

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

SCHOOL: Jefferson Middle School “A Healthy Place to Live and Learn”

INTRODUCTION: The staff of Jefferson Middle School worked together at a two-day annual staff retreat to develop the School Improvement Plan. All staff members, including paraeducators, were assigned to one of five groups (math, reading, writing, science, and climate). In small groups, staff members worked together to review data from WASL and MAP test scores, reflected on the previous year’s successes and challenges, and developed action plans for the upcoming year. The small groups then gathered back as a whole staff to share ideas and topics of discussion. Each group presented potential action plans to the staff providing opportunity for cross-curricular discussions. These discussions lead to a final draft of the School Improvement Plan being created before everyone’s eyes as it was word processed on laptop and projected on the wall. This was a crucial step for staff buy-in and understanding of how the SIP affects Jefferson direction and learning opportunities for students.

Jefferson’s enrollment consists of 328 students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grade. Our student population is represented by 1% American Indian or Alaska Native, 3% Multi Cultural, 3% African American, 5% Hispanic, 12% Asian American, 76% Caucasian. This includes 158 males (48%) and 170 females (52%).

There are 50 students with individual education plans (IEP’s), 5 students with 504’s and a free or reduced lunch population around 30%. Jefferson’s population also includes a, life skills / medially fragile program and LAP services. The REACH program is also offered for gifted students that have met the WASL requirements in reading and writing and maintain a “B” average or better in all their classes. Jefferson Middle School is commitment to making continuous improvement in curriculum and instruction this also include health and fitness and the arts.

GOAL 1: READING - Improve students’ skills and understanding of reading as measured by standardized and grade-level classroom-based assessments and increase the percentage of students meeting the standard on the WASL from 75% to meet or exceed 78% by June 2008.

Action Plans

- ◆ For all subject areas, students will complete significant responses that correlate to WASL reading expectations. (Collaboration day 9/28/07—review and practice WASL question creation as per presentation by Michael Havens and Tracy Pulsipher.)

- ◆ Staff development meetings to improve reading skills across the curriculum in areas such as: vocabulary, context clues, inferences/deductions and comprehension. (Dates: Sept 28 1-2 PM, Dec. 7 1-2 PM, Feb. 4 2:45-3:45. Chair: Rhea Mulhall) Notes will be taken.
- ◆ Target 10 LAP students per semester who have not met WASL reading standards for additional reading assistance through the library. Students were identified both formally and informally and names were submitted to the librarian. Librarian Ratliff then surveyed each student and tailored a reading list for each individual student.
- ◆ Library open before and after school and during lunch hours to provide extra library time for reading a study time.
- ◆ Block teachers meet monthly to discuss teaching strategies and materials used. On first collaboration day, block teachers will meet to discuss future meeting times, dates and topics of discussion.

GOAL 2: WRITING - Improve students' skills and understanding of writing as measured by standardized and grade-level classroom-based assessments and increase the percentage of students meeting the standard on the WASL from 72% to meet or exceed 75% by June 2008.

Action Plans

- ◆ Continue to use the scope and sequence for 6-8 Step Up to Writing to boost organizational skills of lower level writers.
- ◆ Investigate the creation of common rubrics for the Six Traits of Writing.
- ◆ Use range finding to modify curriculum. Tracy Pulsipher will provide training during the first quarter of the school year.
- ◆ Block teachers will devote staff development time each month to evaluate, modify, and develop writing goals

GOAL 3: MATH - Improve students' skills and understanding of mathematics as measured by standardized and grade-level classroom-based assessments and increase the percentage of students meeting the standard on the WASL from 64% to meet or exceed 67% by June 2008.

Action Plans

- ◆ Bi-weekly (or more regularly) math department meetings (Hughes, Boysen, Normoyle) to review students' progress in order to improve instruction. Binders and common math expectations/procedures will be reviewed throughout the year (quarterly). Notes will be taken.

