



2011 - 2012 Local School Plan For Improvement

LSPI Objectives

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

Stephanie A Cortellino, *Principal*

Dr. Gale Hey, *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.

2011-2012 Long Term Goals and Objectives

Goal: Students at Walnut Grove Elementary will develop foundational literacy skills so they can transition to middle school demonstrating the ability to read and write analytically.

Objective: Walnut Grove Elementary will increase the academic performance in reading, writing and language arts for all students (targeting SWD, multi- racial and ELL students) to meet and/or exceed annual targets through collaborative planning and implementation of the Balanced Literacy Framework.

Goal: Students at Walnut Grove Elementary will develop foundational math skills so they can transition to middle school demonstrating number sense and the ability to compute, solve problems and communicate their thoughts and mathematical reasoning.

Objective: Walnut Grove Elementary will increase the academic performance in math for all students (targeting SWD, multi- racial and ELL students) to meet and/or exceed annual targets through collaborative planning and implementation of the Balanced Numeracy Framework.

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPi Continued

Stephanie A Cortellino, *Principal*

Dr. Gale Hey, *Area Superintendent*

2011-2012 Long Term Goals and Objectives

Goal: Students at Walnut Grove Elementary will develop foundational science skills so they can transition to middle school and demonstrate the ability to solve problems and communicate their thoughts using the scientific process.

Objective: Walnut Grove Elementary will increase the academic performance in science for all students and sub groups to meet and/or exceed annual targets through collaborative planning.

Goal: The Collins Hill Cluster will foster a culture of collaboration and co-operation in an effort to become a cluster of world-class schools.

Objective: Walnut Grove Certified Staff will collaborate with teachers from other Collins Hill Cluster Schools. Collaboration will occur vertically within elementary, middle and high school levels; as well as across grade level and subject areas. Staff members will discuss effective methods to increase student achievement.

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPI Continued

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Schools Goals - WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

Goal Title	Goal	Start School Year	End School Year
Cluster of Collaboration	The Collins Hill Cluster will foster a culture of collaboration and co-operation in an effort to become a cluster of world-class schools.	2010-11	2015-16
Math Problem Solvers and Critical Thinkers	Students at Walnut Grove Elementary will develop foundational math skills so they can transition to middle school demonstrating number sense and the ability to compute, solve problems and communicate their thoughts and mathematical reasoning.	2010-11	2013-14
Proficient Readers and Writers	Students at Walnut Grove Elementary will develop foundational literacy skills so they can transition to middle school demonstrating the ability to read and write analytically.	2010-11	2015-16
Science Communication and Problem Solving	Students at Walnut Grove Elementary will develop foundational science skills so they can transition to middle school and demonstrate the ability to solve problems and communicate their thoughts using the scientific process.	2011-12	2012-13

Annual Objective

Walnut Grove Elementary will increase the academic performance in reading, writing and language arts for all students (targeting SWD, multi-racial and ELL students) to meet and/or exceed annual targets through collaborative planning and implementation of the Balanced Literacy Framework.

Associated Goals

Goal: Proficient Readers and Writers

Implementation Design

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPi Continued

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Balanced Literacy Framework Implementation

Teachers will apply Balanced Literacy Framework in their classrooms, with continuous and pervasive implementation of Reading and Writing Workshop with a strong emphasis on assessing student writing samples. Teachers will meet throughout the year to learn and collaborate. Implementation of Writing Workshop will include analyzing student writing samples each nine weeks for genre indicated on GCPS instructional calendar. Teachers will work with colleagues to read student work samples and score papers based on rubrics. Teachers will score student work from other classrooms in order to increase rater reliability in assessing student writing.

In addition participants will receive instruction regarding the implementation of the spelling/word work curriculum. Participants will discuss lessons and results during collaborative Tuesday morning meetings, grade level meetings and/or Thursday grade level planning

SD: Balanced Literacy Framework Implementation

Participants will analyze student writing across curriculum areas. Discussions will be focused improving writing proficiency. Word work will also be a component of these sessions. Teachers who attended Literacy Institute and Vision will share how they are applying their learning in the classroom. Progress of students will be monitored.

SD: Differentiated Instruction

Participants will be presented with best practices for differentiated instruction and an overview of the ESOL and Gifted programs. An overview of the the RTI Tiers and related strategies will also be presented to teachers. Teachers will take part in a book study aligned to the LSPi goal in small groups focused on differentiated instruction. Books to be included but not limited to: Teach Like a Champion, Strategies that Work, and Readicide.

SD: ELEMENTARY SUMMER LITERACY INSTITUTE

Three-day conference for teachers of all content areas focusing on the appropriate implementation of literacy-rich strategies in the classroom.

Coaching

Reading Specialists will provide literacy coaching to teachers with an emphasis on first and fourth grades.

