Executive Summary of Mt. Vernon Elementary School Improvement Plan for 2014-15

Mt. Vernon Elementary School has 502 students in grades PPK to 5th, two administrators, 42 teachers, and 31 staff members. The mission **of Mt. Vernon Elementary** is to create an atmosphere that is academically and socially motivating for students through offering a positive, supportive, respectful learning environment. To accomplish this mission, Mt. Vernon Elementary has seven goals:

1. Increase the percentage of students who are proficient on the 2015 Science state assessment by 10% as compared to 2014 state assessment;

2. African American student reading proficiency will meet or exceed the state expected average as measure by the 2015 FSA;

3. Student reading proficiency will meet or exceed the state expected average as measured by the 2015 Florida State Assessment.

4. Student writing proficiency will meet or exceed the state expected average as measured by the 2015 Florida State Assessment (FSA);

5. Student math proficiency will meet or exceed the state expected average as measured by the 2015 Florida State Assessment (FSA) and

6. African American student math proficiency will meet or exceed the state expected average as measured by the 2015 FSA.

7. Reduce the number of students who receive one or more behavior out of school suspensions by 50% from 42 students to 21 students.

The core instructional and monitoring strategies included in our action plans are:

* providing in-class modeling and coaching to 3rd grade in ELA and 5th grade in Math with a district “Just In Time” coach with planned follow-up;
* utilizing data to differentiate and scaffold instruction, determine students receiving tiered supports;
* using research-based strategies to supplement core materials/instruction (e.g., 5Es Model, Gradual Release Model, Text Dependent Questioning, Collaboration, Content Enhancement, etc.);
* using state assessments, district-provided assessments, observational data, anecdotal record-keeping, formative assessments and teacher-created informal assessments to monitor student progress;
* conducting data chats and maintaining data folders with students to support students with goal-setting based on data;
* utilizing rubrics aligned to the learning goal to assess and inform instruction.

The professional development efforts include emphasis on the new Florida State Standards. We will implement Jan Richardson's Guided Reading strategies as a non-negotiable in grades K-5. Teachers will receive follow-up training in Close Reading and will continue collaboratively planning lessons twice weekly. A book study was conducted on rigor and the incorporation of rigor in the classroom with be monitored and supported with emphasis being place on higher order questioning and building stamina especially in the area of literacy. We will also seek support from a district provided "Just in Time" literacy coach in 3rd grade and math coach in 5th grade this year. Teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to conduct data reviews to discuss student responses to tasks and plan for instruction based on data. Lastly, the Literacy Leadership Team, the Core Connections training supporting grades 3-5 and the Leading the Learning Cadre will reinforce instructional strategies being used at Mt. Vernon ES.

The parent involvement efforts are a challenge due to limited parental involvement. In order to increase involvement we have developed the following processes to support highest student achievement and parental involvement:

• PTA and SAC meetings will introduce and review the Florida State Standards and what is happening in the classrooms.

• Family Nights will focus on parent training supporting the Florida State Standards and activities to involve parents in at home activities.

• School newsletters will include information about Florida State Standards and activities.

• Invitations to Family Night events will be mailed to local community members so that they can observe first hand, activities that are occurring.

For more information about Mt. Vernon’s School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at http://www.mtvernon-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us.