

PARISH HILL MIDDLE / HIGH SCHOOL



**New England Association of Schools and Colleges
Final NEASC Report**



FINAL NEASC REPORT: A SUMMARY

- **The New England Association of Schools and Colleges Report on the Accreditation status of Parish Hill Middle High School.**
- **Full final report available on our website:**

<http://www.parishill.org/neasc/>



10 YEAR NEASC COMPARISON

- **2006 Visitation:**
 - **27 Commendations**
 - **41 Recommendations**

- **2016 Visitation:**
 - **56 Commendations**
 - **24 Recommendations**



7 STANDARDS

- **Teaching and Learning Standards**
 1. Core Values, Beliefs, and Learning Expectations
 2. Curriculum
 3. Instruction
 4. Assessment of and for Student Learning
- **Support Standards**
 5. School Culture and Leadership
 6. School Resources for Learning
 7. Community Resources for Learning



1. CORE VALUES, BELIEFS, AND LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

■ Commendations

- The identification of and pervasive extent to which the Core Values and Beliefs (CVB'S) are embedded and reflected in the school's daily culture and instruction
- The involvement of all stakeholders in the development of the CVB's and its consistent reinforcement
- Development of an acronym (PIRATE) to infuse CVB's throughout the school culture

■ Recommendations:

- Review and revise the CVB's and 21st Century learning expectations on a regular basis
- Address the school-wide rubrics to ensure targeted high levels of achievement



2. CURRICULUM

■ **Commendations:**

- **Advisory Program curriculum consistently addresses civic and social expectations for students**
- **Ongoing commitment and involvement of staff to utilize Understanding by Design (UbD) for all curricula writing**
- **Middle and high school Program of Studies that clearly articulates course coordination and vertical structures**
- **Access to multitude of technologies, programs, equipment, and resources that support implementation of curriculum**
- **The inclusion of cross-disciplinary Capstone project in the curriculum which challenges students with rigorous integrated goals and expectations**



2. CURRICULUM

■ **Recommendations:**

- **Complete writing of curriculum for all subject areas utilizing UbD format**
- **Ensure curriculum further emphasizes depth of understanding and application of knowledge via inquiry and problem solving**
- **Establish methods to ensure alignment between written and taught curriculum**
- **Develop protocols that ensure effective curricular coordination and vertical articulation among all academic areas**
- **Provide sufficient staffing levels, materials, technology and equipment in the library media center**



3. INSTRUCTION

- **Commendations:**
 - **Personalized learning & student engagement as active and self-directed learners leads to positive culture**
 - **Students self-assessment through school-wide rubrics**
 - **Frequent adjustment of instructional practices using formative assessment, group learning, and extensive support within regular classroom and after school**
 - **Use of feedback from students, peers, and supervisors to inform instructional practices**
 - **Collegial sharing of expertise in a collaborative manner**
 - **CVB's visible throughout building during instruction**



3. INSTRUCTION

- **Recommendations:**
 - **Continuously examine instructional practices to ensure consistency with school's CVB's**
 - **Devise and employ differentiated instructional strategies for all students**
 - **Ensure teachers use achievement data from a variety of sources to improve instructional practices**
 - **Develop further capacity for implementing inquiry-based learning and development of higher order thinking**



4. ASSESSMENT FOR AND OF STUDENT LEARNING

■ **Commendations:**

- **Consistent communication regarding student progress in achieving 21st century learning expectations**
- **Middle school meeting time for teachers to analyze student data and respond to inequalities in learning**
- **Collaboration on analysis and revision of formative and summative assessments by special education**
- **Communication of school's 21st century learning expectations and related learning goals**
- **Use of variety of strategies to assess student learning**
- **Provision of rubrics and scoring guides on assessments**



4. ASSESSMENT FOR AND OF STUDENT LEARNING

■ **Commendations:**

- Assess school-wide student progress using school-wide rubrics
- Methods of immediate corrective student feedback
- Use of PowerSchool to provide parents with feedback

■ **Recommendations:**

- Develop formal process to assess whole-school progress toward achievement of 21st century learning expectations
- Develop formal collaboration guideline to create, analyze, and revise formative/summative assessments
- Ensure all staff collects, disaggregates, and analyses student data to identify inequities in achievement
- Review/revise grading practices to ensure alignment with CVB's



5. SCHOOL CULTURE AND LEADERSHIP

■ **Commendations:**

- **Progress made by administrative team in building community of learners committed to the CVB's and for fostering safe, respectful, and supportive culture**
- **Emotional and educational support afforded to students by dedicated and caring faculty; students feel like family.**
- **PATHS program effectiveness in supporting CVB's**
- **Relevant and meaningful PD opportunities for teachers**
- **Effective use of EASTCONN teacher evaluation model**
- **Middle school collaboration and intervention strategies**
- **Small class sizes; individual academic/emotional supports**
- **Instructional leadership of building leaders support of CVB's**
- **Teacher initiative /leadership in improving learning climate**



5. SCHOOL CULTURE AND LEADERSHIP

- **Recommendations:**
 - Provide more time for professional collaboration for teachers at all grade levels; not just middle school
 - Ensure the school board, superintendent, and principal are collaborative, reflective, and constructive in achieving the schools 21st century learning expectations
 - Provide principal with sufficient decision-making authority to lead the school



6. SCHOOL RESOURCES FOR LEARNING

■ **Commendations:**

- **Support for students, families, and the school community via Student Services**
- **Supports for identified students and use inclusionary model for special education students to access curriculum**
- **Provision of information to assist families in need**
- **Transition program coordination between elementary school and Parish Hill counselors**
- **Use of technology to deliver range of support services**
- **Use of Naviance to assist with college & career readiness**
- **Innovative allocation of limited funds to provide comprehensive, relevant up-to-date resources for the Library Media Center**



6. SCHOOL RESOURCES FOR LEARNING

- **Recommendations:**
 - Design and implement timely, coordinated, and directive services across all grade levels
 - Ensure Library Media Center is staffed for teachers and students before, during, and after school; respond to student interests/needs through database accessibility; and conduct ongoing needs assessment using feed-back data from the school community



7. COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR LEARNING

■ **Commendations:**

- Efforts of staff seeking additional funding via grants
- Detailed long-term Capital Improvement Plan
- Completion of 2012-2015 educational Technology Plan
- Faculty involvement in budget development process
- Student exposure to technology for instructional purposes
- Recent security upgrades and secure front entryway
- Staff effort to improve communications to less connected parents and community members
- Empty Bowl school event supporting community-at-large
- Senior Capstone project involving community mentors
- Kitchen staff efforts to maintain health and safety standards of Connecticut Department of Public Health



7. COMMUNITY RESOURCES FOR LEARNING

■ **Recommendations:**

- Provide adequate funding for a range of school programs and services, sufficient PD and curriculum revision, technology support and equipment, and instructional materials to support teaching, learning, and achievement
- Ensure implementation of long-range plan to address programs and services, enrollment changes and staffing needs, facility needs, technology, and capital improvements
- Ensure school site and plant support the delivery of high quality programs and services to meet school's learning objectives and student needs



CONCLUSION - NO SURPRISES!

- **Many Commendations are the result of hard work by Parish Hill's dedicated staff over the past 10 years**
- **Many Recommendations have been completed and/or will become district and school-wide goals**
- **Overall, we are on a good course and will continue to work hard at preparing our students for success in achieving 21st century learning expectations**