Executive Summary: Nina Harris ESE Center

School Improvement Plan for 2017-18

Nina Harris ESE Center has 207 students grades Prek to 12th. All students who attend Nina Harris have significant cognitive disabilities and are instructed on Florida State Standards Access Points. The staff includes two administrators, 55 teachers, three Speech Therapists, three Occupational Therapists, one Physical Therapists, two Physical Therapist Assistants, three nurses, two Certified Nursing Assistants and just over 65 support staff. The mission of Nina Harris ESE Center is to provide a safe, nurturing environment where special needs students can build self-esteem to maximize their success at home, school and in the community. Based on our belief that all children can learn and contribute to society, students at Nina Harris are offered a full spectrum of opportunities to participate in and learn appropriate academic, social and daily living skills. Nina Harris ESE Center 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.

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. Through Collaborative Planning by Grade Level bands, teams created ELA and Math lesson plans that align to the district’s new ESE Pacing Guide for Florida Standards Access Points.
2. Behavior support calls decreased school-wide by 32% from the previous year. 2812 calls to 1907 calls.
3. Behavior support calls generated by black students decreased by 50% from the previous year. 771 calls to 382 calls.
4. 100% of our students in grades 3-10 participated in the FSAA providing us with baseline data on the priority Florida Access Points Standards.

Primary Goals

Students at Nina Harris are assessed on the Florida Standards Alternate Assessment (FSAA). Student Scores received from the 2017 FSAA are baseline. As of now, the State has not released how learning gains will be determined to note students’ progress from the 2017 FSAA to the 2018 FSAA.

To accomplish our mission, Nina Harris ESE Center has the following primary goals.

1. At least 5% of students will increase their ELA score by 5 points or more as measured by a comparison of the 2017 to the 2018 FSAA (Florida Standards Alternate Assessment).
2. At least 5% of students will increase their Math score by 5 points or more as measured by a comparison of the 2017 to the 2018 FSAA (Florida Standards Alternate Assessment).
3. At least 5% of students will increase their Science score by 5 points or more as measured by a comparison of the 2017 to the 2018 FSAA (Florida Standards Alternate Assessment).
4. At least 5% of black students will increase their ELA and Math scores by 5 points or more as measured by a comparison of the 2017 to the 2018 FSAA (Florida Standards Alternate Assessment).
5. Speech teachers will develop an assistive technology lab in order to assist teachers in finding the correct communication device to maximize the students’ abilities to communicate at school.
6. Reduce the number of behavior support calls school-wide by 5% or more as measured by a comparison of the number of behavior support calls generated from May 2017 to May 2018.
7. Decrease the number of students absent from school 10% or more by May 2018 as documented in School Profiles.
8. Increase the number of parents/guardians who attend learning opportunities for the 2017-18 school year. The 2017-2018 school year will be baseline.
Key Strategies:

The core instructional and monitoring strategies included in our action plans are:
Nina Harris will focus on the following strategies/elements based on Marzano’s Framework. Data obtained from walkthroughs, informal and formal observations will note the number of teachers moving upward on the scale—from Not Using to Beginning, Beginning to Developing, Developing to Applying and Applying to Innovative.

1. Identifying Critical Content
2. Helping Students Practice Skills, Strategies and Processes
3. Utilizing scales and rubrics aligned to the Learning Target to monitor student progress
4. Establishing Classroom Routines

Professional Development

The professional development efforts are:

1. Standards Based Instructional Planning based on Florida Standards Access Points for Science
2. Train staff on newly created progress monitoring assessments for ELA and Math that align to the learning targets
4. Marzano Strategies that target our key instructional strategies
5. Restorative Practices Trainings
7. STOIC Training
8. CPI Training
9. Assistive Technology Training

Parent and Community Engagement

Results from the AdvancEd Parent Survey show that parents feel that Nina Harris communicates effectively about school goals and activities. Nina Harris will continue to build upon the positive relationships through monthly newsletters, school website, SAC and PTO meetings and Student of the Month Recognition. This year, the school social worker and school counselor will organize a monthly meeting to provide support to parents. In addition, a Parent Engagement Committee will be created to enhance family and community engagement. The school counselor plans to offer a book study for any parent who is interested.

Due to the significant cognitive disabilities of our students, many of our parents are unable to attend evening meeting due to child care. Nina Harris will offer child care for parents who attend evening activities. Parent workshops will be offered both in the evening and morning to accommodate parents’ schedules.

For more information about Nina Harris’ School Improvement Plan, please go to our website at www.pcsb.org/ninaharris