

Committee Members  
Brian A. O'Connell, Chairman  
John F. Monfredo, Vice-Chairman  
Molly O. McCullough

Administrative Representative  
Marco Rodrigues, Ed.D.

OFFICE OF THE  
CLERK OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
WORCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
20 IRVING STREET  
WORCESTER, MA 01609

AGENDA #3

The Standing Committee on TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT SUPPORTS will hold a meeting:

on: Tuesday, August 16, 2016  
at: 5:30 p.m.  
in: Room 410, Durkin Administration Building

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. GENERAL BUSINESS

gb #2-36 - Ms. Novick/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (January 25, 2012)

To review the status of the curriculum review process.

gb #2-139 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio (April 11, 2012)

To consider development of a partnership with the Boston Debate League to support academic debate teams in high schools in Worcester.

ros #4-12 - Administration (October 8, 2014)

DISTRICT LITERACY PLAN

gb #4-39 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Mayor Petty (February 4, 2014)

To review and consider the report which sets forth "The Gateway Cities Vision for Dynamic Community-Wide Learning Systems."

gb #4-175 - Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell (May 28, 2014)

To consider the possible benefits and drawbacks of later secondary school start times on teaching and learning.

gb #4-211 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (July 22, 2014)

Request that the Administration review this year's data on chronic absenteeism to determine the impact of the awareness campaign and to schedule a meeting with the stakeholders prior to September in order to update the strategic plan.

gb #4-226 - Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Novick/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (August 13, 2014)

To review the level of instruction in computer "coding" provided to students of the Worcester Public Schools who would like to explore coding as a potential career.

gb #4-239 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 2, 2014)

To consider creation of "standing desk classrooms" on a pilot basis, modeled on the classrooms put into place in Bryan Collegiate High School, and highlighted in the September 2014 edition of District Administration.

gb #4-259 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 17, 2014)

To initiate a course in Mandarin Chinese at the Advanced Placement level, offered either in a customary classroom setting or through Virtual High School.

c&p #5-2 - Clerk (January 28, 2015)

To consider a communication from a citizen regarding North High School.

ros #5-11.1 - Administration/Administration (October 19, 2015)

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION EVALUATION REPORT

gb #5-14 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Ramirez/Miss Biancheria (January 7, 2015)

To invite a representative of Tenacity to meet with the Worcester Public Schools, to consider cooperative opportunities to expand the Tenacity Summer Tennis and Reading Program for the benefit of the students of the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #5-38 - Miss Ramirez/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (January 16, 2015)

To discuss the feasibility of establishing a Teacher Residency Program modeled after the Boston Teacher Residency Program which includes participation in a Master's in Education Program as part of a full year practicum in the Worcester Public Schools under a master teacher who continues to support teachers for the first three years of their career.

gb #5-181 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (June 30, 2015)

To explore options for expansion of Grade 6-8 programming at Worcester East Middle School, and at any other middle schools interested in implementing or expanding a Grade 6-8 program.

gb #5-201 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/Miss Biancheria (July 31, 2015)

Request that the Administration review the policy on "School Choice" to see if any changes need to be made to keep the Worcester Public Schools the district of choice for all parents.

gb #5-207 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (August 7, 2015)

Request that the Worcester Public Schools consider sharing information regarding the National Attendance Awareness Month movement sponsored by 40 national partners.

gb #5-236 - Miss Biancheria/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (September 9, 2015)

Request that the Administration consider the feasibility of implementing the curriculum of the Army of Saints for Physical and Health Education in the Worcester Public Schools.

gb #5-244 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Foley/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss Biancheria/Mayor Petty (September 10, 2015)

To review the scores achieved by Worcester students in the Spring 2015 administration of the Advanced Placement examinations, in all courses and at all levels.

gb #5-256 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (September 23, 2015)

To expand career counseling, internship and mentoring initiatives within the Worcester Public Schools, at all grade levels, with the assistance and support of the Worcester Area Chamber of Commerce and of interested individuals and entities of the greater Worcester business community.

