

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
Central High School, Burlington, Illinois 60109
847-464-6030

Date: November 2009

School Improvement Goal #1: Promote a positive, safe, and orderly school environment for students by embracing diversity and multiculturalism.

Committee Chairperson: Carri Oslager

Committee Members: Deb Twenhafel, Dennis Beiermann, Paula Mytych, Kim Zalke, Rich Crabel, Anette Bliss, Darlene Guyett, Wade Maisto, Kyle Nelson, Cindy Drafall, Eric Pertiet, Aaron Wichman, Andrea Slenn, and Jon Young.

Projects or Strategies (What activities will you do to accomplish the goal?):

- A) Announcements on Fridays to offer information on diversity and cultural awareness.
- B) Multi-Cultural Fair – At Prairie View Elementary
- C) Diversity Assembly – Imagination Theater.
- D) Student Survey to assess current school culture.
- E) Mix-it-up Days during lunches.
- F) Character and Respect related posters displayed at school. Diversity calendars purchased for each class with theme “honoring differences”.
- G) Show “Invisible Children” documentary over channel one and discuss in class.
- H) Promote diverse student participation in clubs & activities at the start of each school year.

Persons Responsible (Who will make sure it gets done?):

- A) Carri Oslager
- B) Committee members.
- C) Carri Oslager & principal
- D) Carri Oslager & teachers
- E) Carri Oslager & Arlene Knewitz
- F) Principal & Carri Oslager
- G) Principal, student volunteers, Kay Wilson, & Cathy Mullahy
- H) Carri Oslager and club sponsors

Resources Needed (Time, money, training needed, etc.):

- A) None
- B) Commit from members to attend May 4 event at Prairie View
- C) Time during day for students and money for professional assembly
- D) Time to write survey and cooperation from staff to distribute it
- E) Time to print documents and help in organizing the lunch room
- F) Money for buying posters
- G) Time during Silent Reading to show the film and discuss in class afterward.
- H) Space and manpower for a display at beginning of school year.

Timelines (Expected beginning and completion dates.):

- A) Throughout school year
- B) May 4, 2008
- C) April 29, 2008
- D) December 15, 2008
- E) Each year
- F) Start Fall of 2008 and ongoing. New diversity calendars in classrooms 2009-10.
- G) December 15, 2008
- H) First week of school each school year.

Measures of Success (How you will document success toward achievement of the goal):

- A) Tracking of announcements. Success rate good except for Feb. & March.
- B) Successful participation in the Prairie View multicultural fair.
- C) Hold assembly and question students in classes afterward regarding success of message.
- D) Completed survey and analyze results.
- E) Informal feedback from students following mix-it-up days.
- F) Posters and calendars hung throughout building and in classrooms.
- G) Film shown during SSR. Informal feedback from students in class.
- H) Participation in school clubs and organizations by a wide and diverse group of students.

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School Improvement Goal #3: Make the transition for new students to our school district a positive experience by developing and implementing an effective “new student transition plan” aimed at providing support and assistance to new high school students.

Committee Chairperson: Cheryl Wessels

Committee Members: Mike Gecan, Doug Remrey, Gary Day, Michele Sinnaeve, Dan Cliffe, Lisa Scott, Dan Palmiter, Jill McCue, and Eric VonHeimburg.

Projects or Strategies (What activities will you do to accomplish the goal.):

- A) Continue projects already initiated:
 - Ambassador program
 - 8th grade orientation in August
 - New student orientation in August
- B) Proposed: have a good student role model speak about high school to new freshmen (junior or senior selected by proposed speech).
- C) Begin planning for future transition needs of PKMS and CMS students to make them feel like a united freshmen class.
- D) Updates to high school web site about activities/sports/clubs available.

Persons Responsible (Who will make sure it gets done.):

- A) Ambassador group leaders, administrators, teachers.
- B) Committee members.
- C) Committee members.
- D) Lisa Scott will forward information to Cathy Mullahy to add to the web site.

