TO: School Committee

FROM: Tim Piwowar, Superintendent

DATE: September 5, 2025

RE: District Strategic Plan

At our June School Committee meeting, I was excited to share the update on our Strategic Planning process, where we had identified the four focal areas of the plan. This work was accomplished with the support of our Strategic Planning Team, which was composed of stakeholders from across the school community.

Throughout the summer, and with the support of our District Administrative Council, we have completed our work on the 2025-2028 Westwood Public Schools Strategic Plan. The plan is organized into four focal areas, strategic priorities within each focal area, and action steps within each priority. The <u>one-page summary of the focal areas and priorities</u> provides a broad overview of our work, and the <u>strategic plan with action steps</u> provides a much greater level of detail.

The purpose of the strategic plan is to identify how we, as a district, achieve the outcomes for students that we have identified in our Portrait of a Graduate. With the lens of teaching and learning, it allows us to identify our instructional focus for staff - both about how they design and deliver instruction for students, and how we provide professional learning opportunities for them.

This is summarized in the graphic below, which was shared with staff on their opening day:

| Portrait of a Graduate | District Strategic Plan | Instructional Focus |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The skills and competencies we want to develop in our students | The district-wide priorities and actions for how we support students to achieve the Portrait of a Graduate | The focal areas for instruction and staff professional learning in concert with the District Strategic Plan |
| Communicate and Collaborate | Student Voice and Agency | Student Voice and Agency |
| Think Critically and Creatively | Authentic, Relevant Learning Experiences | Universal Design for Learning |
| Act with IntegrityEngage Locally and | Rigorous, High-Quality Core Instruction | |
| Globally | Robust and Healthy Learning Environments | |

Our approach to developing this strategic plan does have some differences from previous iterations. First, it is designed as a three-year plan, with three years' worth of action steps included. This allows us to balance our need to move forward as a district with our capacity to be able to do so, and it is critical that we review this plan on a regular basis in order to assess how we are doing with our intended outcomes and timelines.

Second, this is designed as a district-level plan, and as such, does not itemize all the things that are happening at the school level across the district. Those initiatives - which should be aligned with district priorities - will be represented in School Improvement Plans across schools.

I look forward to our conversation about our new plan at our meeting on September 11!