

## Milltown School District

### STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN UPDATE 6/2018

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 June 2018:

- A board motion was approved to have Dr. Chelsea Tracy Bronson continue to consult with staff in Milltown School District during the 2018-2019 school year.
- At a Parent Advisory meeting on May 23, 2018, there was a review of an Inclusive Education Survey.
- The following information was shared at the May 23, 2018 Parent Advisory meeting.
  - Parent Training during the 2018-2019 school year, specifically trying to speak to the general education population
  - Clarifying misconceptions that students exhibiting behaviors are only in inclusive classes
  - Adding resources to the district website related to co-teaching and inclusive education
  - Grade level/department level meetings related to differentiated instruction (2018-2019)
  - Professional development related to co-teaching and inclusive education for the whole staff, not only those who are co-teachers

- Presented by Alyson Nechamkin and a few of Milltown School's Co-Teachers
  - Definitions and models of co-teaching
  - Definition and examples of specialized instruction
  - Data collection
  - Roles and responsibilities of co-teachers
  - Roles and responsibilities of teachers in general education classes, without co-teachers
  - Roles and responsibilities of paraprofessionals
  - Co-planning and models to complete this process
- Material audit within co-taught classes to see which materials are needed, in response to one of the responses for needs (34 responses = 24.11%)
- Review of master schedules to see additional opportunities for common planning time
- Part time Social Worker is being added to the district staff for the 2018-2019 school year
- Additional CST/counseling services will allow more time for the BCBA's to provide behavioral assistance
- Consider outside resources for behavioral supports (as was considered and discussed this school year)
- Considering what additional opportunities can be increased between the home/school connection
- 2018-2019 schedules are being finalized related to co-taught classes in both Parkview and Joyce Kilmer.

Action Plan:

- Continue providing professional development for staff related to inclusive education and co-teaching
- Finalize co-taught schedules for the 2018-2019 school year.

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 June 2018:

- A pilot program was set up for students entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade. They will choose from a variety of summer activities, reinforcing learning and helping to prevent significant summer slide.
- Postings were put out for staff members to create the activities and requirements for this pilot program.
- Two teachers were hired to create the activities and requirements for this pilot program.
- Two teachers are finalizing the activities and requirements for this pilot program.
- Two celebrations for students who complete work during the summer months (July and August) are in the process of being scheduled.

Action Plan:

- Finalize the 5<sup>th</sup> grade activities and expectations for this 5<sup>th</sup> grade pilot program.
- Continue to set up two celebrations for students who complete work during the summer months (July and August)