

SWASEY CENTRAL SCHOOL STRATEGIC ACTION PLANS 2013-2014



COMMUNICATIONS

GOAL:

Ensure timely communication between schools and parents/community members

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Maintain a policy of keeping all school Internet communication up-to-date
- Support staff use of online calendar system
- Continued use of Power School Announcements for General Announcements and Emergency Messaging.
- Monthly updates in Family Newsletter and the local Brentwood Newsletter, to include grade level and specialist monthly updates
- Maintained websites by staff
- Staff review of expectations for electronic communications annually
- *Introduced Principal blog this winter 2014.

***We continue to look at ways at reaching more people. We use the message board and continue to send things out to all community members by way of the Brentwood Newsletter.**

GOAL:

Improve communications regarding student expectations and progress

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Ensure regular communication from Swasey, and its teachers, to the parents.
- Classes will continue to explore using Google sites, and class blogs.
- The Curriculum Coordinator will expand on Common Core information and resources for parents. (Open House and School Board presentation was completed.)
- Encourage multiple opportunities to discuss student work
- Increase STAR assessment reporting for student growth
- Maintain Parent Conference scheduling, Open House, and Meet and Greet events
- Currently in a long-term process (ongoing) to improve Report Cards.

*We are looking forward to the opportunity to improve and revamp our current report cards system. We would like to explore using Power School grading in the future.

GOAL:

Improve communications involving administrators, paraprofessionals, and staff

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Provide additional time/opportunity for faculty to meet with one another on professional matter, both formally and informally.
- Revisit Faculty Advisory Committee and implement meetings
- Share School Wide Data
- Full staff Professional Development to continue
- Full staff outing/community building to continue
- Continue administrative/paraprofessional meetings monthly
- The whole school participates in monthly Swasey Shindigs, which promote whole school community and celebration. Students and staff are encouraged to participate in the arts, music, academics and school spirit related activities.
- Weekly staff email
- Open-door policy

*Professional development plans for the summer of 2014 include all staff retrained on Responsive Classroom techniques and philosophy.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

GOAL:

The entire SAU, from students to administrators, will recognize and support the value of community service and look for ways to strengthen community involvement in our schools.

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- The SCS staff and students will continue to support the numerous community-based activities, on average one a month. Examples of community service involvement:
 - Food drive for local food pantry
 - End 68 Hours of Hunger Program
 - Holiday Stockings and Cards for soldiers
 - Staff contributes to the annual holiday drive at the BFD
 - Collection for the Stratham SPCA
 - Dance for Life Bracelets for cancer research for ST. Jude's hospital
 - Annual Blood Drive

- Earth Day activities
- Recycling – much broader range of items collected
- Collect items to send to Turkmenistan
- Kindergarteners make greeting cards monthly for the residents of the Rockingham Nursing Home
- Second graders have a senior outreach program in December, singing for the senior citizens of Brentwood and at the Nursing Home
- SCS has a sunshine program where the staff support fellow staff members in times of celebration (weddings, babies, etc.) and in times of hardship (medical emergencies, death in the family) giving gifts, flowers, gift certificates or making meals for those with hardships
- SCS hosts “Grandfriend’s Day” where grandparents or friends are invited to the classrooms to share school experiences
- The Brentwood Teacher’s Association invites community members to read for Read Across America Week

CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT

GOAL:

Facilitate teacher development, coordination, and review of curricular changes to achieve a consistent and cohesive educational program:

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Professional development time and SAU 16 committee time will be used to align the curriculum with Common Core State Standards.
- Continued effort to increase our kindergarten programming to Full Day
- Literacy team will continue to convene and plan (Book of the Month)
- Exploration of Writing Practices (Lucy Calkins’)

*Participation in the Smarter Balanced Field Test this year gave our students and staff insight on the expectations for test protocols and practices.

GOAL:

Improve the statistical validity and consistency of K-12 assessments:

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Students will continue to participate in the STAR assessment process in both literacy and math three times in a school year. The data is used by teachers to design and implement appropriate instruction to meet the needs of all students.
- As students require remediation, a child study team meets to discuss current practices and to advise on next steps for those children.
- Standards and skills are being developed for science and social studies.
- SCS will reevaluate the method of reporting/developmental record/report card as CCSS is implemented.

*Our curriculum coordinator spent some time getting familiar with the Performance Plus software and programs. We continue to look forward to SAU wide discussions on report card updates based on CCSS.

GOAL:

Enhance professional development by improving on-site training opportunities and implementing a consistent teacher mentor program in all SAU 16 schools.

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- SCS will continue to invest staff development time on CCSS/alignment and will work together with other SAU schools
- SCS uses the SAU mentor program.

GOAL:

Increase rigor throughout the curriculum and clarify, as well as promote, all possible learning opportunities by addressing specific needs identified within each subject area; increasing administrative support for teachers in their pursuit of higher standards; improving communication about extended learning opportunities.

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- SCS will implement Transparent Language foreign language program in 4th and 5th grades, the students select a language and study it for the entire year.

*We will discuss whether we want to invest in this for the 14-15 school year.

- SCS will also offer a comprehensive selection of after-school enrichment opportunities (3 sessions) this year.

*All sessions of our enrichment have been well attended. We are hoping to expand our offerings in the future.

- Explore VLACs opportunities for multiple grade levels

- Renewed commitment to Responsive Classroom
- *Training is scheduled to occur in the summer of 2014.

GOVERNANCE

GOAL:

Investigate shared services provided by SAU 16, specifically technology and facilities related services, to identify ways to improve levels of service and efficiencies. It is recommended that the existing ERCSD Technology and Facilities (including purchasing) committees expand their efforts to focus on these SAU 16-wide shared services with the goal of centralizing/streamlining and improving efficiency.

SCS ACTION PLAN

- UPDATE: SCS works with the SAU technology department, and also uses its own technology technician as much as possible. They work with the facilities department to ensure that the building and grounds are safe and well monitored.

LIFESTYLES

GOALS:

By 2015, SAU 16 schools will provide a healthy environment for our students, faculty, and staff with a yearly inspection of the physical plant for mold, mildew, ventilation, pests, and other environmental problems. The entire school community will treat each other with respect and bullying and other degrading behaviors will not be tolerated. SAU 16 shall continue to provide a breadth of offerings in the arts to address the whole student and their interests and talents.

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Continue to implement a Wellness Policy and committee
- SCS teachers teach the Open Circle program twice a week this year, which builds on the Responsive Classroom program (has been in effect for a number of years). In addition, SCS uses adult modeling.
- SCS is offering chorus and band for Grade 4 and 5 students and has had students involved in art shows and music group presentations. Students are encouraged to demonstrate talent and creativity at our monthly Swasey Shindigs.
- There are a variety of sports students can participate in before or after school, including Jump Rope Club, cross country and snowshoeing. Recess has been extended to 30 minutes a day to ensure outdoor activity whenever possible.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

SCS ACTION PLAN:

- Awareness of Budgetary Planning for Contracted Support Services
- Principal / Psychologist attending NHASEA Academy for Special Education Administrators

*This academy provided strong background for both of us. We've had some increased needs in out of district placement practices.

- Plans for future NH assessment
- Continued work on planning w/ CMS-Transitions-Good work done here