

# Barnard School Improvement Plan

## *Progress ~ February 2026*



# ACADEMICS

*Students participate in individualized academic programming that meets their needs, interests, and abilities.*



**Goal 1:** Create more outdoor learning opportunities incorporating the natural environment to support the curriculum and student learning.

**Goal 2:** Provide more extended learning options for students above grade level benchmarks.

**Goal 3:** Develop a comprehensive literacy plan of instruction for grades K-8 that is aligned with the science of reading following our [Four Year Literacy Implementation Plan](#)

**Goal 4:** Continue to develop competency-based units in all core subject areas that include work with habits of learning.

**Goal 5:** Continue to improve Data Driven PLCs

**Goal 6:** Provide students with with more PBL opportunities

# Academics

**Goal 1:** Create more outdoor learning opportunities incorporating the natural environment to support the curriculum and student learning.

**Goal 5:** Continue to improve Data Driven PLCs

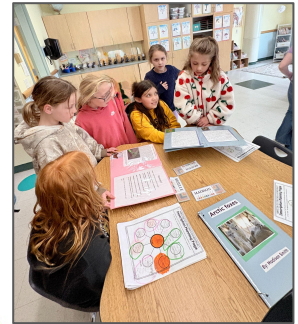
## Experiential/Authentic & Outdoor Learning

- Camp Kent trip K-8
- Nature's Classroom Gr 6
- Ipswich river Sanctuary K-5
- Adopt a Cow and Field trip to Dairy Farm Gr 4/5
- Browne Center UNH gr 6/7
- K/1 trip to Dover Children's Museum
- 2/3 trip to Odiorne/Seacoast Science Center
- History Field trip top Boston Gr 6-8
- Mock trials & John Brown persuasive letters
- Robotics (Spheros, DashBots & Gearbots programming)
- Grade level integrated research projects (k/1 animals, 2-5 interest projects)



## Data Driven PLCs

- Deep dive of iReady reports to support planning
- SST meetings analyzed data to identify student needs and next steps (MTSS)
- Data supported hiring a .5 interventionist for Tier 2 instruction



**Barnard School**

# MINDSETS

*Students demonstrate traits and habits that are critical to their success.*



**Goal 1:** Provide students with more opportunities to practice and reflect on their habits of learning and independently share their progress with families.

**Goal 2:** Educate families about habits of learning and CARES in an effort to provide continuity between school and home

**Goal 3:** Build student resilience by providing opportunities for productive struggle.

**Goal 4:** Foster student curiosity and improve student engagement.

**Goal 5:** Implement student-led conferences in grades K-8



# Mindsets

**Goal 3:** Build student resilience by providing opportunities for productive struggle.

**Goal 4:** Foster student curiosity and improve student engagement.

- Weekly STEM class K-8
- Let Grow Project K-5 - continuing to build independence and problem solving
- Daily Morning Meetings/Class Circles K-8 focused on HOL and mindset
- Fostering curiosity & productive struggle at all-school recess and field trips
- trips to Nature's Classroom, UNH Browne Center, Camp Kent & Ipswich River
- Student portfolios and reflections of learning in content areas
- Student-led conferences w/ a focus on next steps for growth
- Feedback & Goal Setting after iReady testing (focused on growth)



**Barnard School**

# ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS

*Students manage the career, financial, technological, and practical responsibilities necessary in a complex and changing world.*



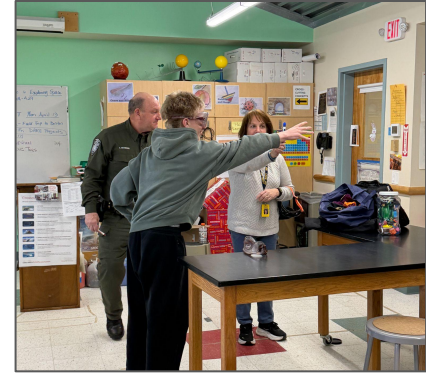
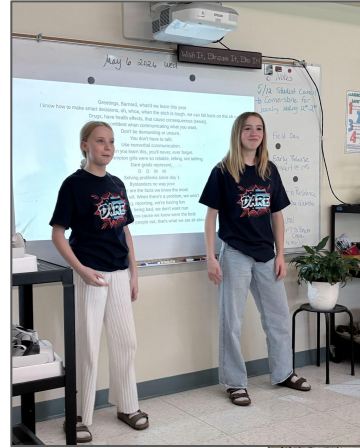
**Goal 1:** Provide students with more learning opportunities around responsible digital literacy and social media use

**Goal 2:** Provide opportunities for students to collaborate with local businesses

# Essential Life Skills

**Goal 1:** Provide students with meaningful opportunities to build independence, strengthen decision-making, and develop the skills needed to be successful across a range of life and future pathways.

- Weekly DARE lessons grade 6 - emphasis on decision making
- Healthcare Symposium (*Resident Capstone project at Barnard- sharing various careers in Healthcare*)
- Intentional opportunities for productive struggle and independence (snow clothes, opening snacks,
- Health Class/SEL class focus on social media responsibility and understanding validity of digital information
- Intentional practice w/ public speaking (grades K-8)
- Financial Literacy Gr 7 Math (interest rates, taxes, budgeting - real life applications)
- Jobs in school (recycling, cafeteria set up/take down)
- Students creating small business - planning for, organizing and selling goods at Fall Festival
- Enrichment programs: Chess Club, Board Game Club, Newspaper Club



**Barnard School**

# ***PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELLNESS***

*Students live a balanced and healthy social, emotional, and physical life.*



**Goal 1:** Implement a nutritional education program for grades K-8

**Goal 2:** Support students in navigating the societal pressures of social media and the impact it has on their well-being.

**Goal 3:** Continue with the implementation of Restorative practices

**Goal 4:** Provide students with skills for managing stress.



## Physical & Mental Wellness

-Weekly Health Classes 6-8

-Purchase and Implementation of Second Step resources to promote CASEL competencies

- Intentional teaching of wellness techniques (breathing, regulation, mindfulness, etc)

- Focus on restorative practices, morning circles, building emotional connections and identifying moments of gratitude

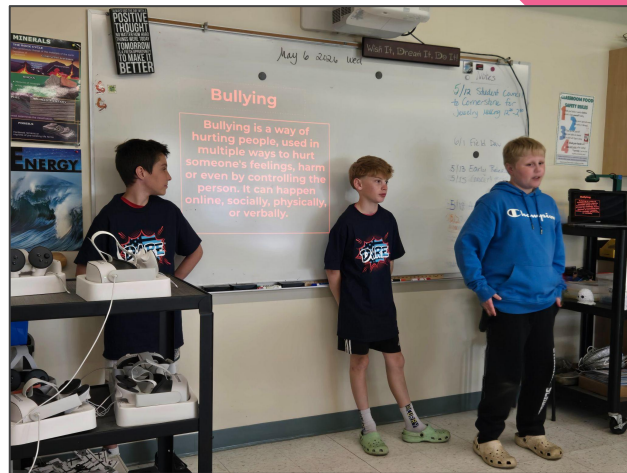
-DARE Program - Grade 6

-Daily Recess and Movement/Outdoor Walking Breaks (including all-school recess)



**Goal 1:** Implement a health education program for grades K-8

**Goal 4:** Provide students with skills for managing stress.



# Barnard School



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*Students share a commitment to their local and global community.*



**Goal 1:** Provide service learning opportunities for students to create a sense of agency and ownership of their local community.

**Goal 2:** Connect students to global citizenship opportunities

**Goal 3:** Provide opportunities for students to learn about sustainability.

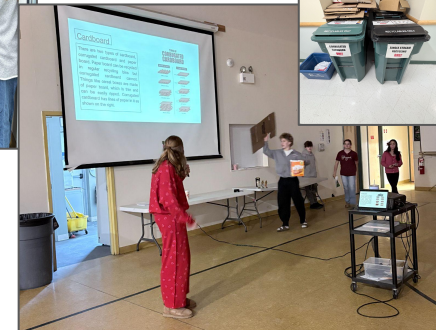
# Community Engagement



Barnard School

**Goal 1:** Provide opportunities for students to meaningfully engage in experiences that build agency, ownership, and an understanding of how their actions impact their community and beyond.

