

Student Improvement Leadership Team

Day One: Wednesday, June 10, 2009

Members Present: James Hill, Don Myhre, Rob Alm, Kris Johnson, Krista Frechette, Alicia Fischer, Sherry Augst and Ross Young.

Meeting Minutes

Principal Update

- Mr. Hill shared the draft copy of the chart outlining committee expectations and responsibilities. The students of the OALC are at the center of the chart representing the focus of each committee's purpose - "Students come to learn and leave to serve."
- Mr. Hill asked SILT members to look over the draft and send any comments/suggestions to him. He will bring the finalized chart to SILT in the fall.
- SILT members reviewed the report from Mary Jensen's student interview project. The key theme running through the interviews was the importance students placed on their relationships with teachers and administrators. Students also valued highly the relatively small size of the learning community; being treated as adults; and having the freedom to make their own choices.
- Discussion generated by the report included how we can better balance strong relationships with clear and consistent expectations.
- One perspective that was suggested centered on understanding relationships as negotiated expectations. SILT members agreed that within the relationship we have with students, we need to identify shared expectations, and the most important of those expectations is that students will learn.

Setting Goals for 2009-2010

- The first Site Continuous Improvement Plan goal addressed during day one was the attendance goal that will be continued for the 2009-2010 school year.
- SILT members reviewed 2008-2009 attendance data, reflected on the progress made towards achieving the attendance goal this year, and made suggestions for the coming school year. Discussion included:
 - Negative impact the new start/end time had on attendance and the high number of students arriving late to school and leaving early.
 - Impact of S.T.E.P.S. (Students Teachers Expecting Progress in School) and the SART/SARB programs on attendance.
 - Student attitude towards attendance – the current policy is interpreted by students to mean that they are allowed to be absent or late within the 165 minute time frame.
 - How do we measure improvement? For many students their current attendance reflects a significant improvement compared to

their attendance prior to attending the OALC. The OALC has a very good attendance rate compared to other ALCs.

- How do we define the relationship expectation so that student attendance improves?
- Shifting focus from the chronic absentees to the students who are routinely here.
- Students need to believe that they can succeed and that being in school is important to their success.
- The positive ripple effect that increasing academic expectations would have on student attendance – approaching this coming year with less emphasis on minutes and more emphasis on completion of work.

Recommendations that evolved from the above discussions:

- Increase expectations for passing across the board.
- Setting daily expectations of student performance/learning.
- Teachers assign daily work, point values and makeup assignments.
- Students need to know what the learning/assignment expectations are for the day and know what is needed to meet these expectations if they are absent.

Revisions to Site Improvement Goal – Attendance

State the objective: The OALC average student attendance will exceed 80% by the 2011-2012 school year.

This objective is: Continuing

Narrative Summary of this Objective and its Task: The OALC average student attendance will exceed 80% by the 2011-2012 school year. All students will be held accountable for learning they missed due to an absence. This will be accomplished...**Notes indicate see Krista and Alicia's notes for final wording.**

This improvement objective is intended for: 3 Years

This action plan is for what year of the plan? Year 1

Evidence of Need: The OALC wants to comply with NCLB by 2014.

Performance Targets:

1. The OALC average attendance rate will exceed 80% by the 2011-2012 school year.
2. OALC staff will expect students will learn and participate every day...**Notes indicate see Krista and Alicia's notes for final wording.**

Task #1:

- Make students/parents aware of the attendance policy at the student orientations in August and throughout the year.
- Students are expected to engage in a lesson/activity in every class every day.
- If a student is absent, he/she must complete an equivalent assignment for each class he/she has missed.

Assigned to:

- Krista Frechette., Mike Sheehan., Kip Sacket, Rob Alm and all teachers.

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Every 3 weeks.
- Signatures of students and parents on the handbook page; evidence of make-up assignments and lesson plans.

Task #2:

- Teachers will communicate with parents and/or guardians every 3 weeks regarding attendance concerns/issues.

Assigned to:

- Teachers.

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Every 3 weeks.
- Grading period phone/e-mail logs.

Task #3:

- Any OALC student who does not earn more than 50% of his/her credits AND does not meet the 80% rate of attendance each grading period is identified and a parent/guardian will be contacted by the BIT/administration.

Assigned to:

- Jenny Sarim, Rob Alm, and administration.

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Every grading period.
- BIT phone logs.

Task #4:

- If the student is not successful with the BIT plan, students ages 16 and under will be referred to SARB.

Assigned to:

- Krista Frechette, Mike Sheehan and Rob Alm.

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Once a trimester.
- Number of students who are referred to SARB.

Task #5:

If the student (ages 16 and under) is not successful with the SARB, if appropriate, a truancy petition is filed.

Assigned to:

- Krista Frechette, Mike Sheehan and Rob Alm.

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Once a trimester.
- Number of students who have a truancy petition filed on them.

Task #6:

- If the student is not successful with SARB or the BIT plan, other educational options will be explored.

Assigned to:

- Krista Frechette, Mike Sheehan, Rob Alm. (?)

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Once a trimester.
- Number of students who are referred to other educational options. (?)

Task #7:

- Perfect attendance awards and incentives will be given throughout the academic year to students with zero absences.

Assigned to:

- Rob Alm.

Monitoring Dates and Progress Indicators:

- Once a trimester.
- Number of students who have perfect attendance.

Day Two Tasks:

- Math goal for the whole student body – problem solving skills.
- Cultural competency goal – we want to teach compassion/empathy.
- Formalize what we already do and explore new ideas.

Officers for next year:

- Chairperson – Don Myhre
- Vice Chairperson – Alicia Fischer
- Secretary - Krista

