

Southwest Elementary School Improvement Plan 2015-16

Sharing Successes from 2014-15

- Met Expected Growth
- First School in HPS to induct Junior Beta Club
- Second year of Young Rotarian Student Council
- Partnership with First United Methodist Church
- Donation of HP Stream 7 Tablets by Steve White
- Increased parent involvement
- Decreased Out of School Suspensions (40 days compared to 64.5 in 2013-14)

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Growing Academically

- Make connections with each student's family
 - Phone calls, post cards, potluck dinners
- Make lessons that have relevance to the students.
- Focus on college as a possible career path/choice by talking about college, staff wearing college "gear", showcasing staff and the colleges they attended.
- Have a "Gifted and Talented" area in the classroom.
- Use Open Court materials for ELA, use pre/post tests for each strand taught, use SchoolNet for common assessments, use Motivational Math (3-5) for increased rigor in mathematics practice.

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Integrating Technology

- All K-2 classrooms have at least 6 iPads for student use.
- iPads are used in centers for individualized instruction.
- Presentation stations are used in each classroom to increase student engagement.
- All 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students have one-to-one HP Stream Tablets. They use them to access components of the Open Court text, online resources (iXL, BrainPop, Discovery Streaming), and SchoolNet.

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Building Teacher Capacity

- Monthly peer walkthroughs
- Padlet
- Posting lesson plans to LiveBinder weekly
- Using math lessons created at NCCAT that are housed in LiveBinder. Also, using HPS and DPI math resources, as well as Motivational Math in grades 3-5.
- Weekly PLC meetings
- Providing teachers with opportunities to build leadership skills.
- Monthly Mentor/Mentee meetings

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Building Responsible Citizens

- Student Council spearheaded the Purple Pinky project and raised \$208 for polio awareness that was donated to the Hickory Rotary Club.
- The student body at Southwest raised \$1976 for Relay for Life. This was done mostly through pennies and loose change. The Principal and the teachers got to kiss a goat for the students' efforts. Additionally, Dos Amigos restaurant partnered with the school and provided food for the Student Council to sell at the Relay event and those monies were also donated.
- Students brought hygiene items at Christmas to donate to the Homeless shelter.
- Student Council partnered with PTA to host a dance that raised money for new playground equipment.