Margaret Allen Middle School has identified 4 priorities as part of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) for the 2019-20 school year:

- Math: Increase achievement and growth scores in Math across all grade levels.
- Incorporate SEL strategies to decrease suspensions and promote a positive school culture.
- Increase achievement and growth scores in ELA across all grade levels.
- Attendance: Reduce chronic absenteeism

As a community school, Margaret Allen Middle School strives to improve conditions for learning through collaborative work with our partners to bring community support to the school, as organized around four pillars of support that we believe are important to preparing the whole child for success:

- Family Engagement
- College and Career Readiness
- Health and Wellness
- Social Services and Adult Development

The purpose of this strategic plan is to present:

- a brief snapshot of our school’s data and other information to demonstrate the need to coordinate resources within the pillars in support of the priorities,
- information related to how the school currently coordinates resources within the pillars of support
- opportunities for community partners to support the school in its efforts and strategies to achieve goals for students in 2019-20.

SCHOOL DEMOGRAPHICS & KEY DESCRIPTORS

Margaret Allen middle school is a diverse school in MNPS’s southeast quadrant.

We range from 425-475 students per year. At nearly 44%, African American is the largest population, followed by 35% Hispanic and 18% white, which includes the Kurdish population. There are over 17 different documented languages spoken at MAMS. A large percentage of our student population were English learners and 13% were students with disabilities.

Based on 2018-19 school year 41% of our students were classified as ‘economically disadvantaged. Because this estimate relies on direct certification, we feel the actual percent is likely higher. Direct certification is the process under which Local Education Agencies (LEAs) certify children who are members of households receiving assistance under the assistance programs (e.g., SNAP, TANF) as eligible for free benefits, without further application, based on information provided by the state or local agencies administering those programs.
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT
The bullets below present information we use to continually monitor our assets and unmet needs, as well as our progress toward improving college and career readiness in our school. We are sharing this information with you to develop a shared understanding of our current status and how we will monitor our progress.

- In 2018-19 at Margaret Allen Middle School, 5 events were held to support family engagement, with a summed attendance of about 300 that participated.
- Margaret Allen Middle documented 124 families participated in parent-teacher conferences, held in the first quarter.

How We Want to Engage the Community to Help Meet Our Needs:
Incentivize Parents
Offer prizes and incentives to create excitement and show parent appreciation for being engaged with the school. Items that parents enjoy are gift cards, donations of services, food for events and tangible gifts.

Community Meeting Space
In an effort to engage all families we are seeking partners that can provide a meeting space to host family events and parent meetings/conferences in neighborhoods/apartment buildings where our students reside.

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS
The bullets below present information we use to continually monitor our assets and unmet needs, as well as our progress toward improving college and career readiness in our school. We are sharing this information with you to develop a shared understanding of our current status and how we will monitor our progress.

- Based on the Spring administration of the MNPS test used to monitor student academic performance, 14% of Margaret Allen students were in the top 2 quintiles of proficiency in Math; 20% of Margaret Allen’s students were in the top 2 quintiles of proficiency in Reading.
- In 2018-19 at Margaret Allen, the average daily student attendance was 94.4%, and our chronic absence rate (i.e., the percent of students absent at least 10% of enrolled days) was 15.9%.
- In 2018-19 at Margaret Allen, we worked with 2 partners that offered tutoring afterschool.

How We Want to Engage the Community to Help Meet Our Needs
Tutoring (Math and ELA)
Provide one-on-one tutoring, particularly from college students participating in practicum experiences, during the school day, preferably between 3-3:55pm with guidance from students’ teachers on areas of need and curriculum alignment.

Reading / Literacy Challenge
Seeking partners to provide incentives for our reading challenge. Students are challenged to read a million words. We would like to reward our students that finish to receive a gift certificate for $200 and gadgets, gift cards, technology accessories for those who read under one million.

**College and Career Exposure**

Our vision is to provide educational and enriching experiences to our students outside of the classroom. In order to complete this vision, we need opportunities for job shadowing, career exploration activities, school and college visits (tours and classroom visits), career day presenters/speaker. Funding for Field Trips: financial support for transportation, snacks, and admission, as well as partners who are willing to bring programs and volunteers to Margaret Allen Middle.

**Incentives for Attendance**

We have a goal to decrease chronic absenteeism by 5%. In an effort to do so we are seeking partners to offer incentives for attending school consistently. This could look like providing pizza for a pizza party for the class that has the best attendance monthly or cover transportation and admission costs for field trips.

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**HEALTH AND WELLNESS**

The bullets below present information we use to continually monitor our assets and unmet needs, as well as our progress toward improving health and wellness in our school. We are sharing this information with you to develop a shared understanding of our current status and how we will monitor our progress.

- Based on the 2018-19 school year data, we had 224 behavior incidents, 105 ISS incidents and 48 OSS incidents. In exploring the data further, there are groups of students who are more likely to be involved in certain discipline incidents – last year, those were African American males dominating 118 behavior incidents and 39 OSS incidents.
- In 2018-19 at Margaret Allen, we worked with 8 partners to offer social and emotional learning programming.
- Based on the Panorama Staff survey administered in 2017-18, 76% of the faculty and staff feel the school consistently has high expectations for student behavior with strict and fair discipline.

**Our Needs / How We Want to Engage the Community to Help Meet Our Needs:**

**Mentoring/ Lunch Buddies and Lunch Mentor Groups**

Provide afterschool or during school mentoring programs for our most at-risk students weekly. Our students benefit from one-on-one or small group time with community members. In talking with adults of varied careers and experiences, our students expand their horizons, build trusting relationships, and build self-confidence. Volunteer opportunities available daily

**Student Incentives**

Seeking partner to help stock the Knight Buck store. The Knight buck store will be used to incentivize students for doing well academically and socially.

**Physical and Mental Activities**

We would like for a partner to work with our physical education teacher to provide yoga classes or mindfulness activities for students and staff.

**Staff Appreciations**

Happy teachers have happy students! Please support our staff by donating meals, snacks or small gifts throughout the school year.
SOCIAL SERVICES & ADULT DEVELOPMENT
The information below present information we use to continually monitor our assets and unmet needs, as well as our progress toward improving access to social services and adult development opportunities for our school community. We are sharing this information with you to develop a shared understanding of our current status and how we will monitor our progress.

- As mentioned in the schools demographics 41% of our students were classified as 'economically disadvantaged'. The average percent of students who participated in meals at Margaret Allen Middle was 57% for breakfast and 84% for lunch.

Our Needs / How We Want to Engage the Community to Help Meet Our Needs:
Margaret Allen Store within a School
We are seeking partners to stock the MAMS Mart store with items such as food, clothing (jackets and coats), hygiene products, school supplies, household items, gift cards to Kroger Walmart, and Publix, fast food gift cards can also ease the burden of food insecurity.