

Milltown School District

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN UPDATE 2/2019

Chairperson: William Veit

Team Members: JoAnne Demetrio, Kathy McCarthy, Catia Scotto, Krystyna Herko, Andrea Brunner, Alyson Nechamkin

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 February 2019:

- Further Professional Development for staff related to inclusive education and co-teaching took place on:
 - 2/4/19 – JK Special Ed Split Faculty Meeting
 - 1/7/19 – PV Special Ed Split Faculty Meeting
 - 1/5/19 – Chelsea Tracy Bronson in district
 - 12/5/18 – Chelsea Tracy Bronson in district
- Co-Taught Schedules for 2018-19 were finalized

Action Plan:

- Continue providing professional development for staff related to inclusive education and co-teaching
- Begin projections for Co-Taught Schedules for 2019-20.

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 2019:

- A review of the 5th grade activities/expectations and celebrations from summer 2018 yielded the following observations from Andrea Brunner and Chelsea Mueller:
 - Coming up with a set of roughly 12-15 activities for incoming grade 5 students to complete was not cumbersome. Due dates of July 20 and August 20 allowed for 3 days for teachers to review the projects and compile a list of students that would qualify for the

celebrations. Issues included a heavy need for clarification due to the age of the students as well as too much parental participation in the completion of the projects. The two celebrations, Escape Room (July) and Carnival (August) proved to be again easier to plan, however the feedback related to expansion centered around difficulties related to available facilities as it is summer cleaning season, special education concerns related to aides and the availability of proper personnel to assist interested special education students, and food allergy issues.

Action Plan:

- Review further the feedback related to the expansion of both the activities and celebrations related to this program.
- Meet with the 4 teachers that responded to the 11/18 posting to develop and host the program this year to discuss the aforementioned concerns.
- Posted and approved teachers for summer program planning. We are considering a music assembly over the summer as the celebration for students who come in to share their work.
- Collaborated with the ELA summer camp teacher and department chair to reschedule the summer middle school ELA camp at a different time during the summer.
- Consulted with the Math department chair to begin planning for onsite summer Algebra camp.