School Improvement Plan
for
Dixie Elementary

Submitted by
Dixie Elementary Staff

Approved by the Dixie School Board on January 15, 2007
Reviewed & Updated by Dixie School Board on September 16, 2013
Committee Members:

Mark Wegner/ Administrator/Teacher;Gene Wilks/ parent; Javin Berg/ board member;Kelly

Dabulskis/ paraprofessional; Judy Skillings/board member;Allen Thonney/parent

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Assessment Data Review

The Dixie staff reviewed the data from the MSP in early September. Results were also promptly distributed to parents. The conclusion of the group was that we need to continue to make improvements in reading and writing, but we need to make significant changes in our approach to math and science instruction.

Demographic Data

There were 27 students to begin the year. The population of students on free or reduced lunch continues to stay above seventy percent. Our pre-school currently has eight students ages three and four which has had great success in helping with academic readiness.

Dixie Staff

There are currently three teachers for reading, writing and math. One teaches K-1, another grades 2-3, another grades 4-5. All staff members hold K-8 elementary certification and meet highly qualified status. The principal holds K-8 teaching certification and also has current certification as a principal. A paraprofessional teaches our preschool class.

Seven staff members work as para-professionals. All staff members are highly qualified by virtue of meeting testing standards or associate degrees. There are 5 bus drivers, a janitor, a cook, and a business manager/secretary. There are a variety of services that are hired out through ESD 112 and ESD 123.

Parent, Family, and Community Involvement

Parent and community involvement is a strength at Dixie Elementary School. The year kicks off with a community barbeque. Many of the children and their parents attend this function. Many students who have recently graduated from Dixie attend this picnic and there is a senior citizen population that also attends this and other functions. During the year parents/community are

invited to attend evening activities.

The Parent-Teacher-Student Organization (PTSO) is very active in Dixie. Each month this group either sponsors or assists the school with some type of enrichment activity for students. They sponsor several regular activities during the year beginning with the community barbeque, book fairs, an ice cream social, a talent show, an auction, carnival, swimming, Ski Bluewood,and a Walk-a-thon.

Instructional Technology

Dixie operates on a Windows based computer system and iPad platform. We have wireless network capabilities on all floors and we have a gigabit network capability as well.

Dixie uses two internet based services this year. Accelerated Reader (AR), Accelerated Math and Star Testing are available to each classroom. The Dixie data is housed on a secure internet server at the AR site. We also have video on demand through Unitedstreaming. This service includes not only the digital videos but also many teacher support materials. This is provided through our media cooperative at ESD123. There were a number of technology resources in Dixie this year. We have classroom video conferencing equipment. This includes a new camera and related hardware plus a 32 inch flat panel monitor. Each classroom has a document camera and projector to assist with teaching. Classrooms have small Acer laptops for every student w/wireless capabilities or iPads. An 8X4 reader board was installed by the highway in the winter of 2011 to assist with communication. All classrooms have DVD/VCR combos to take advantage of an increasing number of formats.

Dixie Elementary School
Reading Action Plan

School Improvement Goal: 75% of all 3rd grade students tested will achieve standard. 100% of all 4th grade students tested will achieve standard. 100% of all 5th grade students tested will achieve standard.

Rationale: Students will perform better on assessments if the concepts are taught and practiced.

Activities to Achieve this Goal: What actions will occur? What steps will staff take?	Professional Development How will staff acquire the necessary skills and attitudes to implement the activity?	Timeline When will this strategy or action begin and end?	Resources Available What are the existing and new resources that will be used to accomplish the activity?	Who is Responsible? Who is Involved? Who will provide the leadership? Who will do the work?	Monitoring Effectiveness What on-going FORMATIVE evidence will be gathered to show this activity is making a difference in student outcomes?
Provide reading program(s) for both preschool and children so that they will come with strong readiness to read skills.	Adopted Reading Curriculum training	Year long	Fall LID day	All staff working with students' academics	MSP results STAR results Teacher input Curriculum testing *Readiness Skills*
Continue pre-school (ages 0-5) parent partnerships that provide support, training and materials to nurture early reading development.	Training through ESD123	In place	Special Education and Title I funds. Small Rural School Grant Program (SRSGP)	Miranda Mark	More students will come to kindergarten with a stronger set of social and academic skills.
Continue use of Accelerated Reader and STAR reading and testing programs.	Accelerated Reading training for all staff to access data to immediately improve/impact student learning	Yearly	Update STAR and AR annually.	staff	Student data will be reviewed on a quarterly basis. Teachers will monitor utilization and share reports with staff.
All kids will read regularly over the summer to maintain or improve their reading levels as they transition to the next grade level.		program in place	Title I and Student Achievement money. Library books to be checked out over summer months.	Librarian, Mark	Star Testing will indicate that students' skills do not decline over the summer.
The school will continue to encourage participation with the Walla Walla County Library Summer Outreach Program.			Walla Walla County Library Summer Outreach Program	Librarian, Mark	
Implement alternative reading progam	training from Special Education director	Fall 2010	ESD 112 CoOp	Teachers; Parapros	Informal STAR Reading increase scores

