



2012 - 2013 Local School Plan For Improvement

LSPI Objectives

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Crystal Cooper, *Principal*

Nancy Martin, *Area Superintendent*

Accountability and flexibility are hallmarks of Gwinnett County Public Schools' success. Key to that success is ensuring that each school community understands the progress being made by its schools, as well as what plans will drive improvement. Each school creates a collaborative Local School Plan for Improvement (LSPI), with targeted goals based on student achievement results. These goals are dynamic, like our schools, and are updated to reflect changes that occur in schools. Data is used to determine areas needing improvement and to identify specific, measurable, annual objectives. Schools then determine how to use research-based strategies to achieve these goals, using flexibility as needed. The LSPI development process involves teachers, parents, and community members, so the entire school community has the opportunity to be involved in conversations about school improvement. Please contact the local school principal for more information about the school's plan and progress.

2012-2013 Long Term Goals and Objectives

Goal: All students at Sycamore Elementary will develop essential skills in reading, writing, and language arts so that they can effectively demonstrate, apply, and generalize their literacy knowledge and skills in all subject areas. They will utilize various comprehension strategies independently to become critical thinkers and readers. They will be able to apply their critical reading strategies to their writing processes and become proficient in reading and writing responses across the curriculum. Sycamore Elementary School will produce literate citizens of the 21st Century through rigorous balanced literacy instruction, including science and social studies integration and differentiated staff development.

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LSPi Continued

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2012-2013 Long Term Goals and Objectives

Objective: All students at Sycamore ES will increase academic performance in all language arts areas in the meets and exceeds category including reading and writing indicators for the 2012-2013 school year in all subgroups by showing 3-5% gain over the previous year's assessments. Evidence will be seen through engagement in research based reading strategies and extensive writing opportunities with specific targeted feedback for improvement in both of these curriculum areas. Students will be immersed in learning and utilizing various comprehension strategies and vocabulary practices to promote understanding. Teachers will increase their use of technology as a means to improve instruction and allow for higher student achievement. As a whole our focus will be on increasing the use of summarizing and questioning in all subject areas.

Goal: All students at Sycamore Elementary will develop essential skills in mathematics so that they can transition to middle school and effectively demonstrate, apply, and generalize their mathematical knowledge and skills. Sycamore Elementary School will produce students who are effective mathematicians and critical thinkers. We will meet or exceed annual targets through the use of effective staff development and research based practices that result in student achievement.

Objective: All students at Sycamore ES will increase academic performance on all math indicators by 3-5% in the meets and exceeds categories over the previous year's assessments through engagement in regular small group instruction and constant observation of individual mastery of the math curriculum with specific, targeted feedback. They will be immersed in workshop model that will promote critical thinking and independent thinkers. Students will also be using math journals in ways to improve their potential in the new common core curriculum.

Goal: All students at Sycamore Elementary will develop essential skills in science so that they can transition to middle school and effectively demonstrate, apply, and generalize their science knowledge and skills.

Objective: All students at Sycamore ES will increase academic performance on all science indicators in the meets and exceeds category by 3-5% over the previous year's assessments through engagement in regular hands-on science inquiry activities with specific, targeted feedback for improvement. Students will be immersed in technology through the use of the newly adopted science adoption.

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LSPI Continued

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Schools Goals - SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Goal Title	Goal	Start School Year	End School Year
Excellence in Language Arts (Reading & Writing) in Grades K-5	All students at Sycamore Elementary will develop essential skills in reading, writing, and language arts so that they can effectively demonstrate , apply, and generalize their literacy knowledge and skills in all subject areas. They will utilize various comprehension strategies independently to become critical thinkers and readers. They will be able to apply their critical reading strategies to their writing processes and become proficient in reading and writing responses across the curriculum. SycamoreElementary School will produce literate citizens of the 21st Century through rigorous balanced literacy instruction, including science and social studies integration and differentiated staff development.	2012-13	2015-16
Excellence in Math in grades K-5	All students at Sycamore Elementary will develop essential skills in mathematics so that they can transition to middle school and effectively demonstrate , apply, and generalize their mathematical knowledge and skills. Sycamore Elementary School will produce students who are effective mathematicians and critical thinkers. We will meet or exceed annual targets through the use of effective staff development and research based practices that result in student achievement.	2010-11	2015-16
Excellence in Science for students in grades K-5	All students at Sycamore Elementary will develop essential skills in science so that they can transition to middle school and effectively demonstrate , apply, and generalize their science knowledge and skills.	2010-11	2015-16

Annual Objective

All students at Sycamore ES will increase academic performance in all language arts areas in the meets and exceeds category including reading and writing indicators for the 2012-2013 school year in all subgroups by showing 3-5% gain over the previous year's assessments. Evidence will be seen through engagement in research based reading strategies and extensive writing opportunities with specific targeted feedback for improvement in both of these curriculum areas. Students will be immersed in learning and utilizing various comprehension strategies and vocabulary practices to promote understanding. Teachers will increase their use of technology as a means to improve instruction and allow for higher student achievement. As a whole our focus will be on increasing the use of summarizing and questioning in all subject areas.

