

OLYMPIA SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (S.I.P.)
2007-2008

SCHOOL: Reeves Middle School

INTRODUCTION

The students and staff of Reeves Middle School will return to a completely remodeled building for the 2007-2008 school year. Our hope is to build on our success by retaining and improving on the many positive programs that we have developed over the years, while also taking advantage of the additional opportunities afforded to us by the new spaces and equipment available in our remodeled building. The most notable improvements are expanded access to technology, grade-level wings which accommodate team-teaching activities, and a larger library with space for two classes of students per period.

Our 2006-2007 WASL test scores showed a slight decline in Reading across all three grades. Writing scores continued to improve, rising 6.5% to 79.5%. 8th grade Science went up 10.4% to 56.5%. 8th grade Math also showed a significant improvement from 51.5% to 65.6%. 7th grade Math improved slightly from 58.9% to 60.7%. With Writing, Science and Math showing some improvement, we have decided to expand on and refine many of our current action plan items. However, since Reading scores have not shown improvement, we feel that we need to make some basic changes to the way that we have been teaching reading. Our Professional Learning Community groups have decided on some strategies that they will implement immediately, but they are also planning to work with representatives from ESD 113 and OSPI to learn more about research-based effective practices for teaching Reading.

We have also added classes in Technology and Health for all students. While these subjects are not currently measured by standardized tests, we feel that the information in these classes is critical for our students' success in all areas of their academic and personal lives. We will continue our focus on Citizenship activities, which we believe promotes understanding and acceptance of Diversity while helping students make meaningful connections with their school community. Our hope is that increasing opportunities for success and providing meaningful connections will encourage all students to stay in school.

GOAL 1: LANGUAGE ARTS - Improve all students' academic achievement in language arts through strategies targeted to increase meaningful learning and student performance as demonstrated by higher test scores. Tests will include classroom assessments, Oly Alt, WASL and MAP. One measure of success will be to raise the number of students who pass the Reading WASL by 10% at each grade

level (i.e. 6th grade: 68.9% to 75.8%; 7th grade: 73.8% to 81.2%; 8th grade: 77.9% to 85.7%). We will also attempt to raise the number of students passing the Writing WASL from 79.5% to 87.4%.

Action Plans

- ◆ 6th Grade PLC teachers will work on increasing knowledge of literary devices (e.g. alliteration, idioms, metaphor) through (1) daily language skills lessons; and (2) weekly book checks, spelling and vocabulary skills lessons.
- ◆ 6th Grade PLC teachers will also integrate technology into the curriculum through classroom use of : (1) Programs: Word, Powerpoint, Excel, Web-based research; and (2) Equipment: Laptop and desktop computers, projector and document camera.
- ◆ 7th Grade PLC teachers will focus on analysis and interpretation of Literary Text materials and Informational Text materials.
- ◆ 7th Grade PLC teachers will implement the plan they developed last year to integrate Thinking Maps into the reading that is required in math, science, special education and block.
- ◆ 8th Grade PLC teachers will use WASL 2007 released items that focus on analysis and interpretation of Informational Text in all classrooms.
- ◆ All staff will focus on six elements of research; integrating a common language consistent throughout all grade levels; using the universal steps-to-follow form that they developed this year for researching a topic. This form is consistent with the Olympia High School form, which will assist students with transition to high school.
- ◆ Staff will work with representatives from ESD 113 and OSPI to learn more about research-based reading teaching strategies that have been proven to be effective with middle school students.

GOAL 2: MATH - Improve students' academic achievement in math through strategies targeted to increase meaningful learning and student performance as demonstrated by higher test scores. Tests will include classroom assessments, Oly Alt, WASL and MAP. One measure of success will be to raise the number of students who pass the math WASL by 10% at each grade level (i.e. 6th grade: 55.1% to 60.6%; 7th grade: 60.7% to 66.7%; 8th grade 65.6% to 72.2%)

Action Plans

- ◆ Our Geometry teacher is coordinating with Olympia High School teacher Scott Rutledge to insure that our students' coursework is aligned with the course taught at the high school.
- ◆ Students will keep notebooks in all math classes (CMP2 and Glencoe).
- ◆ CMP2 PLC groups will meet monthly for training and collaboration with our district math coaches.

- ◆ All students who scored at Level 1 on the WASL will be offered a supported math class.
- ◆ All teachers will teach their classes an instructional unit to focus on math applications in various career fields.
- ◆ Teachers will use 2007 WASL released items for ongoing practice in all classes. This will incorporate access and training in use of Washington State Math Assessment program materials and teacher to teacher networking.

