

TARPON SPRINGS MIDDLE SIP 2013-14 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Tarpon Springs Middle School has 1053 students, grades 6-9, four administrators, 70 teachers, and 10 staff members. Through effective teaching practices and the students' application of knowledge, students will be college and career ready to succeed in the global community.

To accomplish this mission, Tarpon Springs Middle School has 6 Goals:

- 1) Increase students who are level 3 proficient or higher from 67% to 75% to meet the Annual Measurable Outcome target through the development and implementation of a school wide vocabulary program.
- 2) Tarpon Springs Middle will increase the instructional rigor in the classroom in order to expand the writing skills of the students as measured by the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test. Tarpon Middle will increase the number of students writing at the proficient level from 67% to 80%.
- 3) Set and communicate common core standards using essential questions-setting instructional purpose of content lessons, in order to raise the achievement levels of the students proficient in math from 61% to 75% as measured by the Florida Comprehensive Achievement Test and End of Course exams.
- 4) Increase all students' performance as measured by the FCAT to meet the Annual Measurable Outcome target through the development and implementation of a school wide vocabulary program.
- 5) Tarpon Springs Middle will make sure interventions are in place in the form of an "inclusive school" for behavior and academic success
- 6) In compliance with the Bradley Memorandum, Tarpon Springs Middle School will increase the number of African-American students taking advanced coursework from 5% to 15% and measured by course enrollment.

The core instructional strategies included in our action plans are:

- 1) Tarpon Springs Middle will provide an overview of the components of a comprehensive vocabulary program in order to assist students in using expanded vocabulary for improving their reading comprehension.
- 2) Tarpon Springs Middle will develop a calendar with each component identified for the school wide focus on vocabulary and implementing across all subject areas.
- 3) Tarpon Springs Middle will review of strategies for word consciousness, teaching individual words, and learning new vocabulary words in order to improve comprehension in all subject areas.
- 4) Tarpon Springs Middle will incorporate the increased student vocabulary into content area to increase student fluency.
- 5) WICOR posters will be provided for all classrooms as a tool for both the teachers and students to assist in the use of WICOR in order to increase engagement and rigor in the classroom.
- 6) Tarpon Middle School teachers will review WICOR and "models" of Cornell Notes and Marking the Text in all content areas; teachers will connect the use of strategies to successfully meet the "shifts" in literacy and math common core standards.
- 7) Teachers across all content areas will incorporate writing using informational text into their lesson plans and assignments. Teachers will receive additional training and support in the Reading and Language Arts Professional Learning Communities.
- 8) Review of school wide reading, math, writing, and science data in order to inform the staff or where the students are currently performing and what Tarpon Middle School expects the students to achieve. Teachers will also review their individual students' scores during the development of their IPDP.

- 9) Review common core standards and shifts in order to assist the staff of Tarpon Middle School in the implementation of the Common Core Standards. Ongoing discussions will occur during content area Professional Learning Communities to include instructional rounds.
- 10) Review common core standards in each content area to prepare the staff and the students of Tarpon Springs Middle for the rigorous standards of the Common Core Curriculum.
- 11) Ongoing review of content standards with practice in "unpacking" the standards and making sure the instructional practices of the staff are aligned with the Common Core Curriculum.
- 12) Tarpon Springs Middle will implement a Leadership Conservatory in Fine Arts during the 2013-2014 school year in order to continue to increase academic success and decrease behavioral issues.
- 13) Tarpon Springs Middle will collect and review school wide data on behavior and student academic performance to monitor for need for intervention.
- 14) Tarpon Springs Middle will continue to implement a School Wide Behavior Plan to align with current needs in the school and promote student involvement.
- 15) Tarpon Springs Middle will provide and promote a variety of extracurricular activities and clubs in order to an enriched learning opportunity for all students.
- 16) Tarpon Springs Middle School will review test scores from the 2012-2013 Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test to help determine placement of African Americans into Algebra Honors.
- 17) Tarpon Springs Middle School will review teacher recommendations and grade performance to help determine placement into Algebra Honors.
- 18) Tarpon Springs Middle will review course request forms to ensure African-Americans who want to take the Avid elective are placed in the appropriate class.
- 19) Tarpon Springs Middle will plan a recruitment night to inform the African-American students and their families of the benefits of the AVID program.

The professional development efforts:

- 1) Implement a school wide comprehensive vocabulary program in all content areas: Social Studies, Language Arts, Math, Reading, and Science. Additional leadership vocabulary will be used in the Fine Arts with the goal of integrating new vocabulary in all content areas.
- 2) The focus of the vocabulary building will be to improve the student's vocabulary and help them integrate the expanded vocabulary in their daily lives.
- 3) Vocabulary building will be introduced during pre-school training and will continue through the year in Professional Learning Communities and professional development days.
- 4) The MTSS team will monitor the implementation of the school wide vocabulary program. Grade level teachers will also monitor their students and fill out the Grade Level Alert form if they have concerns on their students. Margaret Attkisson will oversee the professional development piece as the MTSS facilitator.

The parent involvement efforts:

- 1) Provide frequent home-school communication in a variety of formats to allow families to support and supervise their child's educational progress.
- 2) Schedule community evenings each semester to provide families with resources from the staff and from the school community.
- 3) Before and after school tutoring with YMCA at no expense to families.
- 4) Monitor the parent login on Portal.
- 5) Approximately 70% of the parents responded that the use of planners, email, and phone calls were effective as a communication vehicle to enhance their involvement.
- 6) Community Connection Events were scheduled to involve 50% of the parents from TSMS. Feedback indicated 25% of those attended had students performing in the lowest 25% on the FCAT.
- 7) YMCA tutoring before and after school reached 50 students throughout the 2012-13 school year.

For more information about Tarpon Springs Middle School's Improvement Plan, please go to our website at <http://www.tarpon-ms.pinellas.k12.fl.us/>