

Proposal for additional assistance at selected schools

September 8, 2014

This proposal is a comprehensive reform plan that is modeled after key successful components of the Fairmount Park Children's Initiative (FPCI), pilot program that was implemented in Pinellas in 2009. The proposal is in direct alignment with the district's strategic goals. It will focus on increasing achievement for all students, with an emphasis on closing the achievement gap, and turning around these lowest performing schools. The plan is strategically designed to target five elementary schools: Fairmount Park Elementary, Melrose Elementary, Campbell Park Elementary, Maximo Elementary, and Lakewood Elementary.

The school plan will include the following areas of focus: comprehensive mental and social counseling, additional classroom assistance, full behavior management systems, enhanced family engagement, ongoing professional development, frequent district monitoring, preferential human resource processes, comprehensive wraparound services, and enhanced extended learning opportunities.

- Comprehensive mental and social counseling (Ms. Donna Sicilian, Executive Director of Student Services)
 - One full time psychologist will be assigned at each school
 - One full time social worker will be assigned at each school
 - One or more licensed mental health counselors will be at each school
- Additional classroom assistance (Dr. William Corbett, Deputy Superintendent)
 - Each classroom teacher, K-5, will have a full time paraprofessional as a teaching partner
 - These teaching partners will form a cohort of potential new teachers
 - Extensive monthly training will be offered to the classroom teachers and the teaching partners
- Full behavior management systems (Area Superintendents)
 - The schools will implement positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) using the Florida Positive Behavioral Support Project Model under the supervision and training of the University of South Florida.
 - Schools have developed a school based PBS leadership team to lead this behavioral support plan.
 - PBS school leadership teams are provided with on-going monthly training sessions conducted by the Florida Positive Behavioral Support Project staff from USF.
 - Area Superintendents will be monitoring the progress and implementation monthly.
- Enhanced family engagement (Dr. Valerie Brimm, Director of Strategic Partnerships) - parents will be expected to:
 - attend monthly Parent/Family meetings – there will be a campaign to promote participation throughout the community
 - sign the parent contract form
 - participate in the school-wide agenda program
 - attend the Parent/Teacher Conference Day each semester
 - participate in quarterly home visits
 - participate in Parent/Family trainings (JWB/PCS)
- Ongoing professional development will occur on a monthly basis after school for content along with embedded implementation with monitoring and additional support. (Mrs. Pamela Moore, Associate Superintendent, Teaching and Learning) The content provided will consist of the following topics:
 - Co-teaching Processes and Routines- What does co-teaching look like and sound like?
 - Culturally Sensitive and responsive teaching

- Content and methods development
- Small group instruction
- Clinical Education- scaffolding new teachers into the learning environment
- Frequent district monitoring – Instructional Support Model (ISM) visits every 6 weeks. (Mrs. Sandy Downes, Executive Director, Elementary Education) At these ISM visits, district staff will:
 - review the goals and strategies of the SIP
 - visit classrooms to provide school with feedback
 - provide feedback to the school on strengths and areas for instructional improvements
 - review assessment data to drive instruction
 - identify further professional development needed for teachers to improve instruction
 - Area Superintendents to visit at 2-3 week intervals between ISM visits to monitor implementation of ISM action plan.
- Preferential human resource processes (Dr. Ron Ciranna, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources)
 - Each school may hire for any vacancies at any time
 - Each school is not required to accept any involuntary transfer teachers
 - Four of the five schools (not Lakewood ES) offer \$3000 recruitment or retention bonuses to attract highly effective teachers
- Comprehensive wraparound services – (Dr. Valerie Brimm, Director of Strategic Partnerships) all community agencies will be solicited to provide additional support at these five schools including:
 - Family Services Initiative – Resources for families to access such as food, clothing, transportation, etc.
 - Access to mental health services (Suncoast)
 - Sanderlin Neighborhood Family Center – Family Service Center – training, tutoring, family activities
 - South County Community Council – community collaboration group that works on community concerns
 - South County Wrap-around Services Collaborative – Collaboration of agencies who provide services to children and families
 - McCabe Center for Early Learning – Pre-Kindergarten program
 - Community Out of School Time (– City of St. Petersburg-Boys/Girls Club,etc)
 - City of St. Petersburg Out of School Time – TASCOS, Tutoring Program, Recreation Centers, etc.
 - Enhanced scholarships for after-care programs through the YMCA and R’Club
- Enhanced extended learning opportunities (Mrs. Sandy Downes, Executive Director, Elementary Education)
 - Enhanced ELP budgets to include services for all students scoring Level 1 or 2 in reading or math
 - Transportation available for ELP program

Implementation will be individualized at each school through its School Improvement Plan (SIP). The proposal anticipates beginning implementation ASAP starting in late August or early September. District leadership will secure funding for all aspects of the plan. Schools will assist through their Title I budget plan.