

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION
Watauga Elementary
2013-2014

- Full accreditation with Watauga Elementary earning full accreditation since 2001
- Success in English, math, science, and social science (Scores from spring 2014)

Writing (Grade 5)	89%
Reading (Grade 3)	85%
Reading (Grade 4)	87%
Reading (Grade 5)	88%
Mathematics (Grade 3)	82%
Mathematics (Grade 4)	90%
Mathematics (Grade 5)	88%
History (Grade 3)	94%
History (Grade 4)	96%
History (grade 5)	90%
Science (Grade 3)	94%
Science (Grade 5)	84%

- To increase student comprehension with a continued emphasis on vocabulary development, fluency, and higher level thinking skills:
 - Word study/word usage as part of instruction
 - Use of word sorts, especially in primary classrooms
 - Daily reading practice
 - Frequent modeling of reading by teachers
 - School-wide Literacy Project with emphasis on vocabulary and comprehension skills
 - Increased opportunities for predicting, inferring, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing
 - Purposeful implementation of critical thinking
 - Increase student to student discourse through pair-share strategies, etc.
 - Increased progress monitoring of RTI students in the area of writing
 - Questioning techniques that invite students to share their thinking as it relates to author's purpose and point of view
 - Increased opportunities to compare and contrast in preschool through five
 - Critical thinking unit continued in fifth grade rotation
 - Emphasis on high frequency and content area words
 - Increased progress monitoring of RTI students
- To increase student participation and achievement in writing:
 - Continue and increase the use of the Four Square Writing model in all grade levels

- Analyze student performance results on SOL Writing tests to plan instruction
 - Continue and increase writing in the four content areas
 - Continue use of student journals
 - Emphasis on the three writing styles: narrative, expository, and persuasive
 - Increase collaboration using vertical meetings among all teachers regarding effective writing strategies
 - Increase the number of meetings with Writing Committee
 - Peer observations with feedback regarding writing instruction
 - Increased collaboration with special education teaching staff
- Commitment to Career and Technical Education
 - Guidance classes focusing on careers
 - Visitation of community professionals to preschool through five classrooms
 - Hover Cams and SMART boards in all classrooms
 - Technology workshops offered after-school
 - Keyboarding instruction implemented in fifth grade rotation and fourth grade classrooms
 - Additional computer lab added to the fourth/fifth grade wing of the school
 - Multiple iPads purchased by our PTA to be used in all classrooms
- Commitment to Fine Arts and physical well-being of every child
 - Continued participation in the PTA Cultural Arts program
 - Fourth/fifth grade choir performing at school and community events
 - Nutrition/fitness unit continued in fifth grade rotation
 - Intentional preparation for physical fitness testing
 - Nutrition program added to kindergarten classrooms
 - GATE after-school programs that focused on the fine arts
 - Every grade level attended a Barter performance funded by PTA
- Provide challenging educational programs for students with special needs
 - Monitoring of student reading by reading specialist and classroom teachers
 - Planning meetings to coordinate services for special needs services
 - Enrichment program after-school for students with special needs
 - Reassignment of classrooms providing better environment for resource classes
 - Tutoring provided to students who need additional assistance
 - Planning and collaboration between special education and regular education teachers
- Professional development to support goal of increasing student comprehension with a continued emphasis on vocabulary development, fluency, and higher level thinking skills.
 - Discussion of reading comprehension strategies and research-based practices at faculty meetings
 - Peer observations with discussion during language arts classes
 - After-school vertical meetings to discuss reading strategies
 - Read and discussed *Classroom Strategies for Interactive Learning* by Doug Buehl

DATA ASSESSMENT
Watauga Elementary
213-2014

- Staff development of analyzing collected data
 - SOL data shared and discussed
 - Benchmark results compared and discussed
 - STAR report evaluated and discussed
 - Data compiled to identify at-risk students
 - Data compiled to evaluate REACH students
 - PALS used to determine intervention groups
 - Fluency data collected on RTI students
 - STAR, PALS Quick Checks, Power Reading data

- Utilizing data to develop, revise, and modify school improvement
 - SOL and benchmark scores analyzed for planning instruction
 - STAR and PALS scores used to target instruction
 - Individual reading assessments administered to students as needed
 - Project Graduation tutors used with flexible groups
 - PALS used to identify RTI students
 - PALS administered three times a year in K-3

