



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Presented by the School Council
May 2019

2019-2020

Shawsheen Valley Technical High School
100 Cook Street; Billerica, MA 01821
Telephone 978-667-2111
Fax 978-663-6272

Shawsheen Valley Technical High School admits students and makes available to them its advantages, privileges, and course of study without regard to race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, national origin, disability, veteran status, or any other status or condition protected by law.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

John Bagni	Faculty
Diane Cedorchuk	Principal's Assistant
Jessica Cook	Principal
Paula DeLosh	Parent
Taryn Gillis	Parent
James Marshall	Community Representative
Sarah Michaud	Student
Kerry O'Brien	Faculty
Alison Pereira	Student
Paul Troisi	Community Representative
Faith Stevens	Parent



At Shawsheen Valley Technical High School, it is our mission to provide a positive learning experience in a safe educational environment that encourages all students to reach their full potential, emphasizes the value of a strong work ethic, and prepares them for adult life in a competitive world.

OBJECTIVES

1. Safety and Security

The Council endorses the continuation of plans already in progress to increase safety and security at Shawsheen. The council continues to recommend ongoing assessment of school safety to ensure necessary adjustments are made in a timely fashion and that the appropriate resources are made available to support school safety efforts.

2. ALICE Training

Last year the Council endorsed Administration's plans to implement ALICE protocols in place of lockdown procedures. The Council recommends continued training for all staff and students as well as regular assessment of protocols put in place.

3. Vaping Detectors

The Council has concerns about the widespread use of vaping devices and e-cigarettes by students and the impact this is having on student health and wellness as well as school safety and culture. The Council strongly recommends the installation of vaping devices in student bathrooms to help manage this issue.

4. Diversion Program

The Council recognizes that discipline measures alone will not support students to make better choices to change their behavior. The Council recommends the continued implementation of the diversion program implemented for the first time this past year and suggests building on that program to meet the growing needs of students.

4. Social-Emotional Learning & Employability Skills

The Council recognizes the growing need to provide social-emotional learning opportunities for students to ensure they develop the employability skills demanded by employers. The Council endorses the school's plan to adopt a common language and understanding of employability skills and recommends professional development for staff to ensure social-emotional learning is incorporated into instruction across all content areas.

5. Concurrent Enrollment & AP Courses

The Council endorses the school's plan to expand access to concurrent enrollment courses already offered at Shawsheen and to offer its first AP course in Design & Visual Communications. The Council recommends that the school explore additional concurrent enrollment and AP course opportunities in the coming year so that they can be offered in the 2020-2021 school year.

7. CVTE Pathways & Certifications

The Council endorses the school's plan to research & identify a range of CVTE pathways for each CVTE program to better inform staff, students, and parents of the various options postsecondary options students have. The Council recommends the expansion of access to relevant CVTE credentials to align with these pathways.

8. Graduation Requirements

The Council recommends the adjustment of graduation requirements to better align with postsecondary requirements to ensure that students are able to pursue all pathways upon graduation from Shawsheen.

9. Communication Plan

The Council recommends the development and implementation of a comprehensive communication plan to ensure effective and timely internal and external communication to all members of the Shawsheen community.

10. Student Leadership & School Culture

The Council recognizes the importance of creating a school culture that promotes a sense of belonging amongst all students. The Council recommends that the school expand student leadership opportunities, develop school-wide anchor events, and showcase student achievement and success.

11. Homework & Grading Policies

The Council recognizes the importance of providing students with clear and consistent expectations. The council recommends that the school develop specific parameters for homework & grading policies that each instructor must remain within when developing classroom management plans.

12. Mental Health & Wellness

The Council has concerns about students' increasing mental health needs. The Council endorses the school's plan to add an adjustment counselor for the 2019-2020 school year and recommends that the district continue to increase student access to specialized staff members in the years that follow.

13. Innovation & Digital Tools

The council recognizes the importance of continual innovation and the use of digital tools for both operational efficiency and to ensure students develop 21st century skills. The council recommends that the school continue to provide the resources and professional development necessary to achieve those ends.