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LSPI Continued

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Associated Goals

Goal: Excellence in Language Arts (Reading & Writing) in Grades K-5

Implementation Design

Balanced Literacy

All staff members will be immersed in ways to incorporate the balanced literacy approach by providing for guided, shared and independent reading and writing opportunities consistently. Word study and vocabulary strategies will be evident in all lessons.

SD: Summarizing and Questioning Strategies

Teachers will be exposed to ways to properly summarize and utilize questioning techniques in the classroom. They will use these strategies in the workshop models to improve achievement.

SD: VISION COHORT 4

Rigorous training in the implementation of our balanced literacy framework in all classrooms.

SD: Vocabulary Across the Curriculum

All staff will be exposed to applicable research based strategies to improve vocabulary instruction. They will be able to integrate vocabulary lessons throughout the reader's workshop and writing workshop daily. The use of word walls will be taught and implemented.

Reader's Workshop Model

All staff will learn, master and implement the reader's workshop model consistently and pervasively in grades K-5. Teachers will implement the AKS/Common Core strategies by integrating Science and Social Studies AKS.

SD: Reader's Workshop Implementation & Immersion

All teachers will be introduced and immersed to Reader's Workshop. They will be able to fully implement the workshop with minilessons, conferencing and applicable summarizing strategies.

SD: VISION COHORT 4

Rigorous training in the implementation of our balanced literacy framework in all classrooms.

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LSPi Continued

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Writer's Workshop Implementation

All teachers will learn ways to implement the Writer's Workshop model in their classrooms four to five days a week consistently and pervasively with a minilesson, conferencing and author's chair (summarizing tool). They will learn to lead students through the writing process to be able to write effectively independently in all subject areas. Teachers will learn to implement components of the balanced literacy approach which will include the use of word walls, use of proper conventions and handwriting skills.

SD: VISION COHORT 4

Rigorous training in the implementation of our balanced literacy framework in all classrooms.

SD: Writer's Workshop Implementation & Immersion

All teachers will be immersed in learning the proper writer's workshop model through walkthroughs and feedback from administrators and the school literacy coach. They will ensure that all students become independent critical writers that are able to write and respond to fiction and non-fiction reading. They will learn to utilize teaching tools to adequately increase student's ability to add voice and style to their writing which will in turn increase our exceeds status.

Annual Objective

All students at Sycamore ES will increase academic performance on all math indicators by 3-5% in the meets and exceeds categories over the previous year's assessments through engagement in regular small group instruction and constant observation of individual mastery of the math curriculum with specific, targeted feedback. They will be immersed in workshop model that will promote critical thinking and independent thinkers. Students will also be using math journals in ways to improve their potential in the new common core curriculum.

Associated Goals

Goal: Excellence in Math in grades K-5

Implementation Design

SYCAMORE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LSPI Continued

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Balanced Numeracy Framework- Math Workshop Model

All teachers will implement the math workshop model while under the balanced literacy framework. It will include math centers, guided math and critical thinking opportunities utilizing technology and hands on components. Students will be immersed in the new common core AKS and become stronger independent critical thinkers.

SD: Lanier Cluster Math Vertical Team

The Lanier Cluster Math Vertical team will focus on developing a deeper understanding of the nature of math from PK through 12th grade, assessing the continuity of math content instruction and mathematics vocabulary with Common Core, share best practices with a focus on use of technology resources, and develop an environment of collaboration. Strategies to support the goals of the Lanier Cluster Math Vertical Team will be implemented through a multiyear plan.

SD: Math Workshop Model

Teachers will be exposed and trained in the math workshop model with all attributes. They will be able to deliver minilessons that will focus the Common Core AKS and learn ways to support students in understanding mathematical concepts.

Guided Math

Teachers will incorporate the guided math framework in classes with strategy led groups. They will be taught how to properly lead a mini lesson, organize stations and incorporate assessments into their lesson plans to lead instruction.

SD: Lanier Cluster Math Vertical Team

The Lanier Cluster Math Vertical team will focus on developing a deeper understanding of the nature of math from PK through 12th grade, assessing the continuity of math content instruction and mathematics vocabulary with Common Core, share best practices with a focus on use of technology resources, and develop an environment of collaboration. Strategies to support the goals of the Lanier Cluster Math Vertical Team will be implemented through a multiyear plan.

SD: Math the Guided Way

Teachers will learn how to use the Everyday Counts, Mountain math and exemplars to adequately increase strategic thinking amongst students in all ability levels.

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LSPI Continued

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Math Common Core Immersion

Key staff members of math will be immersed in learning applicable common core strategies to share with their colleagues.

SD: Math Common Core

Staff members will be immersed in learning the new mathematical common core curriculum.

Annual Objective

All students at Sycamore ES will increase academic performance on all science indicators in the meets and exceeds category by 3- 5% over the previous year's assessments through engagement in regular hands-on science inquiry activities with specific, targeted feedback for improvement. Students will be immersed in technology through the use of the newly adopted science adoption.

Associated Goals

Goal: Excellence in Science for students in grades K-5

Implementation Design

Science Integration Across The Curriculum

All staff will implement science in the language arts block while using technology and hands on experiences to increase student achievement.

SD: Ways to incorporate the Science Common Core Across the Curriculum

Teachers will learn how to use the common core standards across the curriculum to increase student achievement in Science while utilizing technology and hands on experiences.