

LCMS-East School Council
September 19, 2018

Members present: Kelli Duke, Kim Goodson, Haley Miller, Kelly Roberson, Angela Joiner, Blake Strickland, and Patsy Shirley

Introductions of full council for 2018-2019

Duke explained why we have a school council and discussed the role of the council.

Assignment of School Council Officers: Kelly - chairperson, Angela - vice chairperson. Passed unanimously.

Approval of By-Laws: Passed unanimously.

School Improvement Information: School Improvement plan was discussed in detail.

We review data at the end of each year and determine our needs. From those needs we develop our School Improvement Plan for the year. This year we have three main goals: 1- improving achievement on Milestones 2- improving discipline 3 - improving achievement of English Language Learners - smaller subgroup than usual for us this year.

Some of the action steps for our goals that you will notice in the plan are detailed below:

Illuminate Education - online testing platform - Teachers give CFA every week and look at data to see what is happening with student achievement. Not necessarily for a grade. They adjust their instruction as a result of the CFA data. Illuminate will also be used for common district assessments.

Extended Learning Time (ELT)- 30 minutes each day except Monday (Mindset Monday when 7 Mindsets curriculum is taught). Kids who need targeted math or reading intervention get it during ELT. Those who don't need remediation attend an acceleration/exploration class. Examples of acceleration/exploration ELTs are: STEM science, robotics, small engine repair, cooking, health occupations, hunter safety, finance, crafting, emergency management procedures, etc. Students rotate every 4 1/2 weeks.

Project Based Learning - Interdisciplinary approach to learning. All grades and all students are doing PBL. Culminating project and portfolio at the end. Community Circle twice a year details what PBLs students have been working on.

Professional Learning Communities - Our teachers meet for PLCs mainly on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They have data teaming and subject meetings on these days.

Student use of technology will be at a heightened level this year. We want to refocus and develop a level of technology integration that we had 3 years ago.

We are seeking to Involve community partners more this year.

Title math and Title reading have new computer programs this year.

Improving literacy is still a big push system-wide this year. Reading and writing as well as additional literacy strategies are being incorporated in social studies and science. New literacy coordinator - Brooke Stenbridge has already provided training for science and social studies teachers.

Fastbridge - new universal screener for math and reading. Given 3 times a year. Helps us monitor student progress. Diagnostic reports are available that can help guide interventions/instruction.

Revamped our PBIS program this year. Individual badging system where points are awarded to students is being used. Parents can get PBIS Rewards app to see their child's points. School-wide rewards are based on no discipline referrals and attendance. Individual awards for points are drawings and choice card rewards. Badging system is also being used for security reasons. ISS room is being used as a reflection room and training on positive school culture has been provided to teachers. Mentor-mentee luncheons are being conducted monthly.

ASPIRE/APEX counselor is on campus and available. School counselors are not certified mental health counselors. Issues that some of our students deal with are above and beyond what our school counselors are equipped to handle so this is a wonderful service provided during the school day.

Teams from AdvancEd and Lighthouse Schools to Watch will be visiting soon. AdvancED coming in October. They give suggestions and actions for improvement if needed. Some council members will be asked to serve on the parent and/or community committee for AdvancEd.

A Lighthouse Schools to Watch visiting team will be coming soon after AdvancEd for our redesignation for Schools to Watch. This will be our 5th redesignation. This is a middle school program - Few are designated statewide. We are a true middle school and proud of this distinction.

Dates were mailed out for all of the School Council meetings this year.

Comments, questions, or concerns?

Patsy Shirley discussed Distinguished Alumni program and shared booklet with all members.

Next Meeting November 7, 2019.