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPI Continued

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Developing Teacher Leaders

The Leadership Team will do a book study to develop skills increasing team work and collaboration with their colleagues.

SD: Developing Teacher Leaders

Participants will read and discuss *Qualities of Effective Teachers* by James Stronge. The author includes a synthesis of the research on teacher behaviors that support student learning. The leadership team will participate in classroom learning walks. The leadership team will also assist in the school wide implementation of the Fish!

Annual Objective

Walnut Grove Elementary will increase the academic performance in math for all students (targeting SWD, multi-racial and ELL students) to meet and/or exceed annual targets through collaborative planning and implementation of the Balanced Numeracy Framework.

Associated Goals

Goal: Math Problem Solvers and Critical Thinkers

Implementation Design

Balanced Numeracy Framework

Staff will apply Balanced Numeracy Framework in their classrooms, with implementation of guided math instruction, math calendar and math exemplars. Teachers will meet throughout the year to learn and collaborate. Participants will use data to guide instruction. Teachers who attended Summer Math Institute will share how they are applying their learning in the classroom.

SD: MATH INSTITUTE - ELEMENTARY

The Math Institute provides effective professional learning through modeling by “master” teachers, peer coaching, and debriefing discussions. Following the summer workshop, ongoing mentoring and implementing of best practices should be evident.

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPI Continued

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Dr. Gale Hey, *Area Superintendent*

Math Collaboration

Teachers will work together to analyze data, determine best practices in math instruction and implement those practices.

SD: Balanced Numeracy Framework Implementation

Participants will analyze math exemplars. Discussions will be focused improving math problem solving and communication proficiency. Teachers who have attended Math Institute will share how they are applying their learning in the classroom. Progress of students will be monitored.

Annual Objective

Walnut Grove Elementary will increase the academic performance in science for all students and sub groups to meet and/or exceed annual targets through collaborative planning.

Associated Goals

Goal: Science Communication and Problem Solving

Implementation Design

COLLINS HILL CLUSTER ALIGNMENT

Throughout the school year sessions will be held for cluster teachers to come together and collaborate as grade level teams and vertical teams. These sessions are designed to identify Quality Plus Teaching strategies utilized by teachers in the Collins Hill Cluster as evidenced by standardized test scores.

SD: CLUSTER VERTICAL CONTENT WRITING (SCIENCE)

A select group of 5th grade, 6th grade, 8th grade and 9th grade teachers will participate in content writing, focused on Science, staff development which will include a book study (Writing Strategies for Science), observations of colleagues and debriefing sessions with colleagues and administrators.

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPi Continued

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Science Collaboration

Teachers in Grades 3-5 working together to analyze data, discuss best practices in Science instruction and implement those strategies.

SD: MATH-SCIENCE STAFF DEVELOPMENT [ES]

After-school sessions have the primary goal of improving student achievement in mathematics and science by connecting both the math and science AKS with the expected performance-based student outcomes at each grade level. The K-5 sessions are offered by grade level and are in time with the corresponding instructional calendar. One hour is devoted to mathematics instruction and the second hour is devoted to science instruction.

The science sessions will focus on problem solving and include the vertical alignment of scientific processing, vocabulary lists, document based questions, mathematics integration, mastery-based lab activities, relevant technology, and integrates the modeling of Quality-Plus Instructional Strategies. Instructional plans are developed, modeled, and practiced to guide the daily lesson planning for elementary school teachers.

SD: Science Collaboration

Teachers will analyze data, discuss best practices in Science instruction and implement those strategies.

Annual Objective

Walnut Grove Certified Staff will collaborate with teachers from other Collins Hill Cluster Schools. Collaboration will occur vertically within elementary, middle and high school levels; as well as across grade level and subject areas. Staff members will discuss effective methods to increase student achievement.

Associated Goals

Goal: Cluster of Collaboration

Implementation Design

WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY

LSPi Continued

Stephanie A Cortellino, *Principal*

Dr. Gale Hey, *Area Superintendent*

Collins Hill Cluster

Throughout the school year, administrators will meet with selected teachers in grades 5, 6, 8, and 9 to review policies and procedures at each school within the Cluster to ensure cluster alignment for all our stakeholders. The focus of discussions will revolve around the following topics: RTI, Discipline, Attendance, Grading, Parent Involvement/Communication and Student Transitions from elementary to middle school and middle to high school. This team will report back to their home school.

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SD: COLLINS HILL CLUSTER COLLABORATION

Throughout the school year sessions will be held for cluster teachers to come together and collaborate as grade level teams and vertical teams. These sessions are designed to identify Quality Plus Teaching strategies utilized by teachers in the Collins Hill Cluster as evidenced by standardized test scores.