- Use data to assess and revise
 - Data from previous year collected and shared with current teachers
 - Vertical meetings to discuss Student Performance by Question (SPBQ) results
 - Collaboration by resource and classroom teachers
 - Increase in tracking of specific skills

OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES
Watauga Elementary
2013-2014

- Annual request for improvements and renovations are submitted
 - Painting of bathrooms in 4th/5th wing
 - Landscaping of school grounds
 - Painting of outside storage building
 - Converted empty classroom into additional computer lab in 4th/5th wing

- Handicapped parking
 - Handicapped parking remains unchanged
 - General parking continues to be a problem due to limited space

- Facilities Plan
 - Changes in classroom assignments
 - Increased awareness of energy savings
 - Continue to use security system added to the front door
 - Security system utilized at the front door

SECURITY AND SAFETY
Watauga Elementary
2013-2014

- Providing a safe and secure environment to enhance learning
 - School crisis plan reviewed each semester
 - Washington County Sheriff's Department supervises evening events
 - Unscheduled visits from local and state law enforcement
 - Regular fire drills and other safety drills
 - Fire doors closed in third grade hallway during school hours
 - Security system added at the front door
 - Two-way radios purchased by PTA for each grade level leader and encore teacher

- Safety of building and grounds and land adjacent to school
 - Annual safety audit conducted
 - Additional staff unloading cars in the morning and loading buses/cars in afternoon

- Involvement of staff in safety
 - Discussion of safety issues in faculty meetings
 - Custodians watchful for needed repairs and adequacy of lighting
 - Revision of exit patterns during fire drills
 - Revision of lock down procedures
 - Opportunities for faculty/staff to make suggestions and express concerns
 - All staff views the Bloodborne Pathogen Video Annually

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
Watauga Elementary
2013-2014

- Enhancing communication
 - Revision of student handbooks
 - Weekly folders
 - Daily booklets sent home in kindergarten
 - Important correspondence translated for ESL students
 - PTA newsletter published monthly
 - Submission of articles to county webpage and Uniting the Division
 - Parent email listserv used for communication
 - Student Planners in grades third through fifth
 - Marquee sign in front of school listing important dates
 - Monthly calendars sent home to parents of important dates

- Communication, interaction, and collaboration between the school and community
 - Active PTA
 - Monthly PTA program involving students
 - School-wide Literacy Project - One School, One Book
 - Family Movie Night as a follow-up to the literacy project
 - Science lessons provided by Emory & Henry College students
 - Observers from all area colleges
 - Volunteer choir performs for community events
 - Relay for Life Team
 - Community Christmas service projects at each grade level
 - Santa Saturday
 - Family members invited to Thanksgiving Dinner with over 375 visitors in attendance
 - Veterans involved in Veteran's Day PTA program
 - Kindergarten Orientation
 - DARE class and graduation offered by Washington County Sheriff's Office

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
Watauga Elementary
2013-2014

- Development of the whole child
 - Every child has opportunity to participate in a PTA program
 - Every child participates in school literacy project, Read Across America, Read for the Record
 - Every child has a journal
 - School-wide literacy project with student projects by grade level
 - Volunteer choir offers opportunities within school and community
 - Participation in History Bowl, Spelling Bee, Mental Math Bee, and Cultural Arts
 - Calendar Art Contest, Washington County Fair, Science Fair, DAR Essays competitions, and yearly Field Day
 - Summer School and Summer Writing Camp

- Character Education
 - Character Education song used throughout the year
 - Monthly recognition for students who display specific character traits
 - Citizenship awards each spring
 - Life Skills classes

- Multi-cultural activities
 - ESL students targeted for Writing Camp and Summer School
 - A welcoming climate for students and parents of other cultures
 - ESL teacher who works closely with families

- Entertaining and school-spirited activities used at events throughout the year
 - “Welcome to Watauga” song used at events throughout the year
 - Participation in county competitions
 - Purchase of school t-shirts
 - School-wide literacy project culminated with family movie night
 - Participation in Spirit Week for AHS Homecoming
 - Mega Party Day in the spring
 - Relay for Life school wide activities