gb #5-269 - Mr. Foley/Miss Ramirez/Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria (October 5, 2015)

Request that the Administration research the opportunities available to Worcester public school students through Unified Theater, an inclusive, student-led creative program that builds relationships and leadership.

gb #5-328 - Administration (November 24, 2015)

To consider the Coordinated Program Review (CPR).

ros #6-3 - Administration (March 9, 2016)

#### THE OPIATE EPIDEMIC: IMPACT ON THE WORCESTER COMMUNITY

gb #6-23 - Mr. Foley/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough (January 8, 2016)

Request that the Administration work with Fallon Health and other interested funders to explore the potential opportunity to implement a pilot program developed by Playworks in several elementary schools that train staff and volunteers to run recess sessions that include positive play, greater levels of exercise and better utilization of limited recreational space.

gb #6-25 -Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria (January 8, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a list of Drug and Alcohol Educational Programs and assemblies scheduled for the 6th, 7th and 8th grade students for the school year 2015-16 academic year.

gb #6-26 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo (January 8, 2016)

To re-examine the Kindergarten Entrance Age Policy.

gb #6-28.1 - Administration/Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria  
(February 17, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to provide a list of assessments that were administered to kindergarten students for the 2015-16 academic year.

gb #6-31 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss McCullough  
(January 8, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide an update, by school, on the implementation of the Common Core State Standards.

gb #6-32 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Miss McCullough (January 8, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a list of the Professional Development training for teachers on the implementation of the Common Core State Standards.

gb #6-33 - Ms. Colorio/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria/  
Miss McCullough (January 8, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider offering Civics as an elective course at the high school level for the 2016-17 academic year.

gb #6-37 - Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/Ms. Colorio/Miss McCullough  
(January 11, 2016)

To address the incidents of violent and aggressive behavior on the part of students toward teachers, administrators and other staff members in school, including staff development training in responses to student aggression, and consideration of appropriate policies and practices to curtail such incidents.

gb #6-50.1 - Administration/Mayor Petty/Mr. O'Connell/Mr. Monfredo/  
Miss McCullough (March 9, 2016)

Response of the Administration to the request to consider joining and fully funding Worcester Technical High School's schoolwide participation in SkillsUSA.

gb #6-79 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Miss Biancheria/Miss McCullough  
(February 9, 2016)

Request that the Administration provide a report on the Mass. Early Warning Indicator System (EWIS) indicating how it is utilized in the school and include any positive outcomes.

gb #6-128 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/  
Miss McCullough (March 21, 2016)

Request that the Administration consider implementing an advanced academy, based on the Goddard Academy model, at Burncoat Middle School for grade 7 students in either the 2016-17 or 2017-18 academic year which can be expanded to grade 8.

gb #6-129 - Mr. Monfredo/Mr. O'Connell/Ms. Colorio/Mr. Foley/  
Miss McCullough (March 21, 2016)

Request that the Administration establish an Early Learning Committee comprised of kindergarten teachers, grade one teachers and Administrators to consider the following:

- gradually advancing 4 year old students yearly, based on readiness skills
- consider a K-1 two year kindergarten program for 4 year old children
- consider seeking support from the Legislative Delegation for full day pre-school program

gb #6-212 - Mr. O'Connell/Miss McCullough/Mr. Monfredo/Miss Biancheria  
(May 25, 2016)

To consider amending the 2017 summer reading list by adding to it certain works of literature which appeared on previous summer reading lists, and which are widely recognized as classics and as key elements of a well-rounded elementary or secondary school educational experience.

motion - gb #5-93.1 motion (January 15, 2016)

To request that the School Committee review the legislation proposed by Senator Chandler with regard to a unit on Civics and forward it to the Standing Committee on Teaching, Learning and Student Supports.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Helen A. Friel, Ed.D.  
Clerk of the School Committee

I would like to petition the School Committee for:

1. A police officer in the building on a daily basis.
2. More consequences for trouble makers and unruly students.
3. More support from the superintendent and school committee.