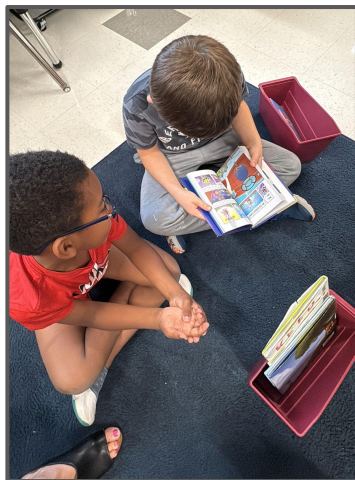
- Veteran's Day celebration with local veterans attending and sharing stories during coffee hour
- Sending Valentine cards to the South Hampton community
- Revised recycling program/Gr 8 presented the new program and recycling info at all-school assembly
- Student Council raised money for Our Neighbor's Table
- Student Council visited Cornerstone Senior Center to engage with seniors
- Grade level visits to town library bi-weekly
- Family Pottery Night
- Memorial Day Celebration
- 2-night Drama Performance
- Celebration of Learning/Community cook-out 6/8





# School Improvement Plan Work/Updates

May 13, 2026



# Refining Our School Improvement Plan 3.10.26

- What are we really trying to accomplish for our students?
- What do we want a Barnard graduate to be able to do?

## Steps in Refining Plan

1. Review current plan/goals
2. Identify Barnard core values
3. Use data to establish baselines (*academic, SEL, school culture observations, etc.*)
4. Identify the goals that matter the most (*prioritize*)
5. Establish clear outcomes (*tangible ways to monitor progress*)
6. Select strategies and instructional practices that support
7. Create clear action steps, timelines, roles and resources



# Academics

**Strategic Goal:** Strengthen Tier 1 instruction through data-informed practices that ensure all learners are challenged and supported (reflects MTSS and data focus)

## Action Steps/Outcome/Strategies

- Develop and implement a comprehensive K–8 literacy framework aligned to the Science of Reading.
- Strengthen data-driven PLCs to identify student needs and adjust instruction.
- Expand extended learning opportunities for students performing above grade-level benchmarks.
- Continue development of competency-based units aligned to Habits of Learning.
- Expand project-based learning opportunities.

## Current goals absorbed

- Literacy plan
- Data-driven PLCs
- Extended learning
- Competency-based units
- PBL

# Mindsets

**Strategic Goal:** Develop student ownership of learning through Habits of Learning, reflection, and resilience.

## Action Steps/Outcome/Strategies

- Implement student-led conferences K–8.
- Provide opportunities for students to practice and reflect on Habits of Learning.
- Educate families about Habits of Learning and CARES - add a section to monthly newsletters and teachers newsletters with intentional focus on HOL and CARES. .
- Provide opportunities for productive struggle through outdoor and nature-based learning experiences, as well as academic experiences.
- Partner with experiences (e.g., Alnoba, UNH Browne Center) that promote teamwork, problem solving, and perseverance.
- Support students in navigating challenges and setbacks as part of the learning process.

## Current goals absorbed

- Habits of learning reflection
- Family education about CARES
- Student resilience
- Student curiosity
- Student-led conferences
-

# Essential Life Skills

**Strategic Goal: Equip students with the executive functioning and life skills needed to manage themselves, communicate effectively, and navigate real-world situations.**

## Action Steps/Outcome/Strategies

- Provide explicit instruction in executive functioning skills (organization, time management, goal setting) during Advisory/Morning Meeting.
- Create structured opportunities for students to apply real-world skills through authentic experiences, including:
  - designing and operating student-led businesses (e.g., Fall Festival, Celebration of Learning)
  - managing a school store, including inventory, budgeting, and customer service
  - practicing public speaking and business communication
- Partner with local organizations, such as Align Credit Union, to support student understanding of financial literacy and responsible money management.
- Integrate digital citizenship and responsible social media use into real-world applications.
- Cross Grade level opportunities for leadership and social interaction.

## Current goals absorbed

- Digital literacy/social media
- Collaboration with local businesses

# Physical and Mental Wellness

**Strategic Goal: Support student well-being by building skills for emotional regulation, resilience, and healthy living.**

## **Action Steps/Outcome/Strategies**

- Continue implementation of restorative practices.
- Provide students with skills for managing stress and emotional regulation.
- Support students in understanding the impact of social media on well-being.
- Implement nutrition and health education opportunities.

## **Current goals absorbed**

- Restorative practices
- Stress management
- Social media well-being
- Nutrition education



# Community Engagement

**Strategic Goal: Strengthen students' connection to their community, environment, and the broader world.**

## **Action Steps/Outcome/Strategies**

- Expand outdoor and nature-based learning opportunities.
- Provide service learning opportunities that support local community needs.
- Increase opportunities for students to learn about sustainability and environmental stewardship.
- Provide opportunities for students to explore global citizenship and cultural awareness.

## **Current goals absorbed**

- Outdoor learning
- Service learning
- Sustainability
- Global citizenship