GOAL 3: SCIENCE - Improve students' academic achievement in science as demonstrated by increasing the number of students meeting standard on the WASL from 56.5% to 62.1%.

Action Plans

- ◆ Our Science PLC will emphasize developing and refining questions of inquiry and problem solving across all three grades.
- ◆ Our Science PLC will continue the work of aligning the curriculum with the GLEs at all three grade levels.
- ◆ Teachers will provide practice for all students in applying the scientific method through structured laboratory experiments with detailed written follow-up.
- ◆ Teachers will implement student use of science notebooks across all grade levels.
- ◆ Teachers will provide opportunities for students to display and demonstrate science learning, e.g. Science Fair, school display cases and bulletin boards.
- ◆ Teachers will teach reading in the Science content area by focusing on interpreting and understanding diagrams, captions and headings.
- ◆ Teachers will create shared resources through technology, e.g. annotated web sites.
- ◆ Teachers will actively participate in the District committee to select new Science Curriculum.

GOAL 4: CITIZENSHIP - Promote active student citizenship in the school and community, as well as strengthen and enhance the connections between school and home. This goal will be measured by (1) increasing student participation in school activities; (2) decreasing student discipline referrals; and (3) increased collaboration between school and community stakeholders.

Action Plans

- ◆ Reeves staff will continue to make the Girls Without Limits after school program, RASP (Reeves after School Program), RIOT (Raiders organized around Respect, Involvement, Outreach and Teamwork) club, Activity Nights Committee, Yearbook Club, Student Council, Jazz Band, Intramurals, after school sports programs, Homework Club, and Raiders Tutoring program (for Roosevelt Elementary students) available to all students.

- ◆ Reeves Community will collaborate with NENA (Northeast Neighborhood Association) and the City of Olympia on the Howard Trail improvement project.
- ◆ Reeves staff will partner with the Reeves Parent Club and Site Council to facilitate these Community Building Activities: School Pride and Beautification, Veterans' Day Reception, Adopt A Family, Canned Food Drive, Cancer Drive Fundraisers, Puppet Shows demonstrating Caring Community strategies for feeder schools, "New" School Dedication ceremonies and transition activities for incoming and outgoing students.

WORK TO BE DONE IN AREAS IMPORTANT TO OUR SCHOOL

SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOL:

Our Emergency Preparedness committee has developed an Emergency Plan for our new building. We held a staff training on the plan prior to the start of school. Staff is meeting to develop a list of items needed to maintain our population for 48 hours in case of a serious emergency situation.

We have continued to meet with representatives from our feeder schools and from Olympia High School to evaluate, refine, and expand our transition activities.

We are teaching Caring Community (our Anti-Bullying program) to every student in our new quarter long Health class. Staff will use the common language and skills taught in this program to intervene in inappropriate behavior situations and to support appropriate behavior.

TARGETED ASSISTANCE:

Expand and improve the effectiveness of the communication between school and parents, students and families to assist students being served in LAP who did not meet standard on WASL tests.

Send notification letters to parents of students who did not pass the WASL and therefore qualify for LAP assistance.

Conduct parent meetings to explain LAP services and introduce staff.

Develop Student Learning Plans for students who did not meet standard on one or more areas of the WASL.

Continue training with district testing coordinator to understand test results and identify patterns and improvement areas on students' WASL performance.

Provide supported Math classes for students who scored at Level 1 on the WASL.

TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION:

Every student will have a one quarter class in technology to help prepare them to master the three tiers of skills outlined by the state. We will pilot the School Kit program this year. Our teachers will receive 12 hours of in-service training and year long mentoring from our district secondary TOSA.

Staff will also receive training from the district and the vendors who provide our new technology (Electrocom, Insys).

Students will be trained in the use of Proquest, Electronic Library, and On-Line Encyclopedias as tools for use in research and writing.

PARENT/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING:

Provide parent training sessions with our PLC feeder schools to support Reeves and feeder school students with their academic, social and emotional needs; and to promote family involvement.

Maintain the parent library including materials about: helping with homework; supporting children academically, socially and emotionally; personal safety; drug and alcohol issues in children; and providing reading and math support at home.

Continue our ONE PLC (Olympia Northeast Professional Learning Community), which includes Reeves, Roosevelt, Madison and Boston Harbor. Our goal is to create a cohesive, connected, supportive academic experience for students as they move through grades K-8.

We will have full school participation in Parent Access this school year.