Resources Needed (Time, money, training needed, etc.):

- A) Money for Ambassador’s t-shirts so they can be identified easily during the first weeks of school.
- B) Time to choose a high school student speaker.
- C) Time to meet with middle school guidance to plan.
- D) Time for Cathy Mullahy to add information to our web site.

Timelines (Expected beginning and completion dates.):

- A) Ongoing meetings for ambassadors, August for orientations.
- B) Proposed: Second semester to begin looking for good role model and speech in August.
- C) Ongoing with committee meetings.
- D) Should be done weekly to keep students informed.

Measures of Success (How you will document success toward achievement of the goal):

Survey new students at end of year to find out how the transition from their previous school to ours went.

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School Improvement Goal #4: Improve content reading and learning skills of students through implementation of a building wide CRISS program (Creating Independence through Student-owned Strategies).

Committee Chairperson: Sue Zagorski

Committee Members: Stacy Nemec, Matt Groom, Paul Curtis, Faye Licari, Marlene Steimel, Kristine Bushman, Jennifer Bustos, and Lorna Gandsey.

Projects or Strategies (What activities will you do to accomplish the goal?):

- A) All high school teachers will become trained in use of the CRISS teaching strategies by the end of the 2009-10 school year.
- B) All high school teachers will start to implement CRISS teaching strategies in their classrooms upon being trained.

Persons Responsible (Who will make sure it gets done?):

- A) The high school principal at the district literacy coordinator.
- B) The high school administrators who will be visiting classes and evaluating teachers. Teachers will also receive support from their department chairs.

Resources Needed (Time, money, training needed, etc.):

- A) Use of teacher institute days for training of staff and money to pay the CRISS instructors.
- B) Time for administrators to visit classes and meet with teachers.

Timelines (Expected beginning and completion dates.):

- A) All teachers trained by the end of the 2009-10 school year.
- B) As teachers complete their training and definitely by the start of the 2010-11 school year.

Measures of Success (How you will document success toward achievement of the goal):

- A) Documentation that all teachers have been trained.
- B) Successful use of CRISS teaching strategies used by teachers as observed by administrators and raised student performance on standardized tests (ACT, PSAT, MAP)

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School Improvement Goal #5: Investigate the effectiveness of our Block 8 Schedule.

Committee Co-chairpersons: Dave Oleson & Dave Semmen

Committee Members: Jim Conro, Linda Chapman, Peggy Gannon, David Burner, Deb Wendt, Andrea Keil, Deb Sims, Mike Schmidt, Arlene Knewitz, Marsha Zierk, Scot Sutherland, Tony Rigitano, Vince Neil, and Mike Cessna.

Projects or Strategies (What activities will you do to accomplish the goal.):

- A) Develop a survey and seek feedback from students, parents, graduates, and certified staff regarding the effectiveness of the Block 8 schedule which Central High School has been using since 1991.
- B) Compile the results, discuss, and make any recommendations as seen appropriate.

Persons Responsible (Who will make sure it gets done.):

- A) Co-Chairs and all committee members.
- B) The entire committee.

Resources Needed (Time, money, training needed, etc.):

- A) Time to meet during institute days, money to buy the necessary scantron forms and supplies needed to implement the survey.
- B) Clerical time to compile the results and meeting time for the committee to analyze and discuss.

Timelines (Expected beginning and completion dates.):

- A) Survey mailed out at the end of the 2007-08 school year. Results tabulated the fall of 2008-09.
- B) Finish analyzing results and decide upon recommendations by the end of the 2008-09 school year.

Measures of Success (How you will document success toward achievement of the goal.):

- A) Survey completed for all four groups.
- B) Survey results tabulated and recommendations made.

Conclusions: The results of the survey indicate that there is strong overall support within our school community (88%) to continue with the Block 8 Schedule. Levels of support from each subgroup surveyed include 88% by students, 68% by teachers, 91% by parents, and 91% by graduates.

The committee's recommendation is for Central High School to continue with the Block 8 Schedule. Our staff however, may entertain modifications to the Block 8 Schedule in the future, particularly for classes such as math which may benefit from meeting every day for a shorter period of time, rather than every other day (single block) for 82 minutes or every day (double block) for 82 minutes.