Melrose Elementary School has 413 students grades Pre-k to 5th, two administrators, 25 teachers, 4 academic coaches and 39 additional instructional and support staff members. The mission for the Melrose Center for Journalism and Multimedia is to educate and prepare each student for college, career and life by teaching them to be safe, respectful, and responsible learners. To accomplish this mission, Melrose Elementary has 4 Goals:

1) Provide rigorous grade level instruction along with differentiated support and scaffolding leading to student ownership of learning. Establish procedures for purposeful, facilitated planning across all content areas and hold teachers accountable for implementation.

2) Establish procedures for purposeful, facilitated planning across all content areas and hold teachers accountable for implementation.

3) Provide rigorous grade level instruction along with differentiated support and scaffolding leading to student ownership of learning.

4) Develop and sustain a healthy, respectful, caring and safe learning environment for students, staff and community resulting in individual employee learning, student achievement and overall school improvement.

The core instructional strategies included in our action plans are: providing facilitated guided planning for teachers in grades K-5 on a rotating basis with our 3 embedded academic coaches (Reading, Math, and Science); providing teachers with a 50 minute daily block in which PLC’s, planning and professional development can take place; providing 3 interventionist to support Tier 2 in grade K-3 using Leveled Literacy Instructional and in grades 3-5 using Jan Richardson; providing stipend opportunities for after contractual hours planning opportunities with teams and/or coaches; providing in-class modeling and coaching on a bi-weekly basis with a district coach during instruction time; professional development to support understanding of the high needs culture at Melrose Elementary via Star Teacher and Setting the Culture training; providing Title I Hourly teachers to support Tier 1 achievement for students on or above grade level during the intervention block and the L100 additional hour each day; providing instructional materials (Math Talks and Math Reads) to use during the L100 hour to support reading and writing; providing TDEs for teachers to attend Core Connection Trainings and ST Math; and utilizing data to differentiate and scaffold instruction.

The professional development efforts include an all staff book study on Haberman’s Star Teacher to increase an awareness of how to effectively meet the needs of our unique population, training on Setting the Culture to help develop an understanding of the various backgrounds our students are arriving to school with, and temporary duty elsewhere training to allow teachers to participate in Core Connection Training during the school day. Professional Development also includes Math Reads, Math Talks and Common Core, CPI and diversity training to support highest student achievement.

The parent involvement efforts are a challenge for our school as many parents work during the school day. As a strategy to increase volunteer hours, the school is hosting monthly evening meetings featuring chorus performances for each grade level, incentives for participating at a meeting such as a new uniform shirt or uniform bottom, student led conferencing, a parent academic night featuring grade level specific presentations and by offering daily opportunities to volunteer during the school day as a cafeteria monitor or classroom helper.

For more information about Melrose Elementary’s School Improvement Plan, please go to our website which can be accessed at http://www.melrose-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us