Executive Summary of Tarpon Springs Middle School Improvement Plan for 2014-15

Tarpon Springs Middle School has 883 students in grades 6-8, four administrators, 49 teachers, and 41 staff members. The mission **of Tarpon Springs Middle School** is to fully engage students in their education. Through effective teaching practices and the student’s application of knowledge, students will be prepared for high school.

To accomplish this mission, Tarpon Springs Middle has 6 Goals:

1) Increase Reading scores by 10% of each student subgroup achieving at proficiency levels;

2) Increase Mathematics scores by 63% of each student subgroup achieving at proficiency levels;

3) Increase Science scores by 62% of each student subgroup achieving at proficiency levels;

4) Increase Writing scores by 10% of each student subgroup achieving at proficiency levels;

5) Increase Social Studies scores by 80% of student success on the EOC.

6). Increase the proficiency level for all African American Students by 25% in an effort to close the achievement gap.

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

* providing opportunities for extensive research and writing
* providing in-class modeling and coaching on a bi-weekly basis with a district coach during instruction time;
* promote literacy by reinforcing “Binder and a Book” initiative in every classroom, utilizing tier 2 whiteboard vocabulary, WICOR and vocabulary strategies (i.e. interactive word walls, AVID strategies for vocabulary, and Cornell Strategies
* utilizing data to differentiate and scaffold instruction to increase student performance
* using research-based strategies in core instruction (e.g., 5E, Gradual Release, Text Dependent Questioning, Collaboration, Speaking and Listening, Content Enhancement, NG-CARPD);
* using formative assessments to drive and remediate instruction;
* providing extensive inquiry based instruction which includes research, scientific thinking, and writing opportunities
* conducting data chats with students to support students with goal-setting based on data;

The professional development efforts include the use of the literacy team to train and guide teachers in differentiating and scaffolding instruction and having Teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s) biweekly to analyze student data and to plan instruction accordingly.

The parent involvement efforts have been consistent. The volunteer hours during the 2013-2014 school was 3,069 and increase of 400 hours from the 2012-1013 school year. We will continue to engage our parents through frequent communications, surveys, PTSA and SAC.

For more information about Tarpon Springs Middle’s School Improvement Plan, please visit our website at www.tarpon.ms.pinellas.k12.fl.us