

ADHS School Improvement Plan Meeting

February 22, 2016

Present: Mr. Shaffer, Ms. Cleveland, Ms. Ruthven, Mr. Harrington, Ms. Childrey, Ms. Pexton, Ms. Price (parent), Ms. Childers (parent), Ms. Evanoff (parent), Ms. Davis (NC State student)

Vision/Value Statements:

- Mr. Shaffer reviewed the proposed Vision Statement:

Athens Drive will facilitate meaningful relationships that ignite student's ability to become knowledgeable and productive members of the community, while eliminating socioeconomic status as a predictor of performance.

- All SIP team members agreed that it was a very strong vision statement, a parent raised the question that by including a statement about “socioeconomic status as a predictor of performance”-parents may conclude that this issue is currently a problem at ADHS. Ms. Cleveland explained the issue is one faced nationally by schools, known as the achievement gap, it is also a sentiment stated directly in the WCPSS Strategic Plan (#2)
- All SIP team members voted to accept the proposed Vision Statement which will be presented to the entire faculty/staff for a final vote
- Mr. Shaffer reviewed the proposed Value Statements:
 1. *Athens Drive will challenge every student with an effective and well supported staff to ensure success for all students.*
 - Unanimous vote to accept
 2. *Athens Drive will provide meaningful 21st century skills and experiences to prepare our students for active participation in the broader community.*
 - Unanimous vote to accept
 3. *Athens Drive will promote effective communication among students, teachers, parents, and community stakeholders.*
 - Unanimous vote to accept

4. *Athens Drive will develop inclusive classrooms reflective of the diversity of our student and staff population.*
 - A SIP team member expressed concern that the word “inclusive” denoted Special Programs students, Ms. Cleveland explained that as educator’s we make that association but for non-educators the word generally implies “acceptance and tolerance”
 - Unanimous vote to accept
5. *Athens Drive students will utilize global thinking skills in an engaging, collaborative learning environment to explore STEM and Medical Sciences.*
 - A parent raised a concern about the STEM and Medical Science terms being included in the value statement wondering if the specificity would be a turn off to students who are neither STEM nor Health Science Academy students. Ms. Cleveland explained that every student at ADHS will feel the effects of the global/medical science magnet status as electives roll out and the magnet theme is integrated into each of the core classes
 - There was a proposal to take the wording out, the SIP team agreed however to alter the wording to include further clarification:
 - *Athens Drive students will utilize global thinking skills in an engaging, collaborative learning environment **and be provided the opportunity** to explore STEM and Medical Sciences.*

Data/Trend Statements:

- Mr. Shaffer and Ms. Cleveland reviewed the importance of acquiring strong data to drive a successful School Improvement Plan
- The SIP team learned how to compose effective data statements to communicate a single idea about student performance including a data source, specific student subgroup, direction of the trend as well as a measurable amount over a set period of time
- Next the SIP team members split into small groups and assessed testing, demographic and discipline data to compose data/trend statements to be present as part of the Comprehensive Needs Assessment

Next Meeting: Monday, March 14, 2016