

T: (860) 564-6457 F: (860) 564-0606 sugarmans@plainfieldschools.org www.plainfieldschools.org

# Annual Report 2021-2022

# Plainfield Public Schools

#### **Enrollment and Overview**

Plainfield Public Schools is proud to serve the residents, families and students of Plainfield Connecticut. Currently, Plainfield Public Schools operates six school location; Early Childhood Center, which serves students 3-5 years old and in Pre-School programming; Moosup Elementary, which serves students in the eastern section of Plainfield and in grades Kindergarten through Third Grade; Shepard Hill Elementary School, which serves students in the western section of Plainfield and in grades Kindergarten and Third Grade.

In our upper elementary and secondary levels, we have: Plainfield Memorial School, which serves students in grades Fourth and Fifth Grade. At our secondary level we have our middle school, Plainfield Central Middle and at our high school we have Plainfield High. Our current, October 1, 2021 enrollment numbers are as follows:

Plainfield School Programs 10/1/21	Number of Students
Early Childhood Center	114
Moosup Elementary	274
Shepard Hill Elementary	284
Plainfield Memorial School	311
Plainfield Central Middle School	463
Plainfield High School	530
TOTAL	1,976

	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
CAREER AND TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENTS ("VOCATIONAL/AGRICULTURAL")	53	42	31	31	157

Additional Resident Students 10/1/2021	Number of Students	
Homeschooled Students K-12	94	
Charter or Magnet K-12	54	
Special Education Outplaced	15	



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**Board of Education:** Plainfield Public Schools is overseen and supported by the Board of Education. The following members currently serve on Plainfield Board of Education:

Christi Haskell-Chair	Mike Broughton-Vice Chair
Audrey Lemieux-Secretary	Kathleen Barry
Roxanne Boisse	Peggy Bourey
Arrianna Landry	Heather Smith
Diane Summa	Tammy St. Amour-Board Liaison

Currently Plainfield Public Schools are engaged in a strategic process of transforming itself. The Board of Education (BOE) adopted a mission and six core strategies to improve our schools: **To prepare all students to lead safe and healthy lives with the skills to become productive members of the community and the workforce**.

- Ensuring all students meet **rigorous standards**;
- Ensuring the **highest quality staff**;
- Improving personalization and **response to diversity**;
- Increasing parental and community engagement;
- Promoting safe, healthy and effective learning environments; and,
- Optimizing resources to promote student achievement.

Each school establishes annual goals for student growth and school improvement aligned to the district's strategic plan. As a result of the strategic plan, Plainfield is improving teaching and learning at every grade level by providing universal Pre-K, Full-Day Kindergarten, increased access to technology (1:1) in Grades PK-12 and free PSAT and SAT testing for all Grade 9-12 students at Plainfield High. PHS has also initiated more career strands for students including a CNA program and a Manufacturing program both funded in part by state grants and donations. Plainfield Public Schools has engaged in a multi-year commitment to ensure Computer science education is embedded in program K-12.

#### **Our Schools**

**Moosup Elementary School** educates students Kindergarten through grade 3 with the mission to develop an enriched community of caring and creative life-long learners who strive to excel in the ABC's: Academic Achievement, Behavior, Character.

**Shepard Hill Elementary School** proudly serves kindergarten through grade three students. Our mission is to develop lifelong learners, who value themselves, contribute to their community, and are productive in a changing world.

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*Early Childhood Center* houses our NAEYC Accredited Preschool and Readiness Programs as well as the Plainfield Family Resource Center. The Plainfield Public School District prides itself on providing quality educational experiences. We feel that enriched early childhood environments not only provide extraordinary opportunities for young children, but also form the foundation for a successful educational career. Our Early Childhood Centers provide

Plainfield High School is a four-year, comprehensive secondary school that is fully accredited through the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and the Connecticut State Department of Education, serving students in grades 9-12. Plainfield High School strives to foster the intellectual curiosity, creativity, and positive attitudes required for lifelong learning through varied and rigorous course offerings. The academics, arts, athletics, and various extracurricular activities at Plainfield High School deliver everything one would expect from a comprehensive high school and more! Combined with a dedicated staff, these programs bring together students whose talents, growth potential, individualism, and dedication benefit and enrich the Plainfield High School community.

**Plainfield Central Middle School** offers our students in grades 6 through 8 a rigorous, standards-based curriculum focused on our mission of inspiring lifelong learning in a supportive and creative environment. We promote excellence in academics and social endeavors, foster open communication and shared responsibility, and encourage the full potential of each unique student to meet the challenges of the future.

**Plainfield Memorial School** serves our grades 4 and 5 students with the goal to provide a safe and successful learning environment for them to grow intellectually, physically, emotionally, and socially. We are committed to educational excellence and believe quality education is achieved through strong partnerships among school, family and community.

#### **Central Office**

Our schools and district are supported by a central office and school front office staff at every location. Currently our central office administration is:

Paul Brenton	Superintendent
Scott Sugarman	Assistant Superintendent-Director of Talent and
	Instruction
Jessica Fitch	Director of Pupil Services
Courtney Langlois	Supervisor of Pupil Services and Early Childhood
Ronald Lussier	Business Manager



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# **Our Goals**

After returning to full-time in person instruction in 2021, we are shifting our focus to ensure we ENGAGE, INSPIRE and EMPOWER our students to be effective and contributing members of an active community after graduation. We accomplish this by driving towards high-leverage learning standards that are both rigorous and enriching. We offer multiple pathways for our students to explore interests both personally and academically.

