

Gardner Public Schools

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

SCHOOL: Elm Street School

PRINCIPAL: Joyce R. Swedberg

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2011-2013

Data Analysis (MCAS, Galileo, Harcourt Theme Assessments, common math assessments, DIBELS) indicates a need to strengthen our students' reading comprehension. Classroom instruction will focus on consistently utilizing research-based comprehension strategies which include the following: 1) Monitor for meaning, 2) Making personal connections with what is read, 3) Creating sensory images (make a movie in your mind), 4) Ask questions, 5) Make and adjust inferences, 6) Determine importance, 7) Summarize and synthesize, 8) Activate background knowledge, (schema). Particular attention will be paid to tier 2 and tier 3 students. Title I instruction will be concentrating on Tier 2 and 3 students.

Math instruction will focus on assisting the students to effectively comprehend and solve closed and open response word problems. Specific attention will focus on the students' ability to demonstrate/explain what they are doing while using appropriate operations. We will be utilizing common planning times by grade levels and ELA and math coaches bi-weekly. We will highlight that less is more in math and that the students can demonstrate that they "get it" in many different ways. Teachers are focused on student learning and the many ways to connect with individual students' needs.

GOAL 1: To achieve AYP status in math and ELA in aggregate and all subgroups in math and ELA. Improvement target for 2011 administration for aggregate in ELA is 15.7 and 18.8 in math. Our NCLB accountability status is Restructuring Year 1 in math Restructuring Year 2 in ELA.

ACTION STEPS	DATE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS TO DATE
1. All students will participate in Galileo testing in ELA and math with benchmark measured progress.	September, January, June	Teachers, Principal Curriculum Director	1st benchmark done by end of 9/11 2 nd by 2/12
2. All students (498) participate in AR testing and quarterly goal achievement	Ongoing	Teachers	On target
3. All identified students (bottom quartile of our population) and teacher recommendations will participate in at least 10 hours of instruction in the ELA Lexia technology program.	Ongoing	Teachers Title I	In Progress
4. We utilize Tiered instruction Tier 1 all students receive 60 minutes of direct literacy instruction, Tier II additional 30 minutes (90) Tier III additional 60 minutes (2 hours)	Fall 11	Staff	Ongoing
5. Align curriculum with the new common core standards.	11-12 year	Staff and coaches	Began 8/11 and continuing through 6/12
6. Professional development in balanced literacy instruction in all grades	11-12 year	TLA (Teacher/Learning Alliance) consultant Teachers, principal assistant principal curriculum director	Throughout the 11-12 school year
7. Seek technical assistance	8/11-6/12	TLA , D.S.A.C. curriculum director and staff	In progress

8. Continued use of technology in classroom instruction (Smartboards)	8/11-6/12	Principal, Staff, Technology Director	ongoing
EVIDENCE: Galileo test results, AR goal attainment, MCAS results, Title 1 participation, Lexia, completed projects			

GOAL 2: Improve students' social skills so that they can independently and collectively interact with all school constituencies in a safe, positive, and productive manner in all school environments.

ACTION STEPS	DATE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS TO DATE
1. Continue with our Second Step guidance curriculum	School year 11-12	Classroom teachers	On going
2. Identify group counseling areas to help with social skills	Fall 11	Principal / Staff/guidance Guidance intern	Social groups by grade weekly, ongoing throughout the school year
3. Programs to focus on bullying, Internet safety, substance abuse D.A.R.E program	throughout year	Guidance, Resource officer John Lawrence, Julie LeSure, D.A.'s office	Open House 9/8/11 and ongoing throughout the year
4. Stress management, test taking tips, individual needs	Ongoing	Guidance, staff	9/11-6/12
5. Student leadership, student awareness of global concerns	Fall and ongoing	Guidance, staff, student council and advisors	elections mid 9/11 weekly meetings began 10/11
6. Character Education	Monthly	Guidance and guest speakers	beginning mid 9/11
7. Training for peer mediation	December 2011	Consultant Richard Cohen and Associates from School Mediation Association	training to begin 12/11

EVIDENCE: Office referrals, staff observations, student reflections, donations and funding for local and global needs (food drives, holiday gift and basket drives)

GOAL 3: Maintain a safe, secure learner centered environment			
ACTION STEPS	DATE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS TO DATE
1. Monitor standards for cleanliness and daily task sheets for cleaning vendor	ongoing	Principal, Facilities Director	Ongoing
2. Address building maintenance needs	ongoing	Principal, Facilities Director	Ongoing
3. Maintain locked building and update security camera and alarm systems as required	ongoing	Principal, Staff, Facilities Director	Updated and monitored
4. Revise/review school building security plans	fall 11	Staff	ongoing
5. practice drills for crisis plan	ongoing	Fire department, Police Department, staff	ongoing
EVIDENCE:			
1. Budget appropriations, work performed, fire drills, accountability drills, intruder drills, evacuations			

GOAL 4: Increase the involvement of parents 2011-2013			
ACTION STEPS	DATE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	PROGRESS TO DATE
1. Recruit a parent to serve on our school council.	9/11	Principal	Completed 9/11
2. School-wide support and attendance in PTO planned activities	9/11-6/12	Principal and PTO	Planning
3. Provide Title 1 parent involvement activities: 1 math night, 1 literacy night, and MCAS night for parents	School year 11-12	Principal, Title 1 parent, Title 1 staff	Planning
4. Organize an informational packet for Title 1 parental involvement.	School year 11-12	Principal, Title 1 parent, Title 1 staff math and ELA coaches	Teacher newsletters disseminated bi-weekly
5. Provide opportunities for parents and students to participate in activities together, such as, Father/Daughter Dance, Mother/Son Movie/Pizza Night, and grade level orientation night before school begins	School year 11-12	PTO, staff, Principal	Mother/Son night 3/12 Father/Daughter Dance 4/12
6. "Welcome back to school ice cream social"	August 18, 2011	PTO. Staff and content coaches	Dates to be determined
EVIDENCE:			
1. Distributed packet signature page returned, sign in sheet, attendance at planned activities, meeting agendas			