

PAUL B. STEPHENS ESE CENTER SIP 2013-14 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Paul B. Stephens ESE Center School has 202 students grades Prek to age 22, two administrators, 41 teachers, 10 therapists (OT, PT, Speech/Language), 1 Social Worker, and part-time 1 DHH teacher, 1 O&M teacher, 1 School Psychologist, 1 Instructional Coach. There are 88 support staff members including 4 nurses, 64 ESE assistants and paraprofessionals, 4 interpreters, office, cafeteria and plant operations staff. The mission of Paul B. Stephens ESE Center is to "Educate each student for a life of purpose." This is based on our belief that all children can learn and contribute to society. Students at Paul B. Stephens are offered a full spectrum of opportunities to participate in and learn appropriate academic, social and daily living skills.

To accomplish this mission, Paul B. Stephens ESE Center has 5 Goals:

- 1) Increase the percentage of students making learning gains* in Reading on the Florida Alternate Assessment by 5 %; Black students will score commensurate to white students. (A Learning Gain is defined as an increase in scores by 5 points or more at Levels 1-3 and maintaining or increasing a Level at Levels 4 – 9.)
- 2) Increase the percentage of students making learning gains in Writing on the FAA by 5%. (A Learning Gain is defined as an increase in scores by 5 points or more at Levels 1-3 and maintaining or increasing a Level at Levels 4 – 9.)
- 3) Increase the percentage of students making learning gains in Math on the FAA by 5%; Black students will score commensurate to white students. (# of students in Levels 1-3 will increase scores by 5 points or more and those in Level 4 or above will maintain or increase at that level.)
- 4) Increase the percentage of students who score at Level 4 or above in Science on the FAA by 5%.
- 5) Increase student engagement by increasing student attendance by 5% and reducing the number of behavior issues by 20%. (Behavior issues include # of referrals, # of students with 5 or more referrals and the number of out of school suspensions; each to be reduced by 20%)

The core instructional strategies included in our action plans are: utilizing data analysis from a data analysis template to pinpoint areas needing further instruction; using research-based high-yield strategies in core instruction (e.g., Gradual Release, Scaffolding, Wait Time, Errorless Learning, etc.); increasing use of technology to enhance instruction and student involvement in learning; increasing student observational skills; increasing student time in Math.

The professional development efforts include Communication Strategies training for all teachers to develop a consistent communication system for their non-verbal and low-verbal students. TouchMath training will occur for all staff and Superflex training to increase levels of student engagement will be expanded to classes with class-wide needs. PLC's will have three components this year: Communication Assessment & Strategies; Lesson studies on the new Common Core Connectors for Intellectually Disabled students targeting math; and Technology instruction.

The parent involvement efforts will require us to take baseline data this year for attendance at school events which will be coordinated with the PTA. Curriculum Concepts for the Unique Learning System will be sent home for parents to review for every thematic unit and, after each unit parents will be informed of their student's progress on those concepts. Efforts will continue to be made for all parents to attend IEP and Re-evaluation meetings either in person or by phone.

For more information about Paul B. Stephens ESE Center's School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at www.stephens.pinellas.k12.fl.us