

Qualters Middle School  
School Improvement Plan

2009-2010

Principal's Council Members

**Vicki Burgess, Parent**  
**Robert Fink, Parent**  
**Daryl Webster, Teacher**  
**Katie Anastasia, Teacher**  
**Sherri Willar, Teacher**

**Mary Ellen Mega, Principal**  
**Kerri Sankey, Assistant Principal**

### **OUR CORE VALUES**

The Qualters' School community is committed to being a place where:

- Students develop positive self-esteem in a climate of high expectations.
- Everyone recognizes that mutual respect is a cornerstone to a sense of belonging to the school community.
- Students develop a strong work ethic and leave QMS as confident, caring, responsible learners who are capable of tackling new challenges.

### **THE QUALTERS IDEAL**

The Qualters Ideal is not that we will all  
Agree with each other,  
Or even like each other  
Every minute of the day.  
It is rather that we will  
Respect each other's rights,  
Especially the right to be  
Different,  
And that, at the end of the day,  
We will understand  
That we are one people, one school  
And one community.

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this school improvement plan is for continuous improvement in our educational practice, with the result of improved student performance that meets the standards set by the Massachusetts Department of Education and the Mansfield Public Schools.

This school improvement plan represents the cooperative venture of both the school council and the faculty at large. This year, we focused on developing common assessments in all content areas. Benchmark assessments in English Language Arts and mathematics were used to help assess student achievement.

This report contains a brief update on the progress made towards achieving the 2008-2009 goals. Following the update are the goals for the 2009-2010 school year. These goals and objectives are consistent with the Mansfield Public Schools Strategic Plan.

### 2009-2010 School Improvement Goals

#### 1. Instruction and Assessment

- ⇒ *To utilize data from common and benchmark assessments to inform and improve instruction.*
- ⇒ *To utilize MCAS and benchmark assessment data to sustain continued improvement on the MCAS tests.*

#### Review of Progress:

- Collaboration on a weekly basis between department chairs and content specific teachers to design a variety of instructional strategies to meet the various needs of our students.
- Analysis of student work submitted in alternative MCAS portfolio preparation.
- Sustained support and emphasis on target needs for at risk students through the Academic Learning Center.
- Pilot Response to Intervention process on a case by case basis utilizing a problem solving approach.

#### 2009-2010 Goal:

- Analyze data from common and benchmark assessments to inform instructional strategies in all content areas.
- Implementation of school wide approach to Response to Intervention as a way to identify and strengthen reflective and best instructional practice.
- Collaboration of Special Education and Regular Education content areas and alignment of curriculum areas to ensure maximum access for all students.
- Restructure instructional strategies to maximize time on learning within our new daily time schedule.

## 2. Student Achievement

- ⇒ *To create a procedure for identifying and assisting students who struggle academically.*

### Review of Progress:

- Participation in district-wide Response to Intervention committee to identify RTI procedures at QMS.
- Identified research-based strategies on an as-needed basis for problem solving approach to RTI.
- Designed data collection tools for behavioral and academic purposes.
- Collaborated with team teachers, guidance counselors, and school psychologist to meet the needs of at risk students with specific emphasis placed on delivery of instruction.

### 2009-2010 Goal:

- Identify, define and build consensus of school-wide best practice among all staff to ensure that curriculum is accessible to all students.
- Collaboration between department chairs and content specific teachers to develop instructional strategies that address tier one RTI needs based on data collection.
- School wide implementation of Response to Intervention documentation procedures.
- School wide exploration of literacy practices across curriculum areas to enhance instructional delivery and study skills.

## 3. School Climate

- ⇒ *To improve awareness of school safety issues.*
- ⇒ *To continuously review and update school safety procedures.*

### Review of Progress:

- Participation in district-wide crisis drill with police, and fire departments.
- Collaboration of guidance counselors and school psychologist to respond to crisis situations.
- Strengthen communication and encourage presence of police and fire personnel in our school building.
- Initiate anti bullying program through the use of Rachel's Challenge and Isafe presentations.

### 2009-2010 Goal:

- Encourage students and staff to identify and reinforce positive communication among all school constituents.
- Design and implement community building course to address positive relationship building and technology safety needs of students.
- Continuity of collaboration between QMS and local safety personnel.