Executive Summary of Pinellas Virtual School’s School Improvement Plan for 2015-16

Pinellas Virtual School has 280 students grades Kindergarten to 12th, one administrator, 15 teachers, and 2 staff members. The mission of Pinellas Virtual School is to expand access for all Pinellas County students to rigorous, relevant curriculum that incorporates skills and knowledge students need to succeed in the 21st century.

To accomplish this mission, Pinellas Virtual has 6 Goals:

1) To increase in reading the percentage of students achieving high standards as measured in Florida Standard Assessments (level 3+), while decreasing the percentage of students in the lowest 25% by increasing learning gains on the 2016 Florida Standard Assessments.

2) To increase in writing the percentage of students achieving high writing standards as measured in Florida Standard Assessment Exams (level 3+), while decreasing the percentage of students in the lowest 25% by increasing learning gains on the 2016 Florida Standard Assessment Exams.

3) To increase in math the percentage of students achieving high mathematical standards as measured in Florida Standards Assessment Exams (level 3+), while decreasing the percentage of students in the lowest 25% by increasing learning gains on the 2016 Florida Standards Exams.

4) To increase in science the percentage of students achieving high science standards as measured in Florida Standards Assessment Exams (level 3+), while decreasing the percentage of students in the lowest 25% by increasing learning gains on the 2016 Florida Standards Exams.

5) To increase in social studies the percentage of students achieving high social studies standards as measured in End of Course Exams (level 3+), while decreasing the percentage of students in the lowest 25% by increasing learning gains on the 2016 End of Course Exams.

6) Close the achievement gap between Black and non-black students to our AMO 2016 targets, while increasing the achievement of Black students that are scoring at 3 and above on state standardized reading test and 3.5 and above on state standardized writing assessment and increasing the number of successful completions for black students in online courses.

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

- providing face-to-face tutoring and help sessions with one-to-one instruction; required virtual live lessons for students;
- resubmission of assignments for content mastery;
- 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 mandatory attendance of all district wide trainings. Staff will also attend a variety of virtual symposiums to allow for understanding and implementation of best practices in a virtual classroom.

The parent involvement efforts are a challenge for our school as many parents work. As a strategy to increase parental involvement we have incorporated orientations and evening help sessions for parents and students. We have also help sessions for learning coaches on how to help students achieve success in a virtual school.

For more information about Pinellas Virtual School’s School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at www.virtualschool.pcsb.org