

GFSS School Growth Plan 2011-2012

(Draft Document developed May 17, 2011-next revision June 2011)

The current growth plan is based on individual department actions plans.

Math and Science

1. Action Plan

Goal: To increase academic rigor and student organization (with an initial emphasis on junior students)

Strategies:

- Develop and maintain a clear and consistent set of department expectations (and consequences) related to student work habits
- Develop assessment criteria that measures homework and class preparedness
- Clearly articulate expectations to students and parents and establish practices that model what teachers want
- Establish a common materials list to be communicated with parents and students
- Develop a common area for keeping materials for students needing support in this area

Staff outcome:

- Common shared goal will create a supportive department atmosphere that leads to greater satisfaction

Student Outcome:

- Better levels of organization and preparedness will lead to higher success rate

Strategies for Staff Implementation:

- Support each other and enforce compliance
- Share and discuss progress at monthly department meetings

Measuring Impact:

- In progress - looking at system to measure level of preparedness/organization

Student Services

1. Action Plan

Goal: To increase student motivation and organization (rationale related to less support blocks and need for teachers to ensure strategies take place at classroom level and can be reinforced by Student Support)

Strategies:

- Support departments in helping students learn organizational skills and homework completion
- Use agendas with students requiring additional support (Learning Assistance)
- Teach students how to use websites to stay organized and retrieve missed work
- Organize parent meetings to communicate criteria for success (how to be organized and expectations)
- Share tips in school newsletter on how to stay organized

Staff outcome:

- Whole staff buy in leads to consistent expectations and follow through

Student Outcome:

- Better levels of organization and preparedness will lead to higher success rate

Strategies for Staff Implementation:

- Support each other and enforce compliance
- Share and discuss progress at monthly department meetings

Measuring Impact:

- Set monthly goals for agenda use
- Daily/weekly tracking for support students

Physical Education

1. Action Plan

Goal: To increase opportunities for students to improve their health and fitness

Strategies:

- Provide a wide array of activities for students to improve fitness levels ie. Bootcamp, endurance runs, instructional dvd's, guest instructors
- Provide students with opportunities to learn about nutrition and establish good eating habits
- Review assessment format to place more emphasis on fitness (as an important lifelong learning skill)

Staff outcome:

- Staff sharing and consistency helps maintain goal focus

Student Outcome:

- Students benefit from learning important skills to carry on past school
- Increase student fitness and appreciation of healthy habits

Strategies for Staff Implementation:

- Continue to provide team teaching opportunities to build on individual strengths

Measuring Impact:

- Being developed

Humanities

1. Action Plan

Goal: To increase student writing proficiency

Strategies:

- Increase writing opportunities for students across the curricular areas of Social Studies, English and Languages
- Increase focus and expectations around content area essays
- Provide opportunities for students to conduct research topic essays
- Clearly define and communicate expectations regarding plagiarism
- Provide students with more choice on written essays

Staff outcome:

- Teachers will share strategies for teaching structure and content to ensure greater consistency
- Sharing of marking practices to provide greater consistency for grade to grade transitions

Student Outcome:

- Increased levels of practice and consistent format from grade to grade will improve overall competency

Strategies for Staff Implementation:

- Support each other and enforce compliance
- Share and discuss progress at monthly department meetings

Measuring Impact:

- Looking at having written component for all exams and potential rubric for scoring and using as a means for identifying trends

Practical and Fine Arts

1. Action Plan

Goal: To increase the number of students who are motivated to pursue leisure, hobby, or career explorations in the Practical or Fine Arts

Strategies:

- Emphasizing through individual course offerings the importance of leisure time activities such as: garage bands, community efforts (choirs/theatre), back yard projects (fixing car, building deck/fence), cooking for yourself, etc.
- Continue to focus on career development through video and guest speaker presentations
- Support student services in putting together Career fair
- Showcase student talents and work samples in displays and theme days
- Field trips to local businesses to explore career options

Staff outcome:

- Common shared goal will create a supportive department atmosphere that leads to greater satisfaction

Student Outcome:

- Produce well rounded students with an interest in life long learning
- Increase student self-confidence in their ability to be self reliant “able to fix things”

Strategies for Staff Implementation:

- Support each other and work together on collaborative activities
- Share and discuss progress at monthly department meetings

Measuring Impact:

- Exit survey developed for courses to gage student satisfaction levels
- Track student enrolment (% basis)