



Nothing is impossible . . .

Welcome back!
Norfolk Public Schools
August 30, 2010

Today's Agenda

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|---|---------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| ■ | 9:00 - 10:00 | <u>Welcome</u> | Claire Jackson, Ph.D., Interim Superintendent
Shawn Dooley, Chair, School Committee
Ellen Horton, President, NTA |
| ■ | 10:00 - 10:10 | <u>Break</u> | |
| ■ | 10:15 - 10:45 | <u>New Software: Email and IPASS</u> | Claire Campo, Technology Director
Trish Kelley, Data Specialist |
| ■ | 10:45 - 11:30 | <u>Web Training</u> | |
| ■ | 11:30 - 12:30 | <u>Lunch and Photo ID's</u> | All staff at H. Olive Day |
| ■ | 12:20 - 1:20 | <u>Staff Meetings</u> | F/C - Library and HOD – Library |
| ■ | 1:30 - 2:00 | <u>SPED Staff Meeting</u> | HOD Library |
| ■ | 2:00 - 2:30 | <u>Photo ID's</u> | All staff at FC |
| ■ | 2:30 - 3:00 | <u>IEP Review</u> | Specialists and SPED Staff |

Welcome back!

- Many thanks –
 - Principals , Assistant Principal
 - School Committee
 - Central Office Staff
 - Director of Facilities
 - Teachers
 - NTA President and Executive Board
 - Teacher • Parent Association

Thinking about what we do . . .

- “The principal goal of education is to create men and women who are capable of doing new things , not simply repeating what other generations have done.”
 - Jean Piaget

Looking back. . .

THEN

- Time was fixed, learning variable
- Learning characterized by memorization
- Textbook driven
- Passive learning
- Teacher-centered
- Teacher: sole arbiter of quality
- Curriculum - basic

AND NOW

- Outcome-based
- What students know, understand and are able to do
- Research- and data-driven
- Active learning
- Student-centered
- Self, peer, and other assessment
- Learning: aligned with life in the 21st century

Skills for the 21st century

- *Communication: read, write, listen, comprehend, respond*
- *Problem solving: creative, open-minded, curious, have more questions than answers, be self-directed*
- *Critical thinking: challenge, question, analyze*
- *Leadership: do the right thing, challenge others to do the right thing*
- *Collaborative: work well with others, share ideas, understand give and take*

The Shift in Thinking

- “In the future, how we educate our children may prove to be more important than how much we teach them.”

- Thomas L. Friedman, *The World is Flat*

Impossible things. . .

“One can’t believe impossible things.”



“I dare say you haven’t had much practice,” said the Queen. “When I was your age, I always did it for half an hour a day. Why, sometimes, I’ve believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast.”

Lewis Carroll, Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland



Speaking of Impossible Things

- Mission Statement

- The Norfolk Public Schools offers a safe, joyful and challenging learning environment that meets the needs of our diverse students.
- Through school, family and community partnerships, we provide an education that inspires life-long learners and cultivates caring and productive citizens of our ever-changing world.

Core Values

- Academic Excellence
- Civic and Community Responsibility
- Respect for Human Differences

School Committee Goals 2010 - 2011

- Documentation of Norfolk Public Schools Learning Expectations
- Contract Negotiation
- Superintendent Search
- Support for Building Project
- Development of FY12 Budget
- Community Engagement/Outreach
- Policy Review

Impossible Things? We can do it!

- District-wide, school-based goals derived from school committee goals:
 - Pre-K – 6 Learning Expectations: What should our students know, understand, and be able to do at the end of each year?
 - Review of FAPE, eligibility
 - 21st century teaching and learning
 - Bullying: policy, training
 - Community engagement