



Pleasantdale Elementary/Middle School Improvement Plan

Mission Statement: *Ensure that each student is a passionate learner empowered with the academic and social skills to responsibly choose and excel in life pursuits.*



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Background

Pleasantdale School District

Pleasantdale School District 107 is located in the western suburbs of Illinois and serves all or part of the communities of Burr Ridge, Countryside, Indian Head Park, Willow Springs, and LaGrange. Our 833 students are served by two schools, Pleasantdale Elementary School, which serves grades Pre-K through 4, and Pleasantdale Middle School, which serves grades 5 through 8.

We are proud of our schools and the learning environment we have created for our students. In this report, you will find detailed information about our school



improvement goals. Our schools follow a model of continuous improvement which means we are always seeking new ways to improve the student experience. Our goals are written using the SMART Goals format (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) and are directly related to our District Goals

and priorities. Below is specific information about each of our schools

Pleasantdale Elementary School

Pleasantdale Elementary School is comprised of 480 students in preschool through 4th grade. Staff members are dedicated to making the learning process exciting, engaging, and as beneficial as possible. We strive to instill passion for lifelong learning in our students. Regardless of where they begin, we want our students to show at least a year's growth academically, socially, and emotionally over the course of the school year. To help students achieve this goal, the school offers a variety of services including Reading Explorers, Reading Lab, After School Math Club, ELL, Rainbows, and enrichment services.

To assure student growth, the building uses assessments including MAP, AIMSweb, and Fountas & Pennell. Students at Pleasantdale Elementary School demonstrate

consistent growth and performance that exceeded national norms. Assessment data is used to identify areas of improvement and generate actions to address students' needs. This is a collaborative, flexible, and ongoing process. The staff understands that goal-achievement requires ownership and a determined common focus. This understanding and goal setting process leads to better student outcomes. Consistency of instructional materials and methods across the grade level and from one grade level to the next is essential to maximize learning.

The Social Emotional Learning (SEL) component is an essential part of each child's



growth at Pleasantdale Elementary School. Staff and parents know students do well when they feel safe, confident, and happy. Although our SEL theme changes every year, the learning goals and basic structure remain fairly constant. Our theme this year is "Superheroes - I learn. What is your superpower?" We use this theme to reinforce our code of conduct, *The Eagle Way*. This code of conduct is consistently communicated in classrooms, hallways, busses, etc. and in situations such as assemblies, field

trips, and all other school activities. It works very well because it is simple and consistent all over the building.

The Eagle Way

Be Safe

Be Respectful

Be Responsible

Elementary students have numerous opportunities to get involved in fine arts and other extracurricular activities. Activities include After School Math Club, Chess Club, Battle of the Books, Intramurals, Lego Club, Cheerleading, Pen Pal Club, Student Council, Coding Club, Spelling Bees, Concerts, and 4th grade Band/Orchestra.

Pleasantdale Middle School

Pleasantdale Middle School is a comprehensive, high achieving Middle School, with 385 students enrolled across Grades 5-8. The daily schedule is comprised of nine class periods, and students participate in the following classes: two periods of English and Language Arts, Science, Math, Social Studies, Spanish, Physical Education, and Specials, which include annually three of the following: Art, Health, General Music, Computers (Grade 5) and STEM. Advanced curriculum is provided in all English and Language Arts classes and Accelerated Curriculum is provided in Math, including Geometry courses at the local High School. Interventions are provided through a well developed multi-tiered system of support, led by a full-time Rtl Facilitator and School Social Worker. Targeted interventions are provided through Math and Reading lab classes. Additional supports include after school programs (Tutor Club) and subject specific study halls. Students participate weekly in Homeroom/Advisory activities centered around Social and Emotional Learning Standards.

Student performance on State level assessments has traditionally been well above the state average, with most students meeting or exceeding standards, as measured by PARCC. Our graduating students have performed equally well in high school, with over 80% of the Class of 2015 being recognized with honor roll achievement. Student placement in upper level classes and overall grade performance matched or exceeded that of other area feeder schools at Lyons Township High School. In 2015-16, student performance in the benchmark assessment, STAR, exceeded national standards in reading and math. This trend has continued in the recently adopted assessment, the NWEA MAP, with students on the Fall of 2016 assessment exceeding national standards in reading and math.



In addition to a rich academic program, Pleasantdale Middle School boasts a strong co-curricular and athletic program, available to all students. Various clubs and activities



are developed by faculty members, based upon students' responses to interest surveys, and are available to students three times per week. Sample activities include such items as: fishing, cooking, art, gardening, chess, STEM, and a wide variety of intramural activities. Competitive athletics are offered at grades 7 & 8, and our students compete against other area Middle Schools in Boys and Girls Cross Country (grades 5-8), Basketball, Softball, Volleyball, and Soccer.