Thank you,  
Vincenza Fichtner  
134 Puritan Avenue  
Worcester, MA 01604  
North High Parent

# Count Us In! Toolkit - 2016 - Executive Summary

## Working Together To Show That Every School Day Matters



Poor attendance is an alarming, largely overlooked problem that is preventing too many children from having an opportunity to learn and succeed. Chronic absence – missing 10 percent of the school year, or just 2-3 days every month—can translate into third-graders unable to master reading, sixth-graders failing courses and ninth-graders dropping out of high school. Low-income students, who most depend on school for opportunities to learn, are especially harmed when they miss too much instruction. Read this [research summary](#) for more details.

Chronic absence affects 5 million to 7.5 million students— more than one in 10 – nationwide. This is not just a problem in middle and high school. It starts in kindergarten and preschool. It is a problem in districts of every size, urban, suburban and rural and found in every state. Stemming this crisis is essential to our nation's economic and educational future and closing the achievement gap. Growing recognition of its importance throughout the country led to the inclusion of chronic absence in the recently passed [Every Student Succeeds Act](#), which reauthorizes federal funding for public schools as well as the launch of the [Every Student, Every Day](#) initiative as part of [My Brother's Keeper](#).

The good news is chronic absence is a problem we can fix when schools and communities work with students and families, starting in the early grades to identify and address barriers to getting to school, and cultivate a culture of attendance that encourages showing up every day even when it isn't easy. This starts with everyone in the community recognizing they have a stake and a role.

The Count Us In! Toolkit is an essential resource for improving attendance in your schools and communities. Use it to plan your involvement and enlist stakeholders in the work. Ideally planning starts in the Spring to be ready by the beginning of the next school year. Count Us In! offers a variety of options for promoting good attendance. Choose which options work best for you and tailor the strategies to reflect the strengths and assets of your community. Browse the links below and click on what interests you.

- » [How to Use this Toolkit](#)
- » [Why Attendance and Chronic Absence?](#)
- » [Who Should Use This Toolkit?](#)
- » [What are the Key Messages?](#)
- » [How Can We Deliver the Message?](#)
- » [How Can Educators Improve Attendance?](#)
- » [How Can We Engage the Community?](#)
- » [How Can We Identify & Help Students with Poor Attendance?](#)
- » [How Can We Measure Success?](#)



Attendance Works is a national organization dedicated to

improving the policy, practice and research around attendance. Our website offers materials, studies, and success stories about reducing chronic absence. Sign up to receive updates: <http://www.attendanceworks.org/>

This document is just a summary, for the full toolkit with links to many more resources, visit: <http://awareness.attendanceworks.org/resources/count-us-toolkit-2016/>

Production of Count Us In! was made possible by the generous support of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Campaign for Grade Level Reading, The California Endowment, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and a growing number of individual donors.

# AP District Summary by School (2016)

This report contains a summary of the total numbers and percentages of each AP Exam score (1 to 5) by subject in your district, the total number of exams taken by subject at each school in your district, and the total number of students by education level at each school in your district.