- ◆ Continue to improve the use of the CMP2 curriculum (Hughes, Boysen, Normoyle) by attending district trainings and PLC meetings. September through June – all non-algebra students will be using CMP2 materials.
- ◆ Realignment of math classes (Cimino, Cusack, Boysen, Hughes, Normoyle, Sjoboen) in order to serve students at their level. (May 2008.)
- ◆ Increase support/parental involvement by offering a math night, and by using classroom webpages and Skyward Family Access (Hughes, Boysen, Normoyle)
- ◆ Offer after-school homework help in math classrooms (Hughes, Boysen, Normoyle) Monday-Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30

GOAL 4: SCIENCE - Students achieve academic success in every area of science as well as 63% of the students reaching the WASL standard in 2008.

Action Plans

- ◆ Full implementation of standardized format for Science notebooks.
- ◆ Formalize a checklist for laboratory write-ups to meet WASL standards. Collaboration days will be used to meet this goal.
- ◆ Science teachers will use the new technology (ELMO, projector, software) to develop new procedures and materials for students to use in preparation for WASL Science expectations.

WORK TO BE DONE IN AREAS IMPORTANT TO OUR SCHOOL

SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOL:

- ◆ Staff will anti-bullying and anti-harassment classes to all of our students. (Counselor and administration)
- ◆ 8th grade teachers will instruct students in content related to sexuality and HIV/AIDS.
- ◆ Working with ESD to identify trends related to employee accidents and Safety concerns.
- ◆ Safety meetings held monthly at staff meetings

- ◆ Health classes, taught by P.E. Department, will include instruction in drugs and alcohol awareness, smoking
- ◆ Implementation of WEB program. Activities to take place throughout the school year.
- ◆ 6th Grade Orientation and Open House to occur before first day of school.
- ◆ Emergency drills
- ◆ Enhanced supervision before school, during lunch, passing times, after school

TARGETED ASSISTANCE:

- ◆ Identified potential “At Risk” students based upon attendance, WASL scores and MAP scores. Staff wrote SIPs where appropriate.
- ◆ Provided LAP additional instruction in reading and math for identified students grade six through eight
- ◆ Monitored progress of target population.
- ◆ Provided special education classes to improve students’ skills in reading, writing, and math.
- ◆ Prepare for WASL testing, identify students and accommodations necessary
(P. Smith, Sjoboen, Brand, Cusack, Plahuta)

TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal # 1 100% of Jefferson’s teachers will demonstrate technology skills at or above the Tier 1 level.

The district will provide laptop computers and multimedia teaching stations for each classroom teacher. The building will provide staff development workshops and peer coaching support to enable teachers to:

- ◆ operate their standards based laptop computers
- ◆ develop proficiency with the Microsoft Office Suite

134

- ◆ create classroom Websites
- ◆ use the Internet to find information and instructional resources for their classes

Goal #2 85% of Jefferson’s 8th graders will place at or above the Tier 2 level of the National Educational Technology Standards for students.

Jefferson teachers will follow the NETS tiers to establish a scope and sequence for all subjects and all grade levels.

Goal #3 50% of the Jefferson Middle School families will use Family Access to retrieve important school-related information about their student from home. To accomplish this Jefferson will provide:

- ◆ Family Access workshops for incoming 6th grade parents
- ◆ targeted Family Access training for the ESL communities
- ◆ teachers with updated Family Access modifications and building expectations
- ◆ parent skill training during curriculum night and parent teacher conferences
- ◆ Family Access information and training at the 5th grade parent night

PARENT/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES TO IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING:

- ◆ Community service projects focused on making JMS “A Healthy Place to Live and Learn”
 - ◆ ASB activities to promote campus beautification, an enhanced recycling program, and hallway displays of student projects
 - ◆ Dad’s breakfast
 - ◆ Mother’s Breakfast
 - ◆ JSSO
 - ◆ Site Council
 - ◆ Student Store
 - ◆ Family Access
 - ◆ Sixth Grade track meet
 - ◆ Students on Stage
 - ◆ Curriculum Night
 - ◆ Orientation
 - ◆ Recognition Assemblies
- 135
- ◆ Channel J News
 - ◆ Eighth grade breakfast
 - ◆ Veteran’s Day Assembly
 - ◆ Music Events
 - ◆ Guest speakers: HIV/AIDS, government, weather
 - ◆ Living Museum
 - ◆ Arts Creativity Festivity

