

# ***School Committee Presentation***

Northbridge Elementary School  
Past, Present & Future

October 21, 2008

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## *Past (2006-2007)*

- ◆ Reorganized to a K-4 school
- ◆ Number of classrooms per grade level
  - ◆ 5 Full day kindergartens
  - ◆ 5 First grades
  - ◆ 4 Second grades
  - ◆ 3 Third grades
  - ◆  $\frac{3}{4}$  Multi-Age classroom
  - ◆ 5 Fourth grades
- ◆ Addition of an Assistant Principal
- ◆ Full Time Reading Teacher for gr. 1- 3
- ◆ Title 1 Program
  - ◆ Grades 3 and 4 ELA after school program implemented
  - ◆ Grades 3 and 4 Math in school support (3 days per week)
- ◆ Full time Social Worker
- ◆ Five Specialists-daily specials for students

## *Past (2007-2008)*

- ◆ Aldrich Pre-School closed (Pre-K to 4)
- ◆ Number of classrooms per grade level
  - ◆ 2 Preschool classrooms
  - ◆ 2 Half-day Kindergartens-changed to 4 Full day classrooms in January
  - ◆ 4 First grades
  - ◆ 3 second grades
  - ◆ 3 third grades
  - ◆ 3 fourth grades
  - ◆ Multi-Age classroom eliminated
- ◆ Loss of 6 trained classroom teachers
- ◆ Loss of Reading Teacher for grades 1-3
- ◆ Title 1 Program
  - ◆ Grade 1 & 2 part time ELA (3 days per week)
  - ◆ Grades 3 and 4 ELA after school program
  - ◆ Grades 3 and 4 Math in school support (3 days per week)

## *Past (2007-2008 cont.)*

- ◆ Social Worker position eliminated
- ◆ 3 Specialists to be shared at the Elementary Schools which resulted in the loss of Library and Technology instruction for students
- ◆ Discontinuation of training for Open Circle Social Skills curriculum
- ◆ Elimination of Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- ◆ Elimination of Director of Title 1/ELL
- ◆ Lack of District Administrative Support with regard to Professional Development for teachers

## *Present (2008-2009)*

- ◆ Number of Classrooms per grade level
  - ◆ 2 Preschool programs
  - ◆ 4 Full day kindergarten classrooms
  - ◆ 4 First grades
  - ◆ 4 Second grades
  - ◆ 4 Third grades
  - ◆ 4 Fourth grades
- ◆ Addition of 3 classroom teachers to reduce class size
- ◆ Two Related Arts positions restored-Library and Technology
- ◆ Title 1 Program-in school support
  - ◆ Grade 1 & 2 ELA (3-4 days per week)
  - ◆ Grade 3 & 4 ELA (3-4 days per week)
  - ◆ Grade 3 & 4 Math (3-4 days per week)

## *Present (2008-2009 cont.)*

- ◆ Grade 3 & 4 teachers as well as new teachers are participating in Open Circle Training for continuation of program across grade levels
- ◆ Teacher involvement in MCAS data analysis
- ◆ Selected a new reading anthology to address areas of weakness in ELA curriculum (evident in MCAS data)
- ◆ Implementation of a writing rubric consistent across grade levels with clearly stated writing objectives for students' work
- ◆ Implementation of a new fourth grade Social Studies curriculum

## *Present (2008-2009 cont.)*

- ◆ Undergoing NAEYC Recertification for kindergarten and preschool program
- ◆ Established Character Education Program (H. E. A.R.T. S.)
- ◆ Technology Advancements (equipment and teacher training)
- ◆ Large cohort of Parent Volunteers
- ◆ Special events and programs for students in conjunction with the PTA

## ***Future (School/District Needs)***

- ◆ Three additional teachers needed to reduce class size in Kindergarten, grade 1, & grade 3
- ◆ Restore full-time Reading teacher position
- ◆ Additional Title 1 support in math for grades 1 & 2
- ◆ Two additional Related Arts Specialists needed at the elementary level in accordance to NCLB
- ◆ Restore Social Worker at elementary level
- ◆ Restore full time Title 1 Director position
- ◆ Restore district-wide Director of Curriculum and Instruction
- ◆ Need for immediate planning to address space issues



# *Summary*

- ◆ Although positions have been restored, additional teachers are still in need
- ◆ Impact on MCAS scores
  - ◆ Elimination of classroom teachers resulted in large class size
  - ◆ Elimination of full time reading teacher resulted in a lack of support for students
  - ◆ The addition of 2 specialists will support team planning and collaboration among teachers
  - ◆ The restoration of Director of Curriculum and Instruction will support school administrators and enhance the delivery of classroom instruction through quality professional development
  - ◆ Full-time Title 1 Director position provides consistency in curriculum as well as stronger instructional support across the district
  - ◆ Title 1 support needed for additional help in math at the lower grade levels

## *Summary cont.*

2006-2007	staff	students	class size	2007-2008	staff	students	class size	2008-2009	staff	students	class size
<b>K</b>	5	111	22.2	<b>K</b>	4	88	22	<b>K</b>	4	96	25
<b>1</b>	5	99	20	<b>1</b>	4	109	27	<b>1</b>	4	80	20
<b>2</b>	4	83	21	<b>2</b>	3	95	32	<b>2</b>	4	102	25.5
<b>3</b>	3	62	20.6	<b>3</b>	3	79	26	<b>3</b>	4	91	22.75
<b>3/4</b>	2	38	19	<b>3/4</b>	0	N/A	N/A	<b>3/4</b>	0	N/A	N/A
<b>4</b>	4	67	17	<b>4</b>	3	82	27	<b>4</b>	4	73	18.25
<b>Total</b>	23	460		<b>Total</b>	17	453		<b>Total</b>	20	442	

**Additional Teachers in grades Kindergarten, 1 & 3 (2009-2010) will reduce class size:**

**Kindergarten (projected enrollment) from 25 to 20**

**Grade 1 from 25 to 19.2**

**Grade 3 from 25.5 to 20.4**