Data Updated Aug 8, 2016. Report Run Aug 9, 2016

Worcester Public Schools (D103967) Total Students: 1,363; Total Schools: 7

## District Totals by Score

| Score        | Art Hist  | Mus Theo | Stu Art 2D | Stu Art 3D | Stu Art Draw | Eng Lang Comp | Eng Lit Comp | Euro Hist | Hum Geog  | Mic Econ  | Psyc       | US Gov Pol | US Hist    | World Hist | Calc AB    | Calc BC   | Comp Sci A | Stat       | Biol       | Chem       | Env Sci   | Phys 1     | Phys 2    | Chin Lang | Span Lang | Span Lit  | Total Exams  | % of Total Exams |
|--------------|-----------|----------|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|------------------|
| 5            | 2         |          | 1          |            | 1            | 8             | 7            |           | 4         |           | 20         | 3          | 5          |            | 17         | 6         | 1          | 3          | 1          | 2          | 1         | 4          | 1         |           | 15        | 1         | 101          | 4.5              |
| 4            | 3         |          | 5          |            | 5            | 19            | 19           |           | 13        | 1         | 23         | 3          | 14         | 1          | 17         | 6         | 1          | 19         | 14         | 7          | 6         | 4          | 6         |           | 21        | 2         | 209          | 9.3              |
| 3            | 6         |          | 4          | 4          | 3            | 51            | 43           |           | 8         | 3         | 30         | 11         | 24         | 6          | 14         | 13        | 7          | 36         | 44         | 23         | 3         | 18         | 16        | 1         | 32        | 4         | 404          | 18.0             |
| 2            | 5         | 2        | 3          | 7          | 3            | 117           | 110          | 7         | 13        | 3         | 41         | 19         | 23         | 6          | 9          | 5         | 2          | 45         | 83         | 25         | 11        | 43         | 19        |           | 19        | 3         | 623          | 27.8             |
| 1            | 5         | 2        |            | 3          |              | 58            | 68           | 9         | 29        | 8         | 87         | 57         | 102        | 2          | 55         | 15        | 11         | 133        | 44         | 53         | 66        | 90         | 9         |           | 1         |           | 907          | 40.4             |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>4</b> | <b>13</b>  | <b>14</b>  | <b>12</b>    | <b>251</b>    | <b>247</b>   | <b>16</b> | <b>67</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>201</b> | <b>93</b>  | <b>168</b> | <b>15</b>  | <b>112</b> | <b>45</b> | <b>22</b>  | <b>236</b> | <b>186</b> | <b>110</b> | <b>87</b> | <b>159</b> | <b>51</b> | <b>1</b>  | <b>88</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>2,244</b> | <b>100.0</b>     |

## District Totals by School

| School                                   | Art Hist | Mus Theo | Stu Art 2D | Stu Art 3D | Stu Art Draw | Eng Lang Comp | Eng Lit Comp | Euro Hist | Hum Geog | Mic Econ | Psyc | US Gov Pol | US Hist | World Hist | Calc AB | Calc BC | Comp Sci A | Stat | Biol | Chem | Env Sci | Phys 1 | Phys 2 | Chin Lang | Span Lang | Span Lit | Total Exams |     |
|--|----------|----------|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|------|------------|---------|------------|---------|---------|------------|------|------|------|---------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|-----|
| Burncoat High School (222482)            | 2        | 4        | 4          |            | 2            | 30            | 22           | 16        | 15       |          | 47   | 1          | 9       |            | 20      |         |            |      | 23   | 24   |         | 59     |        |           |           | 6        |             | 284 |
| Claremont Academy (222458)               | 3        |          |            |            |              | 12            | 14           |           | 5        |          |      | 25         |         |            | 2       |         |            | 25   | 13   |      | 16      |        |        |           |           | 6        |             | 121 |
| Doherty Memorial High School (222492)    | 2        |          |            |            | 10           | 65            | 60           |           |          |          | 61   | 12         | 26      | 15         | 25      | 12      | 4          | 53   | 52   | 22   | 14      | 16     | 16     |           | 16        | 1        | 482         |     |
| North High School (222505)               |          |          |            | 14         |              | 39            | 54           |           |          |          | 13   | 21         | 13      |            | 15      |         |            | 61   | 15   | 19   | 19      | 10     | 10     |           | 20        | 9        | 332         |     |
| South High Community School (222535)     | 4        |          | 9          |            |              | 64            | 60           |           | 37       | 15       | 80   | 19         | 102     |            | 28      | 18      | 2          | 40   | 42   | 44   | 20      | 32     | 25     |           | 33        |          | 674         |     |
| University Park Campus School (222534)   |          |          |            |            |              | 5             | 9            |           | 10       |          |      | 15         | 18      |            | 16      |         |            | 2    | 7    | 1    |         |        |        |           | 7         |          | 90          |     |
| Worcester Technical High School (222550) | 10       |          |            |            |              | 36            | 28           |           |          |          |      |            |         |            | 21      |         | 16         | 55   | 34   |      | 18      | 42     |        | 1         |           |          | 261         |     |



