

Strategic Planning Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2018

Meeting Participants

- Alyson Nechamkin, JoAnne Demetrio, Kate Scotto, Kathy McCarthy, Andrea Brunner

Agenda Items

- Reviewing teacher feedback related to school based projects
- Continue a discussion about revising summer homework/activities

Recommendation

- Set up a pilot program where students entering 5th grade will choose from a variety of summer activities, reinforcing learning and helping to prevent significant summer slide
- A committee will be formed and those individuals will create activities based on the following topics
 - Roman numerals
 - Metric system
 - Cooking or baking an recipe with an adult
 - Telling time on an analog clock
 - Money
 - Community volunteering
 - Current events project
 - Reading to another person
 - Blog (google classroom) about movies or books
 - Science experiment
 - Green project (beach, pond, leaves, etc.)
 - Roller coaster/ride measurement
 - Business proposal
 - Sports statistics
 - Jigsaw puzzles
 - Measurement

- Writing song lyrics
- Art project
- Poetry
- “How to” project
- Set up two celebrations for students who complete work during the summer months (July and August)
 - Examples of student/parent activities include an ice cream party, a carnival, activities at a local park, or a field day with food

Action Plan

- Follow up with Dr. Brown regarding these recommendations

Milltown School District

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN UPDATE 2/2018

Chairperson: Alyson Nechamkin

Team Members: JoAnne Demetrio, William Veit, Kathy McCarthy, Catia Scotto, Krystyna Herko, Andrea Brunner

Domain: Academic Excellence

Goal 1: Enhance the co-teaching model to further accommodate the needs of students with disabilities in general education classes.

Objective: Monitor and analyze inclusion programming at Parkview and Joyce Kilmer and assess budgetary implications for the maintenance and expansion of the model.

Objective: Plan and implement professional development associated with inclusive education models within the district.

Summary of accomplishments as of 2/2018:

- At a meeting for parents of students with disabilities, inclusive education was discussed. Parents provided positive feedback about their experiences. Parents also reviewed and provided input to a questionnaire that was included in the district survey.
- Inclusive Education and Co-Teaching questions were included in the District Survey, which will be reviewed with Dr. Stephanie Brown when the survey is closed to staff and parents
- An additional special education teacher was hired to be a co-teacher in 4th grade as a result of grade levels needs.
- Professional development continued for teachers, provided by Chelsea Tracy Bronson.
- Paraprofessionals received training in behavior and data collection by Veronica DePinto, BCBA (Behavioral Consultant) through Brett DiNovi and

Associates, LLC. This information will be utilized by paraprofessionals within classes including students with disabilities.

Action Plan:

- Continue providing professional development for staff related to inclusive education and co-teaching
- Begin projections of staff needs for 2018-2019 related to special education and co-teaching.
- Budget for 2018-2019 staff and resources related to inclusive education will be worked on.

Goal 2: Examine and explore the data surrounding homework, grading, and summer programs and the impact on the academic mindset.

Objective: Take inventory of current practices regarding homework, grades, and summer programs and make recommendations to modify these practices in order to enhance intrinsic motivation within students.

Summary of accomplishments as of February 2018:

- The revised grading policy was board approved.
- Principals reviewed the grading policy building level staff meetings.
- A strategic planning meeting was held discussing the set up a pilot program where students entering 5th grade will choose from a variety of summer activities, reinforcing learning and helping to prevent significant summer slide.
- Topics to be included in the summer activities were discussed and documented.
- Grade level and department chairs were asked for special projects completed during the school year, which was used to help guide the summer project discussion.

Action Plan:

- Recommendations were reviewed with Dr. Brown
- Posted for 2 chaperones and 2 teachers for summer program celebration

- A committee will be formed and those individuals will create summer activities for incoming 5th grade students based on the topics discussed and documented by the strategic planning committee.
- Set up two celebrations for students who complete work during the summer months (July and August)