: Increasing Achievement All students at Newton High School will receive consistent instruction that reflects researched based proven best practices that is aligned to the Ohio Academic Content Standards. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by teacher reflection on the instruction of the content area and the analysis of data used to guide instruction.

Activities: Process Indicators	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Teachers will select Math and Science textbooks that align to the Ohio Academic Content Standards in grades 7 and 8.	Teachers and Administration	Beginning Spring 2006	New Textbooks and Related Materials	Ohio academic Content Standards	Sample Textbooks, Time	Local Funds	Local Funds
Teachers will plan and provide differentiated instruction aligned to the OACS and based on student achievement.	Principal and Teachers	Continuing Fall 2005	Inclusion Reports, TAG Programs and Intervention	Assessment Data and Monitoring Tools	Variety of Assessments and Instructional Materials and Intervention	Local Funds	Local Funds

Strategy: Monitor and Remediate Student Progress Beginning with the 2005-06 school year, each student's performance on the state mandated tests will be monitored on an on-going basis with remediation provided when necessary. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by an internal audit by assessment teams, student assessments, student data, and a review of lesson plans by the administration.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Students who are identified by the district as at-risk for passing the state mandated tests will have intervention available.	Principal, Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Data, Student Audit Reports, Item Analysis	Study Island, Hollandays Materials, other Assessment Materials	Professional Development, More Intervention Materials, Intervention Specialist	Local Funds	Fund for Intervention Specialist
Students who are identified as at-risk for passing required courses in grades 7--12.	Principal, Teachers and Parents	Beginning Fall 2005	List of At-Risk Students, Forms associated with Process	BUG Program, IAT Team, Parents	Time for Intervention, Updated Lists, Tutors, Monitoring Tools	Local Funds	Stipends, Incentives for Students
Student progress will be monitored using value added data analysis.	All Teachers	Beginning 2007	Value Added Data Analysis Reports	Data disks of current assessment results	Battelle For Kids	Local Funds	Local Funds

Strategy: Professional Development Beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, Newton Local School teachers will collaborate on ideas, strategies, and resources with teachers and other professionals to focus on providing ongoing professional development, in-service training, resources on best practices and instructional strategies to help improve student achievement. Successful implementation of this strategy will be measured by improved test scores.

Activities: <i>Process Indicators</i>	Person Responsible	Timeline	Evidence, Examples, Products, Deliverables	Resources Have	Resources Needed	Funding Source	Funding Needed
Increase teacher knowledge, skills, and resources relating to inclusion and special needs students.	Principal, Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Observations, Agendas, Professional Development	Limited Teachers and other Professional Resources	More Aides or Teachers	Local Funds	Grants, State Funds
Teachers will be encouraged to attend workshops beyond the local level that focus on best practices and instructional strategies that enhance the learning of all students.	Principal and Teachers	Beginning Fall 2005	Professional Development Forms	None	Information about workshops, funds and release time to attend	Professional Development Grants and Local Funds	Funds for staff development
Teachers will share information gained from workshops with other teachers.	Workshop Attendee	Beginning Fall 2005	Summary of workshop	None	Common meeting time	None	None

Public Hearing

The public hearing for Newton Local Schools' Continuous Improvement Plan will be held during a regular monthly meeting of the Newton Board of Education to be determined by the superintendent. At that time, representatives from the CIP Advisory Committee will review the CIP. The Newton Board of Education will formally adopt the District's CIP.

Availability to the Public

Newton Local Schools will make their CIP available to the public via the following method:

- ✓ Complete copies of the CIP will be available at the Superintendent's office and the public library following the public hearing and adoption.
- ✓ Complete copies of the CIP will be placed on the school district web page, www.newton.k12.oh.us.

Monitoring, Reviewing & Yearly Progress

The CIP Advisory Committee will be established to meet once per year to review progress. This Committee will be charged with monitoring the progress for each process and performance indicator. The Building Principals will facilitate the meetings.

The Advisory Committee will also create a yearly report of the progress of the CIP using the CIP Review Form as evidence. This report will be consistent with the State Report Card's indicator of progress.

CIP Review Form

Vital Signs Report for Month of:

Component:

School:

Component Manager:

Strategy	Activity	I	IP	NI	Outcomes, Observations, Adjustments	Evidence	Has this activity had impact?	
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No
							Yes	No

I – Implemented, IP = In Progress, NI = Not Implemented

Action Component Reflections

Signatures: _____

Date Submitted: _____