Procedures for evaluating success in reaching this goal: An annual review/evaluation of this document will be administered by staff, school board and parents. The data will include: STAR testing, WASL scores, DRA scores, Teacher input and district curriculum testing. This data will be used to rank order students to place the most at-need students into Title I and L.A.P. programs. Student scores will be used to identify, alter, and create direction for the Dixie School District to improve student achievement for the upcoming school year.

Dixie Elementary School
Writing Action Plan

School Improvement Goal: 100% of students tested will meet standard.

Rationale: Students will perform better on assessments if the concepts are taught and practiced.

Activities to Achieve this Goal: What actions will occur? What steps will staff take?	Professional Development How will staff acquire the necessary skills and attitudes to implement the activity?	Timeline When will this strategy or action begin and end?	Resources Available What are the existing and new resources that will be used to accomplish the activity?	Who is Responsible? Who is Involved? Who will provide the leadership? Who will do the work?	Monitoring Effectiveness What on-going FORMATIVE evidence will be gathered to show this activity is making a difference in student outcomes?
Work with staff on released items particularly for 4th grade writing and the use of a rubric.	Internal training.	On-going	Collaboration time OSPI website	Staff	MSP scores progress monitoring
Explore development of a Drop-in Writing Lab	All staff will identify a common writing process and be trained in it.	Pilot program in place by June of 2009	Training	All Staff	Student's writing improvement noted in content, organization & style
Classroom and school writing expectations will be established	Literature will be reviewed for common and reasonable writing expectations	Complete by summer 2009	Staff meetings Internet access Workshops and training opportunities	All Staff	Student's writing improvement noted in content, organization & style
Computer check out by students		Winter 2012		Teachers, Parents, Students	Student's writing improvement noted in content, organization & style

Procedures for evaluating success in reaching this goal: An annual review/evaluation of this document will be administered by staff, school board and parents. The data will include: STAR testing, MSP scores, DRA scores, Teacher input and district curriculum testing. This data will be used to rank order students to place the most at-need students into Title I and L.A.P. programs. Student scores will be used to identify, alter, and create direction for the Dixie School District to improve student achievement for the upcoming school year.

Dixie Elementary School
Math Action Plan

School Improvement Goal: At least 75% of all students tested will achieve standard.

Rationale: Students will perform better on assessments if the concepts are taught and practiced.

Activities to Achieve this Goal: What actions will occur? What steps will staff take?	Professional Development How will staff acquire the necessary skills and attitudes to implement the activity?	Timeline When will this strategy or action begin and end?	Resources Available What are the existing and new resources that will be used to accomplish the activity?	Who is Responsible? Who is Involved? Who will provide the leadership? Who will do the work?	Monitoring Effectiveness What on-going FORMATIVE evidence will be gathered to show this activity is making a difference in student outcomes?
Review new math curriculum	Additional time to contracts	Begin process in Fall 2013	Collaboration time State training opportunities	Staff	STAR & MSP data
Work with staff on released items particularly for 4th grade math and the use of a rubric.	Internal training.	Initiated & on-going	Collaboration time & OSPI website	Staff	STAR & MSP data
Implement new Math curriculum	Additional time to contracts	Fall 2014	Curriculum companies/ Staff	Staff	STAR & MSP data

Procedures for evaluating success in reaching this goal: The annual evaluation by staff, parents, and school board will include: STAR testing, MSP scores, Teacher input and district curriculum testing. This data will be used to rank order students to place the most at-need students into Title I and L.A.P. programs. Student scores will be used to identify, alter, and create direction for the Dixie School District to improve student achievement for the upcoming school year.

