



# Carver Public Schools District Review

August 2025

# District Review Purpose

The Office of District Reviews and Monitoring (ODRM) examines district systems, policies, and practices through written reports. These reports provide information and recommendations that promote systemic improvements and advance equitable student outcomes and experiences.

- Reports are evidence-based and provide a snapshot of participating districts' systems and practices relative to the *District Standards and Indicators*.
- Reports include key findings on strengths and areas for improvement through an equity lens, grounded in the *District Standards and Indicators*.

# Types of District Reviews

**Targeted reviews** will collect multiple sources of information to provide a valid and reliable assessment of the district's status on the **three Governance and Administrative Systems standards** or the **three Student-Centered Systems standards**.

**Comprehensive reviews** will collect multiple sources of information to provide a valid and reliable assessment of the district's status on **all six** standards from the *District Standards and Indicators*.

# Foundation: DESE's District Standards and Indicators

## **Governance and Administrative Systems**

- Leadership and Governance
- Human Resources and Professional Development
- Financial and Asset Management

## **Student-Centered Systems**

- Curriculum and Instruction
- Assessment
- Student Support



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MASSACHUSETTS  
Department of Elementary  
and Secondary Education

# District Review: Process Overview

- **Preparation**
- **Document Reviews**
  - ✓ District Submissions
  - ✓ Extant Data from DESE
  - ✓ District Liaison and School Leader Questionnaires
- **On-Site Visit**
  - Interviews and Focus Groups
  - Instructional Observations
- **Data Analysis**
- **Reporting**

# District Review: Curriculum & Instruction

## Strengths

- ✓ The district's Educational Blueprint priorities are collaboratively determined, including parent and student input.
- ✓ The district has a comprehensive curriculum review process, which includes reviewing resources, gathering teacher input, piloting materials and conducting site visits.
- ✓ Middle and High School students have access to many diverse and rigorous learning opportunities.
- ✓ Middle and High School students participate in long-term performance assessments that culminate in public presentations to demonstrate learning.

# District Review: Curriculum & Instruction

## Key Recommendations

- ✓ The district should develop a consistent cycle for curriculum revision.
- ✓ The district should examine student needs in the Middle and High School, select Tier 2 and Tier 3 interventions across each subject, and implement them with students who need additional support accessing the curriculum.
- ✓ The district should support educators in providing student with meaningful feedback on assignments.

# District Review: Assessment

## Strengths

- ✓ The district gathers multiple types of academic data about all students at all levels to inform instruction.
- ✓ Elementary teachers use bonus blocks to review and discuss student data.
- ✓ The district has a strong commitment to data privacy, demonstrated through the implementation of multiple strategies.

# District Review: Assessment

## Key Recommendations

- ✓ The district should expand its data collection to include social emotional and behavioral data.
- ✓ The district should develop a culture of data use at its middle and high school by collaborating with teachers to identify and leverage high-quality data sources that provide authentic insight into students' understanding and progress .
- ✓ The district should set expectations around the timely inputting of grades in the Aspen system, particularly at the high school level, to increase its usefulness for students and to allow families to monitor progress throughout each semester.

# District Review: Assessment

## Key Recommendations

- ✓ The district should work with elementary teachers to expand the breadth and depth of academic data shared with families, including regular student progress updates and work samples.
- ✓ The district should engage middle and high school teachers in establishing clear expectations and guidance around grade weighting and assessment practices to reduce variability across classrooms and hold consistent expectations for student performance.

# District Review: Student Support

## Strengths

- ✓ The district implements effective attendance strategies.
- ✓ Student leadership opportunities are accessible and meaningful, especially in the upper grade levels.
- ✓ The school committee revised district policies regarding sports participation to expand students' access to athletics to encourage physical health and well-being.
- ✓ School staff provide clear and proactive communication celebrating student progress and accomplishments.
- ✓ The district has strong community partnerships to support families.
- ✓ Carver Elementary School provides structured support for students with academic needs.

# District Review: Student Support

## Key Recommendations

- ✓ The district should reconsider its approach to discipline and prioritize implementing inclusionary and culturally responsive methods for managing student behavior.
- ✓ The district should further investigate the root causes of families' challenges with receiving messages through the SchoolConnect system and should devise solutions that streamline the processes of signing up for messages and updating contact information.

# District Review: Next Steps

- **Send District Review report to families and staff and post on [carver.org](http://carver.org)**
- **Review Recommendations with Curriculum Leadership Teams**
- **Review Recommendations with Teachers and Staff**
- **Incorporate Recommendations into School Improvement Plans**  
*if not already present*