Executive Summary of Dunedin Highland Middle School Improvement Plan for 2015-16

Dunedin Highland Middle School has 1070 students in grades 6th-8th, four administrators, 57 teachers, and 10 staff members. The mission of Dunedin Highland Middle School is all students will learn, achieve, and succeed through excellence in educational practices (AVID) while building character and confidence. (Highlander Way). Dunedin Highland Middle School 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, Dunedin Highland Middle School has 7 Goals:

1) Increase the number of students at Dunedin Highland Middle School meeting proficiency in reading will exceed the state proficiency rate by 5%.
2) Increase number of students at Dunedin Highland Middle School meeting proficiency in math will exceed the state proficiency rate by 5%.
3) Increase the number of students at Dunedin Highland Middle School meeting proficiency in Science will exceed the state proficiency rate by 5%.
4) Increase the number of students at Dunedin Highland Middle School meeting proficiency in Civics will exceed the state proficiency rate by 5%.
5) Close the achievement gap between Black and non-black students to our AMO 2016 targets;
6) Reduce the number and percent of discipline incidents for each student subgroup by 40% and
7) Increase parent involvement hours by 20% representing 50% of our parent population.

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 district coach during instruction time; Teachers will use the WICOR model (Writing, Inquiry, Collaboration, Organization, and Reading to learn) with the students to increase student achievement.
- utilizing data to differentiate and scaffold instruction;
- using research-based strategies in core instruction (e.g., 5E, Gradual Release, Text Dependent Questioning, Collaboration, Speaking and Listening, Content Enhancement, NG-CARPD);
- utilizing 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;
- conducting data chats with students to support students with goal-setting based on data;
- utilizing scales and rubrics aligned to the learning goal to assess and inform instruction.

The professional development efforts include the use of the year long Marzano Framework with an emphasis on goal setting and scale development 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) to conduct data chats regularly to review student responses to tasks and plan for instruction based on data.

The parent involvement efforts are a challenge for our school as many parents work during the school. As a strategy to increase volunteer hours, the school is hosting various parent workshops with emphasis on ways to monitor your child’s progress in school (Portal Night) and other supportive ways to benefit our students.
For more information about Dunedin Highland Middle School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at www.pcsb.org/dunedin-ms.