

Parkland Elementary School Growth Plan

Mission: At Parkland Elementary School, our core business is to help each child set goals that will prepare him/her for a successful future as a lifelong learner through: consistent assessment, visibly stated learning intentions, team conversations and reflection.

Many factors contribute to student learning, but research shows that the most direct factor impacting student learning is effective teaching (Stronge, 2010; Marzano, 2003, 2010; Hattie, 2003; Barber and Mourshed, 2007; Leithwood, 2009, etc.). In 2017, teacher collective efficacy or rather the collective belief that by collaborating well together, large achievement gains can be made for students (Hattie, 2017).

At Parkland Elementary School, we will cause learning and serve each learner. With that our first objective is an overarching goal which encompasses two academic goals within it.

(Umbrella) Objective 1: Improve goal-setting skills and personal awareness

Rationale

Goal-setting will be linked to character education (Habits of the Heart) through self-awareness, personal growth and community building. Related to awareness of the importance of teacher collective efficacy (Hattie, 2017), goal-setting, and visible learning students will have skills in goal-setting modeled, practiced, and celebrated.

Objective 2: Improve literacy skills

Rationale

Literacy has always been a foundational skill in our classrooms. Students will develop personalized literacy goals through coaching and modeling using targets. Gains have been made through a strategic focus on reading and writing skills and consistent assessment along with professional team conversations to inform practices. We will continue to build on our recent gains.

Strategies

- primary classes will participate in the district literacy project
- primary teachers will attend extensive professional development sessions and share their knowledge with the whole school
- professional staff will meet weekly to collaborate on literacy plans
- consistent literacy assessments
- students will set goals using visible learning model

Assessments

- Fountas & Pinnell reading assessments (3x per year)
- Primary Literacy Project (bubble assessment sheets for alphabet knowledge, phonemic awareness, and sight words weekly)
- Report cards (reading and writing)
- FSA data (grades 4 and 7)
- Student goal-setting and reflection (self-assessment)

Objective 3: Improve numeracy skills

Rationale

As with literacy, numeracy has always been a foundational skill in our classrooms. We would like to look at the collaborative structures in place supporting our literacy gains and give similar attention and strategy to children's development of number sense.

Strategies

- classes will participate numeracy stations focus based on assessment and needs each term
- professional staff will meet weekly to collaborate on numeracy plans
- consistent numeracy assessments
- students will set goals using visible learning model

Assessments

- Islandnet Math Assessments (grades 3 and up)
- Numeracy helping teacher support (work with professional staff to develop numeracy stations focused on number sense and collect assessment data using bubble sheets)
- ANIE test (intermediate) and ANIE Junior (primary)
- Report cards (numeracy and math)
- FSA data (grades 4 and 7)
- Student goal-setting and reflection (self-assessment)