



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Members, Board of Education
FROM: Dr. Carol Kelley, Superintendent
SUBJECT: Formative Assessment for Results (FAR)
DATE: April 26, 2016

Type of Report: Proposal

Preview of purpose and content of report:

The Board of Education is being asked to approve this professional learning opportunity, Formative Assessment for Results (FAR).

Budgetary Impact: To Be Determined

District goals aligned with report: Goal Area 2 (Build Collaborative Expertise)

Our Goal Area 2 tasks and actions were designed to help school-level leaders and grade-level/departmental teams evaluate the impact of instructional practices on the performance of students. We have made great strides this school year in creating a schedule to facilitate the conversations. In terms of our next level of work, we have identified a need to further strengthen the quality of our teacher team meetings (e.g., teachers who share content and common planning time). We believe we can strengthen the quality of our school-based grade-level and departmental team meetings by providing professional development to our team leaders.

The Board of Education is being asked to approve this professional learning opportunity, Formative Assessment for Results (FAR). This is an RBT program that will be provided to every grade level/departmental team leader. By taking this training, our team leaders will learn how to use formative assessment to gauge student progress. Please see the attached white paper for further information about the FAR approach and how it might work in our district.

We will evaluate the success of this training by evaluating the effectiveness of our teacher team meetings; high functioning team meetings serve three main purposes:

- Provide both the support and the accountability for teachers to improve their formative assessment and other closely related practices, such as communicating clear learning targets to students or providing them with effective feedback.
- Provide a place for teachers to plan learning targets and success criteria together, design and collect good diagnostic questions, analyze formative assessment results, and plan action which teachers can implement in their classrooms.
- Offer a place for teachers to reflect on their individual teaching and team practice and its impact on student achievement