Executive Summary of Sandy Lane Elementary’s School Improvement Plan for 2015-16

Sandy Lane Elementary School has 450 students grades kindergarten to 5th, two administrators, 41 teachers, and 20 staff members. The mission of Sandy Lane Elementary is to prepare each student for college, career, and life. We will accomplish this by providing an engaging, rigorous, and safe learning environment integrating hands-on, real world opportunities. Sandy Lane Elementary has met the requirements of the AdvancED Accreditation Commission and is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement.

To accomplish its mission, Sandy Lane Elementary has 4 Goals:

1) Students will meet or exceed state and district expectations in all content areas as measured by common assessments, running records, formative assessments and the Florida Standards Assessments by June 2016;

2) We will increase the amount of class learning time by decreasing the percentage of out of school suspensions by 10%;

3) Reduce the student achievement gap by increasing the number of students performing on or above grade level in the following subgroups, Black subgroup from 22% to 54% as measured by the Florida Standards Assessments in reading;

4) Decrease, by 10%, the amount of lost learning time due to student absences by increasing student attendance rates. By June 2016 our overall attendance rate will increase from 93.4% to 96%.

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

- providing in-class modeling and coaching on a bi-weekly basis with a site-based coach during instruction time in reading and math;
- utilizing data to differentiate instruction;
- using research-based strategies in core instruction (e.g., AVID, WICOR, Marzano effective teaching practices with specific emphasis on similarities and differences, examining reasoning, and revising work, 5E in Science, High Effect Size Strategies, Implementing Jan Richardson’s guided reading routine, creating a participatory classroom environment during math by utilizing Number Talks, Talk Moves, and the 8 Mathematical Practices, utilizing Gradual Release, Text Dependent Questioning, Collaboration, Speaking and Listening, Content Enhancement, and implementation of instruction through the science lab for 3rd through 5th grade along with incorporation of STEM throughout instruction);
- using state assessments, district-provided assessments, observational data, formative assessments, and teacher-created informal assessments to monitor student progress;
- utilizing scales and rubrics aligned to the learning goal to assess and inform instruction.

The professional development efforts include the use of the yearlong Marzano Framework with an emphasis on similarities and differences, examining reasoning, and revising knowledge; providing in-class modeling, coaching and lesson study with a site based district coach during instructional time; planning with an instructional coach for reading and math on a weekly basis; the use of the MTSS/AVID team to train and guide teachers on Marzano elements, AVID, high effect size strategies and problem solving; weekly professional development led by the leadership team based on staff needs with AVID and Marzano embedded into all professional development; ongoing science lab trainings; and ongoing support for additional reading block; teachers will meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s) to conduct data chats regularly to review student responses to tasks and plan for instruction based on data.

The parent involvement efforts include offering workshops and parent meetings on various days at a variety of times in order to best meet the needs of our families' schedules. In order to increase parental participation in our night functions, we are going to host two student led conferences during the year and we are incorporating student performances during each family night function.

For more information about Sandy Lane Elementary’s School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at www.sandylane-es.pinellas.k12.fl.us