

Bellevue High School Improvement Plan
Bellevue School District
2008/2009

Based on student data, we are addressing the 20 to 25% of our students who are not succeeding at BHS. These students can be defined by several different factors, including: 20-25% of our students are earning at least one D or F on their report card, and 20-25% of our students are not accessing rigorous courses like Advanced Placement. Our improvement plan is based upon increasing teacher efficacy, and therefore, increasing all students' overall performance. This, in turn, will raise student achievement on the WASL.

Our specific goals and action plan for this year support the

- State's Essential Academic Learning Goals: to provide students with opportunities to develop knowledge to read with comprehension, write with skill and communicate effectively; know and apply principles of math, science, social studies, arts, health, fitness; think analytically, form reasoned judgments and solve problems; and understand the importance of work and how performance affects future career opportunities.
- Continuous improvement of student achievement consistent with the state's essential academic learning requirements; and

Goal: Improve instructional practices and support systems to increase student performance, especially those students not meeting the WASL standards in reading, writing and math.

Actions:

1. We are using the data to focus on student achievement and what we can do to narrow the achievement gap. To support struggling students in the honors classes we developed a math support class where students get an additional class period to work on the material learned in their honors class. The support class is taught by their honors teacher.
2. For students new to the district, we have developed a workshop directed at parents and students to focus on:
 - Honors English: Parents and students will learn about the Jane Schaefer writing strategy and how to navigate the particulars involved with the High School English curriculum
 - Honors Math: Parents and students will work with a math teacher to learn about the specifics associated with inquiry-based mathematics and strategies for parents to assist their students with homework, etc.

3. Staff will attend additional workshops for further strategies that can be implemented to support struggling students. For example:
 - Teachers will attend workshops designed to improve instruction and support for English language learners.
 - Teachers will collaborate in the improvement of district-wide curriculum using the curriculum web.
4. The Principals and staff will analyze data regarding the BHS achievement gap and develop on-going strategies to address this gap. Issues of focus will include:
 - Improving the 8th to 9th grade transition for incoming students,
 - Improving the instruction and curriculum in math and science classes
5. Provide Tier 2 or 3 Response to Intervention strategies to grade 9 and 11 students who qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch and who has have at least one D/F:
 - Administration will work with counselors to analyze achievement data as well as SIT evaluations from teachers for these students in order to evaluate areas of strength, challenge, and possible RTI interventions.
 - Administration and counselors will present achievement data, as well as summary strengths, challenges, and the determination for RTI interventions to each student's teacher.
 - Student academic progress and the effectiveness of the RTI interventions will be reviewed every three weeks, with any appropriate modifications or changes to the RTI interventions.

The plan is based on our building's annual self-review, which includes input from staff and parents.

We have evidence, based on staff surveys and our own monitoring, as well as on required school district practices, that our school operates on the following characteristics of high-performing schools:

- Clear and shared focus
- High standards and expectations
- Effective school leadership
- Supportive learning environment
- High levels of community and parent involvement
- Frequent monitoring of teaching and learning
- Focused professional development

Technology and Learning:

As a school district, we use computers and SmartBoards as tools to support student learning, in the same way we use library resources, calculators, or math manipulatives. Bellevue High School students are involved in computer aided video production, computer graphics, AP Computer Science, and web authoring. In addition, they will use Student Response Devices to provide teachers with instantaneous feedback on their learning. Teachers will design web pages to provide student, parent, and community access to their lesson and assignment expectations.

In the Learning Resource Center, students can access district and school data bases for books, periodicals and other resources for projects, reports, and for their personal reading needs. There are two computer labs that teachers may reserve for a class project.

Parent and Community Involvement:

Examples of parent and community involvement that support student learning in our school include: the PDC, PTSA, and VIBES mentors and tutors.
