

Instructional Committee Minutes Sept 12, 2011

Present- Bethany Summers (C), Daniella Ferguson, Dawn Sullivan, Sharon Mooney, Jeannine DeFalco

- I. Review Progress Report on CSA Goals for 2010-2011- Sharon. Refer to CSA Goals and the Strategic Plan Instructional Committee Goals- we reviewed Sharon's 2010-2011 reports as well as the Strategic Plan.
 - a. Curriculum review cycle- BOE approved revised cycle
 - b. Textbooks- math being reviewed this year for 3-6 (K-2 already implemented). When Social Studies comes up, may consider newer books (currently are from 2001-2005)
 - c. Technology- work with Tech committee
 - d. Co-teaching, more inclusive teaching environment. Currently we are using co-teaching using Reading Specialist and Resource Room teacher working with the primary teacher of the class
 - e. New report card- started last year with Grades 1&2
 - f. Consider if a Summer Program that is more academic for students that may benefit from it. Search for grant possibilities, although could also be fully or partially tuition-based.

- II. Review of District Goals 2011-2012 and Action Plans. Refer to Goals 1 and 3 and associated Action Plans
 - a. Goal #1- student achievement
 - i. Guided Reading is being included as a component of the literacy program in Grades 1 & 2- Students work in smaller groups based on ability. Materials acquired through a KK Grant.
 - ii. Math CCCS
 - iii. Emphasis on writing skills
 - iv. NJASK- Buckle Down will be used starting at the beginning of the year
 - v. New teaching strategies/policies
 - vi. Walk-throughs (informal and short)
 - b. Goal #3- Positive self-esteem
 - i. Classroom Community- Class Rules. Will try to keep the language consistent
 - ii. Character education- will focus on 1 character trait a month. Give the opportunity to catch kids doing the right thing
 - iii. Gender-specific and other learning styles
 - iv. Anti-Bullying bill- Debbie Lennox will be attending CE
 - v. Role of the parents

- III. NJDOE Core Benchmark Standards- please refer to this handout from the retreat. We went over these in detail and were satisfied that all were being met
- a. Standard 1- Curriculum
 - b. Standard 2- Classroom assessment/evaluation
 - c. Standard 3- Instruction
 - d. Standard 6- Professional development

Next meeting will be Oct 17 (because of Columbus Day) 7pm