# AP District Summary by School (2016)

This report contains a summary of the total numbers and percentages of each AP Exam score (1 to 5) by subject in your district, the total number of exams taken by subject at each school in your district, and the total number of students by education level at each school in your district.

Data Updated Aug 8, 2016. Report Run Aug 9, 2016

This table shows the total number of students, by education level, who took AP Exams in your district. If you apply filter options to customize this report, the data in this table will not change. It is available in each District Summary Report as a reference.

## Students by Education Level

| School                          | Total Students | Unknown | No Longer in High School | 12th Grade | 11th Grade | 10th Grade | 9th Grade | <9th Grade |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Burncoat High School            | 167            | 18      |                          | 69         | 52         | 23         | 5         |            |
| Claremont Academy               | 63             |         |                          | 28         | 25         | 8          | 2         |            |
| Doherty Memorial High School    | 286            | 13      |                          | 123        | 112        | 38         |           |            |
| North High School               | 220            | 8       |                          | 88         | 76         | 48         |           |            |
| South High Community School     | 367            | 10      |                          | 142        | 112        | 70         | 33        |            |
| University Park Campus School   | 61             |         |                          | 24         | 23         | 6          | 8         |            |
| Worcester Technical High School | 199            | 5       |                          | 79         | 107        | 8          |           |            |

The data in this report differs from other College Board reports, such as *The AP Report to the Nation*, which tracks exams taken by seniors throughout their high school career (cohort-based) and includes public school data only.



*Worcester Public Schools  
Office of Grants Management*

**Grant Acceptance Form**

**Name of Grant:** Career and Technical Education Partnership

**Type of Funder:** DESE

**Awarded Amount:** \$10,000.00

**Grant Funding Period:** August 2, 2016 - September 30,2016

**Project title:** WIN-WIN (What I need/What Industry Needs)

**Program coordinator:** Kyle Brenner, WTHS

**Purpose:** To support regional and local partnerships to expand existing and/or develop new CTE programs and initiatives that increase student access to CTE opportunities.

**Description of the program:** This program will connect current WPS students and young adults in need of skills training with an integrated longitudinal pathway. This training will prepare them for placement in the manufacturing sector and in industry jobs that pay a living wage and hold the promise of a lifelong career.

**Program location:** Worcester Technical High School

**Outcomes and Measures:** What will result from this is a program that will demonstrate it is responsive to industry workforce requirements and responsive to the needs of students who seek training.

**GRANTS REPORT  
2016-2017**

| Fund | Grant                                      | Purpose/Priorities  | Amount      |
|------|--|---|-------------|
| 405  | Career and Technical Education Partnership | <p>WIN-WIN (What I Need/What Industry Needs) is a collaborative effort of the Worcester Public Schools, the workforce investment system and regional economic development agencies including the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and local manufacturers that will prepare youth for skilled careers in Manufacturing. WIN-WIN will connect current WPS students and young adults in need of skills training with an integrated longitudinal pathway that will effectively facilitate the transition of these participants into highly sought-after employees. This training will prepare them for placement in the manufacturing sector and in industry jobs that pay a living wage and hold the promise of a lifelong career. Our course offerings will be aligned with a technical pathway that will accelerate each individual's entry into the world of work and/or post-secondary education. Our program is driven by the following goals (a) Capacity Building: To develop and implement a well-coordinated comprehensive and sustainable student and employer system of support that promotes access, success and career entry for students and young adults otherwise not engaged in this area. (b) Educational Access: To increase access and enrollment in programs that will prepare individuals for work in this occupational cluster. (c) Education Attainment: To increase the persistence and completion rate of students within these areas who are employed and/or enrolled in post-secondary credentials aligned with Advanced Manufacturing.</p> | \$10,000.00 |

