

# School Improvement Team Meeting 2/14/18

**Attendance:** Loughridge, Watson, White, Bryant, Duncan, Blackburn, Mann, Kirst, Careno, Peasley, Flexman (parent rep), Anderson, Atkinson, Clayton, Crooks, Troxler, Barefoot, Jones, Ferguson (McGhee's student teacher)

Student Reps: Sarsour, Bui

Recap of Early Release Values brainstorming activity: Good data collected, will be reviewed at next meeting

**Quarterly Review:** Identify strengths and areas of concern in groups

## Strengths:

- Math 1 EOC scores up 11% compared to last year
  - Possible reason: New, more student-centered curriculum
- 462 compared to 820 Fs given out (half the number of last year)
  - Possible reason: IMPact helping
- Chemistry, Physical science proficiency gap on report card data is lower than in other courses
- Increased racial diversity in Honors Biology classes this year
- Math 3 and Pre-Cal proficiency rates increased Q1 to Q2
- Sheltered/co-taught subject areas increase LEP proficiency rates
- Student services
  - encouraging students to consider honors courses if they're doing well in academic
  - visit middle schools to meet freshmen one on one

## Areas of concern:

- English 2 EOC lowest score (compared to Math, Bio)
  - Possible reasons
    - Capstone students (100 students) taken out of English 2 EOC
    - More Academic sections in the fall, more honors sections in the spring
    - English EOC is not dependent on content of that particular course but spiraling skills
  - Possible solutions: increased exposure of middle school students to complex texts
- All EOCs: Gap between white and Black, Hispanic subgroups of 30-40%
  - Possible reasons:
    - biased language on tests
    - tests not differentiated as the rest of the course is (academic and honors level take the same demanding exam)
- Graduation gap has narrowed, proficiency gap (exam pass rate) has not
- Absences nearly double from Q1 to Q2
  - Possible reasons: Long-term suspensions: initial 10 days before alternative school
    - Colder weather affects kids who walk to school
    - Students skipping because they don't want to be held for IMPact?
    - ~75% of teachers report attendance daily: absences would increase with higher rate of reporting
  - Possible solutions: Attendance Interventionist: Tony Casarez
- Numerical grade in Honors Bio almost always predicts EOC score, not so in Academic classes
- In all but 2 classes, proficiency rate decreases from Q1 to Q2
- Low proficiency rates in Junior classes such as English 3
  - Possible reasons: Students in AP classes won't take EOCs
- LEPs less successful

- Minority students feel uncomfortable in Honors/AP classes
  - Possible solution
    - Student services recommending more Honors/AP
    - AP Capstone course's commitment to diversity

### **Priority concern: Attendance**

Root causes:

- Revised / lax county policy
- Colder weather
- Sickness (Multiple absences for flu)
- Long-term suspensions
- Parents make appointments during school hours
  - Possible reason: changing schedules make it hard to know when is a good time to miss
  - Unavailability of appointments other times
- School's policy on make-up work allows students to take extra time on projects

Attendance Data Requests:

- broken down by subgroup
- separated into normal absence vs. absent because suspended