Dixie Elementary School
Science Action Plan

School Improvement Goal: The goal will be to improve science scores to 75% meeting standard.

Rationale: Students will perform better on assessments if the concepts are taught and practiced.

Activities to Achieve this Goal: What actions will occur? What steps will staff take?	Professional Development How will staff acquire the necessary skills and attitudes to implement the activity?	Timeline When will this strategy or action begin and end?	Resources Available What are the existing and new resources that will be used to accomplish the activity?	Who is Responsible? Who is Involved? Who will provide the leadership? Who will do the work?	Monitoring Effectiveness What on-going FORMATIVE evidence will be gathered to show this activity is making a difference in student outcomes?
Re-establish involvement and collaboration with LASER Consortium	LASER training	Year long	Release time, travel and training costs.	Staff member needed	Students' success completing LASER assessments
Work with staff on released items particularly for 5th grade science and the use of a rubric.	Internal training.	On-going	Collaboration time OSPI website	Mark and other staff	Student success applying concepts to state rubric
Science Fair	Internal	Spring 2011	Purchase equipment	Staff	Accuracy on completed projects

Procedures for evaluating success in reaching this goal: The annual evaluation by staff, parents, and school board will include: MSP scores, Teacher input, LASER assessments and district curriculum testing. Student scores will be used to identify, alter, and create direction for the Dixie School District to improve student achievement for the upcoming school year.

Dixie Elementary School
Technology Action Plan

School Improvement Goal: Stay up to date with our technology including, but not limited to computers, peripherals, software, and server components

Rationale: Students will perform better on assessments if the concepts are taught and practiced.

Activities to Achieve this Goal: What actions will occur? What steps will staff take?	Professional Development How will staff acquire the necessary skills and attitudes to implement the activity?	Timeline When will this strategy or action begin and end?	Resources Available What are the existing and new resources that will be used to accomplish the activity?	Who is Responsible? Who is Involved? Who will provide the leadership? Who will do the work?	Monitoring Effectiveness What on-going FORMATIVE evidence will be gathered to show this activity is making a difference in student outcomes?
Add more computers to the classrooms and the resources necessary for a listening center.	Release time to develop skills	implementing	Re-distribute current computers or purchase new computers. Use SRSGP dollars.	Mark	Observation: More than one student doing pre-reading activities on computer
Place four more computers with students in the Computers @ Home Project and one Linux based computer at school	Release time to develop skills	implementing	Use older computers already here at school.	Mark Staff	Students in need are accessing computers and demonstrate improved skills and work completion.
Budget for and hire adequate technological support personnel	Release time to develop skills	Budget in June and July	District budget	Mark	Computers are working for staff, parents and students.
Provide training in integrated, problem based and project based learning in reading, math, writing, science and music.	Release time to develop skills	Year long	Release time, training money	All staff	Completion of student projects in these areas.

Procedures for evaluating success in reaching this goal: Student ability to apply computer skills to various disciplines through completion of project based activities. Students' increased ability to access programs aimed to increase student learning.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Children need to come to elementary school ready to learn. Dixie Elementary School supports the following readiness initiatives

1. Full time kindergarten.
2. Pre-school for special needs children.
3. Pre-school program for Title I eligible and regular education students ages three to five.

Parents are a child's first teacher. We will continue to support strong relationships with parents and groups of parents such as PTSO. We will explore parental involvement in pre-school as well.

A well-trained staff is a vital factor to our success. We must meet the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 requiring all our teachers to be "highly qualified".

Through collaboration and sharing we learn from others and they learn from us. We need to reach out and collaborate with other districts and the ESD.

ON-GOING ASSESSMENT OF PROGRAMS

Annual evaluation of the School Improvement Plan shall take place between May and September of each school year to best prepare for the evaluation of program for improvement noted or lack of, along with upcoming student's individual needs. Within this evaluation, the effectiveness of the implemented school improvement strategies will be analyzed and updated. Title I and L.A.P. programs will be evaluated as a component to improving student achievement as identified by a district rank order of students according to need. The data used to identify and monitor student progress in Title I and L.A.P. programs during the year will be utilized to improve programs listed previously in this document in all areas relating to school improvement.