

Hill City Elementary School

School Improvement Plan At-a-Glance 2021-2022

Overarching Need 1: Students are not reading on grade level.

Goal 1: In FY22 students will demonstrate a 3% increase in ELA on the Georgia Milestones, increasing from 34% to 37% of students in level 3 and 4.

Action Step 1: Implement a rigorous balanced literacy program: Hill City Elementary will implement structured instructional practices within a guided reading format in grades K-4. Regular and special education teachers will continue a book study of Jan Richardson's: *The Next Steps Forward in Guided Reading* in grade level professional learning communities. Individualized-targeted instruction will be address through focused student conferencing within the Growing Readers framework. The academic coach will provide professional learning and instructional support in each area of the balanced literacy block to facilitate coherent instruction. iRead will be used to provide individualized practices that will ensure students master foundational skills such as phonemic awareness, phonics, and fluency, while building essential comprehension in grades kindergarten -second grade. Sound Sensible will be used for building phonemic awareness in Kindergarten and Saxon Phonics will be used in grades K-2 for phonics instruction.

Action Step 2: Personnel to provide additional instructional support: Provide targeted small group instruction to the most at risk students with an additional personnel such as contracted services, paraprofessionals and tutors.

Action Step 3: The school staff will offer semester Parent Academies, take home literacy bags, Community Storytime, and will provide parent fliers to increase parent capacity to help student at home with literacy.

Action Step 4: Integrate technology to support literacy and writing across the curriculum. This includes benchmarking, computer software, and a learning management system.

Action Step 5: Create responsive and nurturing classrooms that enhance literacy instruction. (Behavioral Interventions and SEL programming) The school staff will implement Mindset management techniques to support literacy instructional environment.

Overarching Need 2: There is a lack of conceptual understanding of mathematical concepts.

Goal 2: FY22 students will demonstrate a 3% increase in Math on the Georgia Milestones, increasing from 49% to 52%

Action Step 1: Create lessons to develop conceptual understanding: Teachers will plan lessons in PLC's; lessons will be scaffolded to build contextual understanding focused on the rigor embedded in the content standards and will include the Standards of Mathematical Practice. Lessons will include the use of the Georgia Frameworks and Exemplars and when appropriate the use of manipulatives and pictorial representations to ensure rigor and content mastery. Teachers will continue personalized learning using USA Test Prep, IXL, STAR Math, Dreambox, and other web-based programs. Small group targeted instruction will be provided to the most at-risk students through contracted services, paraprofessionals, and tutors. Lessons will integrate SAMR to enhance multimedia project-based learning. There will be an integration of technology to support the curriculum. This includes benchmarking, computer software, and a learning management system. The Academic Coach will provide professional learning, modeling, and support in all K-4 classrooms as needed. The Academic Coach will collaborate with teachers to improve instructional quality, develop common assessments, and pacing guides. Staff will attend out of district training in content and pedagogy as part of the work of an ongoing PLC to develop math lessons.

Action Step 2: Increase parent engagement. Teachers and staff will continue to share information with parents on tips for Math strategies/games to use with their child at home to continue to develop conceptual understanding. We will provide families with monthly flyers including math strategies to practice at home, and provide upcoming Kindergarteners with transition kits. The kits will assist in building foundational math skills and conceptual understanding.

For a complete copy of the School Improvement Plan or if you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Halko at jenniferhalko@pickenscountyschools.org or by phone at 706-253-1880.