



GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CENTRAL OFFICE

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Stephen Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching & Learning

"The Greenfield Public School District is a place where every child is supported on their path to success."

To: Carol Kruser, Superintendent

From: Stephen Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Date: September 9, 2026

RE: Assistant Superintendent Update

1. New Teacher Orientation

Greenfield Public Schools welcomed our newest teachers during New Teacher Orientation on August 26 and 27. Over the course of two days, new educators were introduced to district policies, procedures, and expectations, participated in professional learning, and connected with their mentors and colleagues. They also had the opportunity to explore Greenfield and learn more about the community they are now part of. We're excited to welcome our newest educators to GPS and look forward to a great year ahead! (*[GPS Strategic Plan–Curriculum and Instruction](#); [SEL Supports](#); and [Communications and Outreach](#)*)

2. Convocation and District-wide Professional Development

It was great to have staff back together on Monday, August 31, for Convocation and the start of a new school year. After Convocation, schools held staff meetings to review important updates, housekeeping items, and what's ahead for the year. Tuesday brought a full day of professional development, with opportunities for staff to learn, collaborate, and dig into the work that matters most in their schools and classrooms. Sessions included Implementing Boston Focus at the PreK level, CKLA and differentiation at the elementary level, Building 100% Participation Classrooms at the middle school, and State of GHS and Universal Design for Learning at the high school, along with Crisis Prevention training and a variety of other school and role specific sessions. It was a busy and productive start, and we're excited to have everyone back for another school year. (*[GPS Strategic Plan–Curriculum and Instruction](#); [SEL Supports](#); and [Communications and Outreach](#)*)

3. PRISM II Continuation Grant

Greenfield Public School District has been selected to receive the Partnership for Reading Success Massachusetts (PRISM II), Cohort 1 continuation grant, providing \$177,500 to support the next phase of literacy work at AEL. Year 1 of the grant focused on selecting a new literacy curriculum and preparing for implementation. This year, the focus shifts to implementing Boston

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Focus at AEL. A significant portion of the grant will support ongoing work with TNTP, which is partnering with DESE on its Literacy Launch initiative. The remaining funds will support the work of the AEL Curriculum Council as it helps guide and oversee the implementation. *(GPS Strategic Plan–Curriculum and Instruction; SEL Supports; and Communications and Outreach)*

4. Recruitment Efforts

Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program Planning Grant (RTAP)

Greenfield is part of a regional coalition participating in the Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program (RTAP), with Westfield Public Schools serving as the lead district. The coalition also includes Chicopee, Granby, Hampden-Wilbraham, and Hadley. RTAP provides a job-embedded pathway to an initial Massachusetts teaching license, allowing participants to earn while they learn. Registered teacher apprentices are paid employees who complete approved coursework while gaining supervised, in-class experience. The program expands opportunities for aspiring educators while helping strengthen local pipelines into teaching, particularly in hard-to-staff roles.

Job Fair

Greenfield Public Schools will participate in MassHire's Fall Multi-Industry Job Fair on Thursday, September 17, from 2–4 p.m. at the Hampshire Mall. We'll be there to share more about opportunities within our district as we continue to fill several key positions, including Instructional Assistants, Special Education Teachers, Substitutes, and more. We're looking forward to connecting with prospective staff and sharing what it's like to be part of our schools. *(GPS Strategic Plan–Curriculum and Instruction; SEL Supports; and Communications and Outreach)*

5. Curriculum Costs FY24-FY26

At the request of a School Committee member, I am including an overview of recent curriculum expenditures. I want to note that these figures should be viewed as high-level totals and do not, on their own, provide a complete picture of curriculum spending. There is important context that is not reflected in these numbers, including whether expenses were funded through grants or local funds, as well as the distinction between core curriculum adoptions, supplemental resources, professional learning, and other instructional materials. The reported expenditures were \$632,800.80 in FY24, \$465,082.75 in FY25, and \$160,833.64 in FY26. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss these figures in greater detail with any member who has questions. Some questions may require additional research and time to provide an accurate and meaningful

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response, particularly when examining the specific funding sources, purpose, and nature of individual expenditures. *(GPS Strategic Plan–Curriculum and Instruction; SEL Supports*

6. Early Literacy High Dosage Tutoring 26-27

Greenfield has been selected to participate in DESE's [SY26–27 Early Literacy High-Dosage Tutoring \(HDLT\)](#) program, providing students with high-impact, evidence-based literacy support designed to accelerate reading growth. We had hoped to bring this opportunity to our schools last spring, so we're especially excited to get the program up and running this year. The program will prioritize first-grade students who are below or well below benchmark, with additional seats available to eligible K–3 students as space allows. Our teachers will also have the opportunity to serve as tutors and earn additional compensation. The first of two 10-week tutoring cycles is expected to begin in late October. We're looking forward to bringing this additional support to our students and helping more young readers build confidence and make meaningful progress. *(GPS Strategic Plan–Curriculum and Instruction; SEL Supports; and Communications and Outreach)*

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Sullivan

Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning