Executive Summary: Highland Lakes Elementary

School Improvement Plan for 2017-18

Highland Lakes Elementary School has 555 students grades Pre-k to 5th, two administrators, 38 teachers, and 25 staff members. The mission of Highland Lakes Elementary is to create a safe and respectful learning environment which fosters self-directed learners.

School Celebrations

A review of our most recent school achievement data has given us reasons to celebrate and build upon as a school. Those improvements include:

1.) Our school maintained a B for a second year.
2.) Our school improved our ELA proficiency levels in 3rd and 4th grade by 10%.
3.) Our school had double digit increases in 5th grade math and science proficiency.
4.) Our school reduced its total number of referrals by 80%.
5.) Our school was named to the list of America’s Healthiest Schools by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation.

Primary Goals

To accomplish our mission, Highland Lakes Elementary has the following primary goals:

1) Increase Reading scores to 74% of students reaching proficiency levels for each student subgroup;
2) Increase Mathematics scores to 79% of students reaching proficiency levels for each student subgroup;
3) Increase Science scores to 80% of students reaching proficiency levels for each student subgroup;
4) Increase learning gains of our lowest 35% to 50% or above in both FSA Reading and Math;
5) Move from Bronze to Silver for the America’s Healthiest School recognition;

Key Strategies:

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

- Increase and improve the use of formative assessments in order to answer with a level of accuracy who got it, how do we know they got it, what is being done for those that didn't get it? That got it?
- Scheduled collaborative planning for grade level teams, resource teachers and administrative staff.
- Using research-based strategies in core instruction (e.g., 5E, Gradual Release, Text Dependent Questioning, Speaking and Listening protocols);
- Teachers incorporate a wide-variety of instructional opportunities for students to grapple with complex text, but also to integrate, apply, and strengthen their foundational skills.
- Daily use of Number Talks and/or High Yield Number Strategies to be used across grade levels.
- Utilizing project-based learning in appropriate settings;
- Utilizing scales and rubrics aligned to a learning goal to assess and inform instruction.

Professional Development

The professional development efforts include having teachers meet in Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s) to conduct data chats regularly to review student responses and work samples to inform instruction, attend collaborative planning sessions weekly, and collaborate between teachers and administrators to find the trainings that would best benefit based on their Deliberate Practice.

Parent and Community Engagement

As a strategy to increase volunteer hours, Highland Lakes provides information and opportunities to increase student achievement to families and the community through various methods including opportunities to meet and speak with teachers, workshops and parent organizations, as well as routine evening hours for various volunteer activities benefiting the students.

For more information about Highland Lakes’ School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at www.pcsb.org/highland-es