We strive for our graduating students to be (1) Responsible Citizens (2) Informed Thinkers (3) Creative Communicators (4) Problem Solvers and (5) Prepared Professionals. These targets establish our Portrait of a Graduate indicators are markers our entire district strives to build in our student body.

In support of these efforts, the district implemented wireless technology access at all schools; initiated a new student information system (SIS) which includes a parent portal to follow student progress, a home messaging system and new district website; strengthening parent support through a family support specialist and adopting a collaborative self-insurance program (ECHIP) for cost efficiencies. Curriculum upgrades follow a schedule in a five-year cycle. A teaching and learning council (TLC) monitors the progress of the curriculum renewal cycle as well as teacher evaluation, professional development and assessment. The educator evaluation system is fully operational based on student-growth. Project 2026, a long-range facilities study guides capital improvements and is now under revision for a new five-year plan.

Our 2022-2026 Continuous Improvement Plan includes the following Theories of Action which guide our programs:

**Vision and Focus:** If we utilize a *purpose* driven plan of continual improvement to communicate the district vision then stakeholders will understand their role in supporting all learners.

**Academics and Assessment:** If we understand assessment and collect appropriate data on student performance and gather powerful instructional data, then we can utilize this data to monitor our student achievement goals, and adjust curriculum, professional development and resources as needed.

**Supporting Student Climate** If we, build a foundational SEL support and plan, strengthen adult SEL competencies and capacity, promote SEL for students and reflect on

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data for continuous improvement then we can establish conditions where all learners can be supported and successful.

**Student Efficacy and Voice:** If we design meaningful opportunities for students to design and shape their own learning experiences, then students will become increasingly self-directed, independent, and resourceful.

**Talent Acquisition:** If we ensure that the structures and systems are in place to recruit individuals with the knowledge, skill and talent to support student learning in the classroom then we will positively impact administrator, teacher and staff collective capacity to increase student achievement.

**Operations:** If we manage our resources and processes around a shared district vision supported by all stakeholders (Board of Education members, district leadership, educators, staff, and members of the community), then we will be able to support our strategic goals and ensure a positive culture and a Future Ready learning experience for all students.

**Capacity Building:** If we ensure that the structures and systems are in place to develop individual and collective leadership knowledge, skill and will to advance instruction, then we will positively impact administrator and teacher practice to increase student achievement.

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One of the most important strategies used by the district for improvement is clear and open communication and engagement. Every school has a governance or school improvement council to advise on ways to improve. An annual climate survey engages parents in reviewing school programs and services.

Over the past decade student poverty as defined by free and reduced lunch counts has risen from 28% to 58%. The increase of families with financial concerns prompted Plainfield to host a subsidized breakfast and lunch program. To meet a changing population, Plainfield Schools expanded its preschool and Kindergarten programs and instituted free SAT & PSAT testing at Plainfield High. Plainfield offers access to a free regional adult education program to increase learning and career opportunities for residents. Plainfield also established a mobile library "*The Discovery Bus*" which provides summer reading and storytelling opportunities for children.

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Plainfield sends students to four area full-time magnet schools, Charles H Barrows, ACT – Arts at the Capitol Theater, the Science, Technology and Engineering Magnet School, and the Quinebaug Valley Middle College High School as well as Ellis and Norwich Technical Vocational Schools. These magnet schools address the needs of many of our students who are looking for alternative educational experiences.

Plainfield is a district that serves a wide range of needs for our community and students. We currently service over 400 students with special education needs. We have over 900 students with a Free or Reduced Lunch and we have over 400 students identified from culturally diverse backgrounds. We serve over 30 students who speak English as a second language. This diversity makes Plainfield Public Schools a required element for student response in the community, as our students and families' needs have changes so has our focus and allocation of necessary resources and attention.

**Strategic Planning:** Plainfield Public Schools operates under a BOE adopted strategic plan. The 2021-2025 Strategic Operating Plan, the BOE approved Capital Improvement Plan, and the Plainfield Schools Technology Plan can all be found under the Strategic Planning Section of our Website, <a href="www.plainfieldschools.org">www.plainfieldschools.org</a>.

Alliance Status: Plainfield Public Schools was awarded Alliance Status by the CT State Department of Education in 2021. The Alliance Districts are unique, diverse, and complex districts. These districts include: Ansonia, Bloomfield, Bridgeport, Bristol, Danbury, Derby, East Hartford, East Haven, East Windsor, Enfield, Groton, Hamden, Hartford, Killingly, Manchester, Meriden, Middletown, Naugatuck, New Britain, New Haven, New London, Norwalk, Norwich, Plainfield, Putnam, Stamford, Stratford, Thompson, Torrington, Vernon, Waterbury, West Haven, Winchester, Windham, Windsor, and Windsor Locks

Alliance districts are predominantly situated in the Connecticut communities in need of support as reflected by nearly all economic indicators including: per capita income; adjusted equalized net grand list per capita; equalized mill rate; per capita aid to children receiving Temporary Family Assistance program benefits; and unemployment rate. Alliance districts are serving 44% of Connecticut's children (226,365) including; More than 64% of CT's 260,703 Students of Color, 66% of Connecticut's 208,375 lowincome students, and 77% of CT's 45,184 English Learners (EL) students.