Executive Summary of Westgate Elementary’s School Improvement Plan for 2015-2016

Westgate Elementary School has 566 students grades Kindergarten to 5th, two administrators, 42 teachers, and 30 staff members. Westgate 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. The mission of Westgate Elementary is to provide an environment in which learners continue to succeed through quality teaching.

To accomplish this mission, Westgate Elementary has 6 Goals:

1) Increase the number of students proficient in Reading and Language Arts at each grade level by 3 percent above the state average as measured by the state standardized assessments;

2) Increase the number of students proficient in Math by 3 percent above the state average as measured by the state standardized assessments;

3) Increase the number of students proficient in Science by 3 percent above the state average as measured by the state standardized assessments;

4) Close the achievement gap between Black and non-black students to our AMO 2015 targets; Reading 48%, Math 35%

5) Reduce the number and percent of discipline incidents for each student subgroup by 40%

6) Increase parent involvement hours by 30% representing 50% of our parent population.

The core instructional strategies included in our action plans are:

- collaborative planning aligned to the Florida State Standards shifts in reading and math focused on learning goals
- monthly coaching on Marzano strategies through Lead Teachers
- the use of formative assessments in making instructional decisions
- the utilization of data to differentiate and scaffold instruction
- the use of research-based strategies in core instruction (e.g., 5E, Text Dependent Questioning, Collaboration, Close Reading, and the utilization of project-based learning in appropriate settings.
- using state assessments, district-provided assessments, observational data, anecdotal record-keeping, and teacher-created informal assessments to monitor student progress;
- positive behavior supports will be provided in the form of an effective school wide behavior plan.

The professional development efforts in our plan include the use of the Site based Marzano Support Teacher, RTI Coach, Literacy Staff Developers, Math Staff Developers, Science Staff Developers, lesson study, book study and the use of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to conduct data chats regularly to review student responses to tasks and plan for instruction based on data.
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The parent involvement efforts in our plan have resulted in an increase in parent participation in school sponsored events. We will continue to provide a variety of opportunities for parental engagement. The school has an active School Advisory Council and Parent Teacher Association involved in school improvement initiatives. Title I sponsored Reading and Math workshops for parents and take home instructional materials allow parents to extend the learning beyond the classroom. All Pro Dads and iMoms events provide parents the opportunity to discuss academic concerns such as Florida State Standards.

Points of Pride

- Enthusiastic highly trained staff, including National Board Certified teachers
- Educational Media Award Winners (EMAs).
- Student Run TV Show
- Green Thumb Festival Youth Award of Recognition, 2011-2012
- Owleus Bullying Program Participant 2012-2014
- Computers and technology: More than 300 internet accessible computer, state-of-the-art computer lab, mobile labs, SMART Board technology, Kindles, iPAds
- Community partnerships: Stevens & Stevens Inc.; Gregory Sharer & Stuart Certified Public Accountants; strong volunteer program; active Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and School Advisory Council (SAC) with many annual events.
- CHARMS School Wide Recognition Program 2014-2015

Special Services & Program

- Title I school-wide support
- Gifted and Talented Program
- Extended Learning Program/Promise Time
- English Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Principal’s Multicultural Advisory Committee (PMAC)
- Students Targeted for Achievement, Recognition & Success (STARS)
- Chorus and Safety Patrols

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