



NORWELL PUBLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

MATTHEW A. KEEGAN
Superintendent of Schools

April 5, 2016

AN OPEN INVITATION TO ALL NORWELL PARENTS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS

How can we prepare our students for their future? What types of skills should they have to be successful? Those two questions are the driving force behind Norwell Public Schools' comprehensive strategic planning initiative: NORWELL 2025. Through NORWELL 2025, Norwell Public Schools intends to:

- Engage the Public
- Create a Clear Strategic Plan for Our Schools
- Establish Time-Sensitive Action Plans for Realizing that Mission; and
- Focus on Continuous Improvement and Systemic Renewal.

The first phase of NORWELL 2025 began last year with internal focus groups conducted with faculty from each building, District-Wide PTO, and members of the NHS Student Government. At each focus group participants were asked three questions: What skills should students demonstrate during their academic careers and/or after graduation? How do we ensure the social/emotional, mental, and academic well-being of all students? How would we know if we have been successful? During the second phase of Norwell 2025, we will hold two community Focus Sessions where parents and community leaders can provide input and begin shaping the strategic planning process. At these Focus Sessions, participants will be asked to affirm and provide suggestions for revising the district's *Belief Statements* and *Core Values* that were developed during Norwell's first Strategic Plan and used for all subsequent Strategic Plans. Participants will also learn and provide feedback on *Future Trends* and *Issues* that may pose challenges and/or opportunities for our community, our schools, and our students.

All Focus Sessions are open to the public, and anyone with an interest in Norwell and its schools is strongly encouraged to attend. Members of these focus sessions will be asked to join a 25 member strategic planning team to be comprised of administrators, faculty, parents, students, and community members. Only those parents and community members who participated in the focus sessions will be eligible to be members of the strategic planning team. The Focus Sessions are scheduled as follows:

April 14, 2016	Sparrell Building: Professional Development Center	9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
May 12, 2016	Norwell Middle School: Cafeteria	7:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

Over the years Norwell Public Schools' success has hinged on the broad-based involvement and support of our community. From the first Strategic Plan in the mid-1990s, to School Reorganization shortly thereafter, to the \$54 million NORWELL 2001 school construction projects, and the most recent Norwell SP 15, Norwell has relied on the expertise, interest, and ideas of its citizens and staff to create an outstanding school system for our students. Based on those successes, we are once again reaching out to the entire Norwell community through NORWELL 2025.

If you are interested in attending one of these Focus Sessions, please visit Norwell Public Schools' website to RSVP for these events. Please click on the *Strategic Planning Focus Session* link (under *Headlines*) or click [here](#).

Matthew A. Keegan
Superintendent of Schools