

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
Watauga Elementary
2015-2016

- A. *Work to improve one of the four core areas as outlined in Objective 2 under Curriculum & Instruction in the Comprehensive Plan.*

OBJECTIVE: Watauga Elementary School will improve student comprehension and student achievement in all content areas with a concentrated focus on vocabulary development, fluency, and critical thinking skills.

Strategies

- Incorporate research-based strategies to improve comprehension, fluency, phonics, vocabulary, and writing.
- Increase use of informational text.
- Increase use of poetry in language arts.
- Increase concept of word through word study (includes instruction in Greek and Latin roots.)
- Incorporate Marzano's 9 High Yield Strategies to increase student comprehension.
- Increase the use of formative assessments.
- Provide opportunities for vertical planning and peer observations.
- Increase comprehension and assist students in becoming strategic readers through text structure, interaction, and analysis.
- Explicitly teach the writing process in grades PK-5 as developmentally appropriate.
- Provide differentiation of instruction for all students including enrichment and /or remediation.
- Provide intensive one-on-one and/or small group instruction for at-risk students.
- Analyze data to determine areas of strengths and weaknesses.
- Share data with all teachers to strengthen the vertical alignment of the curriculum.
- Emphases on fluency, the speed of word recognition and text reading, with daily practice and frequent modeling by the teacher.
- Application of higher level thinking skills through questioning techniques that invite students to share their thinking as it relates to author's purpose and point of view, opportunities to compare and contrast, purposeful implementation of critical thinking skills, increased opportunities for predicting, inferring, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing.

Indicators

- Classroom observations and evaluations
- Instruction will be defined and readjusted based on the results of data.
- Accelerated Reader
- STAR Growth Report
- Interactive Achievement Results
- Standards of Learning Test Results

- PALS- End of the Year Report
- Reading Recovery Levels
- Student Writing

B. *Select one of the remaining five categories of the Comprehensive Plan and incorporate it into the School Improvement Plan.*

OBJECTIVE: Watauga Elementary School will increase instruction and opportunities for application of critical thinking skills in all content areas.

Strategies

- Incorporate cross-curricular inquiry to foster deeper learning.
- Explicitly model critical thinking skills.
- Incorporate Rob Marzano's 9 High Yield Strategies.
- Increase student use of and access to technological curriculum tools.
- Increase the use of open-ended questions during classroom instruction.
- Increase problem-solving opportunities for students.
- Incorporate frequent opportunities for students to collaborate on class projects and assignments.
- Increase the use of formative assessments.
- Provide students time to brainstorm individually prior to working in a group.
- Foster classroom discussions regarding the process students used to arrive at their answers and discuss the reasons the other answers are incorrect.
- Increase opportunities for students to write about their learning in all content areas.
- Incorporate a Problem of the Day and/or Challenge Question into daily routine.

Indicators

- Classroom observations and evaluations.
- Student writing samples, work samples, and content area notebooks
- Interactive Achievement Results
- Standards of Learning test results

C. *Choose one goal based on providing professional development in your building.*

OBJECTIVE: Watauga will participate in professional development to increase student achievement in all content areas.

Strategies

- Teachers will focus on increasing the incorporation Rob Marzano's 9 High Yield Strategies from the first and second editions of *Classroom Instruction that Works*.
- Teachers will focus on increasing the use of formative assessment and providing feedback to students based on the information gained from formative assessment.
- Read and discuss relevant articles from peer-reviewed journals.
- Participate in professional development opportunities provided by staff.

Indicators

- Classroom observations, evaluations, and lesson plans
- Faculty meeting agendas
- Student assessment results

D. Meet all local, state, regional, and federal accreditation standards.