



Medford Public School
ISD #763

Medford High School

School Board Report

September 2014

1. Busy Students!

- Student organizations have begun meeting, including Student Council, Art Club, SADD, FFA, BPA, Yearbook, NHS, and Fall Trapshooting
- NHS Induction on 9/23, 8 new members will join the organization!
- Ms. Ridenour is starting a “Tech Tigers” club to train students to help other students tackle technology questions and provide peer tech support

2. Teacher-Learners

- Workshop week included many learning opportunities for our teachers
 - Anti-bullying training
 - Technology & iPad workshops
 - Ramp-Up to readiness training
 - Teacher development & evaluation training

3. Teaching & Learning Team Created

We have formed a voluntary committee of teachers to look at instructional practices and student learning in the high school. We are starting by looking at some of the available data and information to determine what our most immediate instructional needs are and formulate a plan to address them. We are using a book by Mike Schmoker called “Focus: Elevating the Essentials” to help us begin our work. The team will look at how to improve and support instruction in math and literacy (initially) across the secondary. We are in the process of writing goals for the committee and actions plans to achieve those goals. We are also looking at how to best provide enrichment and opportunities to challenge those students that demonstrate excellence in academics. A lot of this work has been done by the Site Team in the past but moving the instructional decisions to a dedicated committee will help lighten the Site Team workload and give us more time to have conversations about sound instructional practices.

4. High School Site Team Goals

- The High School Site Team has established the student achievement goals for this year. Achieving our goals would reduce the achievement gap between Medford and the Minnesota state average by about 50% with a 2-3 year goal of raising scores above the state average.

- **READING GOAL:** 55.3% of secondary students will be proficient on the 2015 MCA reading test
- **MATH GOAL:** 50.2% of secondary students will be proficient on the 2015 MCA math test
- **SCIENCE GOAL:** 41.6% of secondary students will be proficient on the 2015 MCA science test
- The Teaching and Learning Team will begin to formulate action steps and determine strategies, supports, and training in order to help us meet our goals. They will also be looking at establishing grade level targets.

5. Response to Intervention

Our intervention team spent the first week of school working with 7-10th graders to determine individual needs for improving math and reading proficiency. They met on the afternoon of 9/5 and went through available data to determine which students would benefit the most from small group instruction, one-on-one help, and which might be good candidates for enrichment activities. Students in need of additional support are being pulled into 25 minute intervention hours to receive targeted instruction and then assessed every week. Once students have made progress on their goals they are exited from the intervention and new students are brought in for additional help. We are offering both math and reading support to our 7th and 8th graders, reading for 10th graders, and math support for 11th graders.

6. Ramp-Up to Readiness

- We kicked off our year long advisory focus on college and career readiness using the Ramp-Up to Readiness Curriculum on 9/16. All 7-12 students will be working during their advisories throughout the year to look at their college readiness (college in this program means any post-secondary credential, not just Universities) and create plans to achieve their college and career goals. There are 28 activities and 5 workshops that focus on the “Pillars of College and Career Readiness”: Academic Readiness, Admissions Readiness, Career Readiness, Financial Readiness, and Personal and Social Readiness. The curriculum has been provided to us through the University of Minnesota and we are part of a large group study and will be collecting data on the effectiveness of the program throughout the year. I have included an example of one of the 12th Grade Readiness Rubrics that will be used as an attachment.

7. ACT Results

- The number of students taking the ACT was down and the composite score for our students was also down this year (see attached graphs).
- College readiness scores also indicate we have some room for improvement.
- All 11th graders will be taking the test this year and that will provide us with additional data on the college readiness of all of our students.

- Action steps: Through our RtI program, we have identified a small group of 11th grade students that are working on ACT Math and English skills. This will help those students who have the greatest need prepare for the test. Through Naviance we will be offering ACT PrepMe curriculum to help students prepare for the ACT. We are also trying to line up some optional after hours ACT prep/study courses for students to take.
8. Upcoming Assessments (NWEA Changes, OLPA Schedule, ACT)
- Initial OLPA Reading is scheduled for the 1st week of October in order to use the data for our Data Day on 10/15. The OLPA math is scheduled for the week after MEA, so the data will be available for the staff development day on 11/7. This data will be used in combination with growth data we will receive later this month that will allow us to write students goals for low, medium, and high growth.
 - NWEA (MAP) testing will be done in the 9th and 10th grade to give us data to use to track students when there are no state testing data to use.
9. Opportunities for Enrichment
- The Teaching & Learning Team is exploring ways to offer our highest achieving students opportunities for enrichment. We are exploring the creation of a “Zero Hour” class and ACT prep classes.
10. iPad Rollout
- 7th, 8th, 10, & 12th grade roll-out took place on 9/12 and 9/15. Most of the technology worked as expected but we have identified some areas for improvement in future roll-outs.

11. Upcoming Activities

9/23	NHS Induction
9/29-10/3	Homecoming
10/8	All Juniors and Seniors Invited to the College/Career Fair
10/15	Data Day

Respectfully Submitted,
Christopher J. Ovrebo
 Principal, Medford High School
 c_ovrebo@medford.k12.mn.us
 507.214.0359
 @MedfordHS