Executive Summary of Pinellas Secondary School’s School Improvement Plan for 2014 – 2015

Pinellas Secondary School has 225 students in grades 6 to 12, two administrators, 38 teachers, and 15 staff members. The mission of Pinellas Secondary School is to educate and prepare each student for college, career, and life.

To accomplish this mission, Pinellas Secondary School has 8 goals:

1. English/Language Arts: The number of students meeting proficiency at the new FSA will exceed 5%.
2. Writing: The number of students meeting proficiency at the new FSA will exceed 5%.
3. Mathematics: The number of students meeting proficiency at the new FSA and the EOCs in Algebra I and Geometry will exceed 5%.
4. Science: The number of students meeting proficiency at the new FSA and the EOC in Biology will exceed 5%.
5. Social Studies: The number of students meeting proficiency at the new FSA and the EOCs in Civics and U.S. History will exceed 5%.
6. Health: Improve the nutritional and/or physical activity environment of the school by working toward attainment of at least one additional item not currently met by the school in the Healthy Schools Inventory.
7. Early Warning Systems: Identify and reduce the number of potential drop outs based on grade retention, high absenteeism, failing grades, suspensions, and low standardized test performance by 5%.
8. Black Student Achievement:
9. Goal Related to Bradley MOU Black advanced coursework to increase the percentage of black students enrolled in rigorous advanced coursework through online learning by 5 %
10. Goal Related to Bradley MOU Black graduation rate: Due to being an alternative school and having students involuntary placed (violation of Code of Student Conduct), all of our students are under their sending school graduation data.
11. Goal Related to Bradley MOU Black Academic Achievement to increase the number of black students meeting proficiency at the new FSA, EOC, and FCAT Retakes will exceed 5%.
12. Goal Related to Bradley MOU Student engagement for black students to increase their active engagement by decreasing referrals and suspensions by 10%.
13. Family & Community Involvement: To work proactively with parents to increase participation in their child's academic achievement by 25 %.

The core instructional and monitoring strategies included in our action plans are: utilizing data to differentiate and scaffold instruction; using research-based strategies in core instruction (5 Es, Gradual Release, Text Dependent Questioning, Collaboration, Speaking and Listening, Content Enhancement, CCSS, NG-CARPD, Core Connections), utilizing project-based learning in appropriate settings, focus lessons, hands-on activities, comprehensive skill building, and opportunities for course and credit recovery. Progress monitoring is school-wide (walkthrough, grades, transcripts, attendance, suspensions, teacher-created assessments, standardized testing) and students’ self-track (FOCUS, goal-setting, chats with students).

Professional development efforts include the use of the Leading the Learning Cadre (LLC) and Literacy Leadership Team (LLT) to train and guide teachers in differentiating and scaffolding instruction and having teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC) to conduct data chats regularly to review students’ progress as well as to attend district-wide professional development opportunities such as Core Connections, textbook training, common core workshops, and technology webinars. We utilize the Behavior Specialists Team and Student Service Team to train all staff in non-violent Crisis Prevention Intervention and academic and personal counseling.

Parent Involvement is a big challenge for our school as many parents display an unwillingness to be involved in their child’s education. Because we are not a neighborhood school, transportation interferes with parents’ involvement as well. Parents have limited awareness of community resources and how to access services. Our strategies to increase parent engagement include holding parent-student intake conferences to transition their child to PSS for the assigned time from their zoned school, providing supplemental instructional support during the development of the student’s IEP, offering tutoring after school at PSS, and offering parenting workshops in regards to building positive relationships with their child.

For more information about Pinellas Secondary School’s School Improvement Plan (SIP), please go to our website at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_