

# Morton Elementary School

## STRATEGIC PLAN SUMMARY 2009-10

June 30, 2010 Submission

### Morton's Mission

Morton Elementary and the White Oak District Schools will provide all students with the opportunity to become independent thinkers and to apply skills necessary to become productive responsible citizens of the world.

### Year 3 Results/Update

#### **Goal 1: Morton Elementary School students will be globally competitive through the mastery of a rigorous and relevant curriculum.**

- Unofficial EOG results demonstrate gains in individual subject area proficiency and overall proficiency.
  - Reading proficiency increased by 3.8% to 70.5%
  - Mathematics proficiency increased by 4.7% to 77.6%
  - Overall proficiency increased by 4.3% to 74.0%
- Trend data demonstrated challenges for 4<sup>th</sup> grade EOG performance. Unofficial (non-cohort) EOG results show a break in the trend of depressed 4<sup>th</sup> grade performance for 2009-10.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade reading scores increased from 57.14% proficient (2008-09) to 75.86% proficient (2009-10).
  - 4<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics scores increased from 63.10% proficient (2008-09) to 75.86% proficient (2009-10).
  - Cohort analysis also demonstrated significant proficiency gains for 2008-09 4<sup>th</sup> graders as compared to 2009-10 5<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Posted digital copies of lesson plans to public folders.
- Conducted mid-year and end-of-year K-2 assessment folder reviews with feedback to teachers and end-of-year K-5 cumulative folder audit.
- Provided faculty training for PEP and IIT processes.
- Increased student access to services through the Instructional Intervention process (14% increase in the number of students accessing the IIT process).
- Participated in AVID summer institute and continued implementation of AVID for 100% of 5<sup>th</sup> Grade.
- Established the "Learning Tree," a visual representation of the current topics and content for all grade levels.
- Conducted a summer transition program for rising kindergarten students.
- Conducted a summer academy program (in conjunction with HCE and SDE).
- Offered Title I services, EC services, K-5 SES after school tutoring services, 3-5 tutoring program, and 3-5 after school tutoring with WOHS students.
- 78% of surveyed students and 97% of the teachers report that they participate in instructional activities in which relevant connections were made to real world situations and other cultures.

#### **Goal 2: Morton Elementary School will be led by creative, passionate, and technologically skilled professionals.**

- Provided training for teacher technology tools including Promethean training and teacher website development.
- Provided all licensed staff with a laptop (Tier I initiative).
- Provided all licensed staff with access to LCD projectors and ELMOs (Tier II initiative).
- Offered teacher duty-free lunch 3 times per week.
- Added benchmark assessment components to Study Island. Continued use of AR, AM, STAR and First in Math computer-based programs.
- 77% of surveyed students report that they have opportunities to utilize technology.

- 75% of surveyed students and 100% of the teachers report that school staff members utilize technology to teach and motivate.

**Goal 3: Morton Elementary School students will learn in a safe environment to be civil, healthy and productive citizens.**

- Step Up night held at HCMS to 5<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents; orientation conducted for elementary to middle school transition, and Step Up night held for pre-k to Kindergarten transition.
- Continued Mustang Marvels (a Safe and Civil Initiative)
- Recognized students in the quarterly Principal's List/Honor Roll/Perfect Attendance posting, monthly Character Café, and weekly Super Kids club.
- Implemented "Choices" as a potential alternative to Out-of-School suspensions.
- 83% of surveyed students report that they feel safe at school and 90% report that the rules and expectations for student behaviors have been explained. 100% of the teachers report that they work to ensure safety.

**Goal 4: Leadership will foster innovation at Morton Elementary School in cooperation with families and community partners.**

- Conducted 26 parent involvement (night) activities including: family movie night, winter reading night, local business nights, Open House, Step Up night, Talent Show, Military Appreciation night, concerts, and PTO meetings. This represents an increase over the 19 parent involvement nights from 2008-09.
- Reported cooperation/funding assistance from 53 businesses and organizations (BASES).
- Hosted student interns from UNCW and CCCC; hosted student tutors from WOHS.
- Participated in articulation meetings and activities with White Oak area schools.
- 74% of surveyed students report that they receive timely information regarding school events through newsletters, school webpage, or brochures. 97% of the teachers report that the school keeps parents adequately informed.
- 100% of the teachers report that they would feel comfortable discussing issues, concerns or questions with another staff member of our school (e.g. teacher, counselor, administrator).

**Goal 5: Morton Elementary School will be supported by effective and efficient systems.**

- Participated successfully in fund acquisition through teacher grants (Bright Ideas, Donors Choose, Wal-Mart, and Knights of Columbus).
- Increased Tier II capabilities through the purchase of 24 additional ELMO document cameras.
- Utilized electronic/digital communication tools for home and school connections (email, Outlook calendar, Morton Facebook, Morton Twitter, website, AlertNow, electronic access to newsletters and handbooks).
- Completed 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of distribution of laptops to final third of licensed staff.

**Summary**

The leadership team developed a strategic plan intended to improve the performance of the students, the practice of the teachers, and the leadership of the formal and informal school leaders. The plan was centered on the five goals linked to the system's mission and goals. The 2007-10 plan acted as a roadmap to bring our work on behalf of students to a new level in order to meet the challenges set by legal and moral mandates. The starting point for plan was to identify student needs and how staff expertise could best address those needs. Trend data indicates that the instructional staff has been successful in making continued increases in both proficiency and growth for tested areas. During the three year plan, significant gains have been made in terms of: access to technology, use of technology, effective home/school communication, access to services for students through the PEP and IIT process, staff development opportunities for teachers, leadership development and opportunities for staff members, and effective instructional planning. Moving forward, the faculty and staff will concentrate efforts on the continued development of a quality instructional program by connecting curriculum, instruction, and assessment through comprehensive, standards-based planning.