**Use of Funds**

1. Stipends to support convening and planning
2. Consultant and contract fees to provide planning-related professional development
3. Other costs that are negotiated with the Department

### The Massachusetts Early Warning Indicator System (EWIS)

The Massachusetts Early Warning Indicator System (EWIS) was created by the Department, along with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) in 2011-12 with the purpose of providing information to districts on the likelihood their students will reach key academic goals. Schools can use this dataset to identify students who may need additional supports and interventions.

The EWIS is divided into four grade categories: 1) early elementary, 2) late elementary, 3) middle school, and 4) high school. The outcome at each level is linked to a relevant academic goal that is important to the success of Massachusetts students. A student that is deemed "low risk" is predicted to be likely to meet the academic goal (other levels include moderate risk and high risk). The table below describes each category and outcome in further detail.

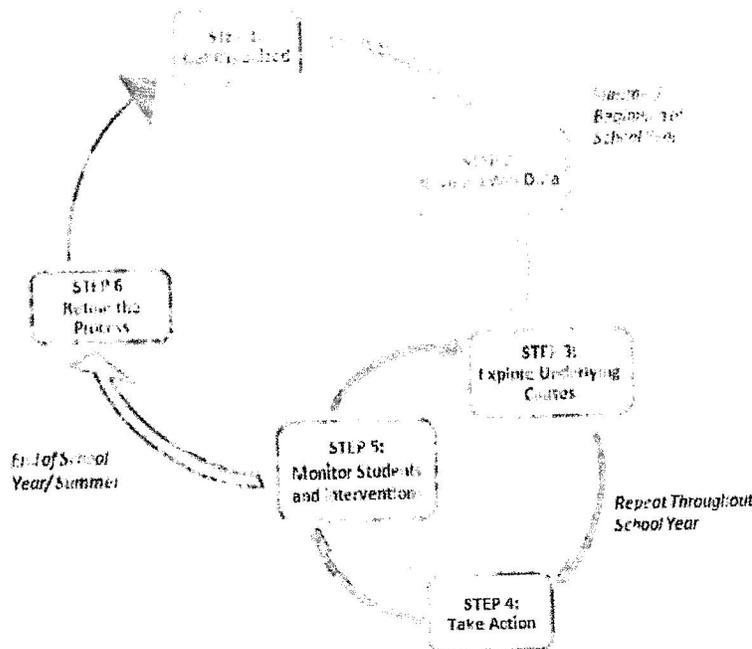
|                  |              |  |
|------------------|--------------|--|
| Early Elementary | Grades 1-3   | Proficient or advanced on 3rd grade ELA MCAS                 |
| Late Elementary  | Grades 4-6   | Proficient or advanced on 6th grade ELA and Mathematics MCAS |
| Middle Grades    | Grades 7-9   | Passing grades on all 9th grade courses                      |
| High School      | Grades 10-12 | High school graduation                                       |

Indicators used to predict risk may change depending on the student population, but the most commonly used are: attendance, suspension, state test scores, and course performance. Not all indicators are used at all grade levels (e.g., MCAS scores are not used to identify risk in first or second grade students, as they do not participate in testing).

Yearly, EWIS data is released through the Edwin Analytics, typically in early February (based on October SIMS data). The Early Warning Indicator System (EWIS) Student List (EW601) report under the Student tab in Edwin provides a list of all students within a school and their calculated risk level, which would be most useful to school staff.

The Department has identified a six step process for schools to use when analyzing EWIS data (see graphic below).

**Exhibit 4. Six-Step Early Warning Implementation Process**



For more information on using the EWIS and local data to identify, diagnose, support and monitor students in grades 1-12, please visit the following link: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/edwin/analytics/2014ImplementationGuide.pdf>