



2012 - 2013 Local School Plan For Improvement

LSPI Objectives

SWEETWATER MIDDLE

Georgann Eaton, *Principal*

Dr. Gwen Tatum, *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 Sweetwater Middle School will be promoted to the high school within three years, beginning with their first sixth grade year, demonstrating the necessary academic vocabulary, technology competency, and content knowledge to be successful in advanced placement classes of choice.

Objective: Sweetwater Middle School will increase Math performance as measured by the CRCT and EOCT for Math.

Objective: All students will increase their performance in Reading and Language Arts as measured by the CRCT and 8th Grade Writing Assessment.

Objective: The Achievement Gap will be decreased in all content areas measured as composite score of all five content areas.

SWEETWATER MIDDLE

LSPI Continued

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Schools Goals - SWEETWATER MIDDLE

Goal Title	Goal	Start School Year	End School Year
Attendance	All students at Sweetwater Middle School will demonstrate their understanding of the significance of attendance as key to learning and developing good work habits that will carry over in life. Students will exceed the minimum level of attendance as required.	2010-11	2013-14
Behavior- PBIS- Postive Behavioral Interventions and Support	Positive Behavior choices will be evidenced -based in academic and behavioral practices for all students.	2010-11	2013-14
Promotion	All Students at Sweetwater Middle School will be promoted to the high school within three years, beginning wth their first sixth grade year, demonstrating the necessary academic vocabulary, technology competency, and content knowledge to be successful in advanced placement classes of choice.	2010-11	2013-14

Annual Objective

Sweetwater Middle School will increase Math performance as measured by the CRCT and EOCT for Math.

Associated Goals

Goal: Promotion

Implementation Design

SWEETWATER MIDDLE

LSPI Continued

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Math Talks

This method of math instruction involves students working in small peer groups where they use discussion to support the mathematical learning of everyone in the class.

Students:

Develop and share their own mathematical thinking.

Listen carefully to the mathematical ideas of others.

Restate those ideas in their own words.

Ask questions about and provide insights into the mathematical ideas of others.

Non-Verbal Representations

This approach to mathematics instruction relies on communicating mathematical ideas/concepts visually.

Teachers use demonstrations, models, simulations, and eCLASS technology to solve problems and develop conceptual understanding.

Students are also engaged in using manipulatives and designing visuals to solve problems.

SD: 2012/2013 Math and Science Staff Development Training

Year-long training (10 hours total) that provides teachers with a focus on support of newly aligned AKS content and quality instructional practice in Math, and infusion of Technology, Inquiry, Differentiation, and Engagement (T.I.D.E.) in Science instruction to improve technical literacy, problem-solving skills, and student achievement.

SD: BERKMAR VERTICAL MATH TEAM

The team meets at least five times per year to review cluster math data, share best practices, conduct peer observations, design instructional activities, and collaboration on best practices.

SWEETWATER MIDDLE

LSPI Continued

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Thinking Maps

Thinking Maps provide a research based method for students to organize, process and evaluate information. Students learn to use the maps to describe, classify and sequence information for ready recall.

SD: Thinking Maps Training

100% of Math, Science, Language Arts, and Social Studies teachers will receive at least 30 hours of training on the use and implementation of Thinking Maps in the classroom.

Annual Objective

All students will increase their performance in Reading and Language Arts as measured by the CRCT and 8th Grade Writing Assessment.

Associated Goals

Goal: Promotion

Implementation Design

Drapes

Teachers will use DRAPES as a way to identify how they can add more green to their writing. DRAPES stands for dialogue, rhetorical question, analogy, personal example, example, and statistics. DRAPES helps students remember ways they can elaborate and increase the maturity of their writing.

SWEETWATER MIDDLE

LSPI Continued

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Going Green

The students are taught to identify their topic sentence, their major details, and their specific details or examples. Students use three highlighter colors to annotate their writing: blue for topic sentences, pink for major details, and green for specific details or examples.

SD: DRAPES

Teachers are trained and supported in using DRAPES. Each section of DRAPES is clarified and exemplified with practice activities using student work to support adding dialogue, rhetorical question, analogy, personal example, example, and statistics to elaborate and increase the maturity of their writing.

SD: Going Green

In professional learning communities teachers are supported in directing writing instruction to develop student writing. Highlighters are used to focus students on the process of writing.

Annual Objective

The Achievement Gap will be decreased in all content areas measured as composite score of all five content areas.

Associated Goals

Goal: Promotion

Implementation Design

Collaborative Instruction

Students will be provided increased participation in General Education classes with the support of Collaborative Teaching. Teachers of Special Education and English Language Learners will co-teach with General Education teachers.

SWEETWATER MIDDLE

LSPI Continued

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SD: C0-Teaching

As part of their Professional Learning Community teachers will review strategies and communication tools learned from prior Professional Learning for Co-Teaching.

Extended Learning

Students will be provided Mastery Learning opportunities and directed instruction before school and during the Connections Block.