The School Improvement Plan is developed collaboratively with the engagement of the full staff. Goals are developed that complement and align with the District identified goals, specifying the role of the middle school in achieving these targets. These goals are shared and refined through full staff and grade level team meetings. Goals are measured and monitored throughout the course of the year through full staff and grade level meetings.



School Improvement Plan: Pleasantdale Elementary School

Goal Area 1: Communication
Goal Statement: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Improved communication tools and techniques will be implemented and refined during the 2016-2017 school year.
Timeline: Fall 2016 - Spring 2017
Measures: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Staff members will respond favorably to communications provided through administration, Lead Teachers, Schoology and other regular communications.2. Parents will respond favorably to communications provided through administration, staff.3. Schoology will be implemented where appropriate at least at the basic level of communication for newsletters, homework or upcoming class activities.4. Blogs will be posted weekly by the Administration, following the district developed communication plan.
Deliverables: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 5 Essentials and School Perceptions survey data from staff and parents will be analyzed by staff and administration to determine success of this goal.2. 80% of the staff will respond favorably to highly favorably regarding communication.3. Regular communications will reflect decisions made and input provided at Grade level meetings, allowing all staff members the opportunity to engage in the dialogue.

Goal Area 2: Climate and Morale
Goal Statement: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Increased opportunities for shared leadership and staff input into the decision making process will be fostered through the continuation of Lead Teacher meetings and regular TAP/Administration meetings.



<p>2. Lead Teachers and administration will identify school goal related trainings at each staff meeting.</p>
<p>Timeline: Fall 2016 - Spring 2017</p>
<p>Measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Additional leadership opportunities will be offered to staff members through grade level, Lead Teacher, and staff meetings. 2. Continuation of a building level committee including membership of the building Association membership and administration. Regular meetings will be established, with mutually developed agendas that focus on best addressing issues that impact the climate and culture of the building. 3. Lead Teachers will continue to generate opportunities for shared leadership through bi-monthly meetings, focusing on the development of monthly staff meeting agendas, building goals, and other building/grade level staff issues and growth opportunities. 4. Regular communication tools will be utilized to engage all staff members in the collaborative discussions, informing them of decisions reached at individual teams and committees and inviting engagement in future processes. (e.g. Matt’s Minutes, emails, social media)
<p>Deliverables:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 5 Essentials and School Perceptions survey data from staff and parents will be analyzed by staff and administration to determine success of this goal. 2. 80% of the staff will respond favorably to highly favorably regarding the climate of the building and learning environment.

School Improvement Plan: Pleasantdale Middle School

<p>Goal Area 1: Student Growth and Assessment</p>
<p>Goal Statement: New student assessment tools, NWEA MAP and CoGAT, will be utilized to further refine and develop the building Multi Tiered System of Support (MTSS); provide a platform for student goal setting; assist with identification of students for higher level classroom instruction in ELA and Math.</p>
<p>Timeline:</p>



Fall 2016 - Spring 2017
Measures <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Data reviews will be conducted three times annually following assessments, with recommended student supports/transitions implemented. 2. Using the District 107 professional development form, 75% of the teachers will rate provided professional development at the district level on the NWEA MAP assessment as a 4 or 5 on a 5 point scale. 75% of the staff members will respond favorably to highly favorable regarding the training, support, and understanding of Tiered Interventions and support provided.
Deliverables <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Student data will be analyzed by grade level teams in order to best determine level of supports and services for students with identified gaps. 2. Training will be provided to staff members to provide a greater understanding of the NWEA MAP scores, interpretation of the data, and developing individual learning targets. 3. Teachers (ELA and Math) will assist their students in developing individual learning goals and targets from the NWEA MAP data. 4. Ongoing training will be provided to staff members at building level meetings and with individualized consultation with the Reading/RtI specialist regarding Tiered interventions within the classroom (Tier II) 5. Data reviews will be conducted in the spring with ELA and Math grade level staff members in order to identify instructional levels for students, with information shared with parents mid-May regarding placement.

Goal Area 2: Communications and Community Engagement
Goal Statement: New communication tools and methods will be employed for parent, student and staff communications in the 2016-17 school year.
Timeline: Fall 2016 - Spring 2017
Measures: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. 75% of the families responding to district level surveys will respond favorably to highly favorable to provided communications at the building level regarding blogs, Facebook, Schoology, and other communication tools used.

6. Blogs will be posted weekly by the Administration, following the district developed communication plan.
7. 75% of the staff members will respond favorably to the communications provided through Schoology and regular communications.
8. All staff members will be utilizing Schoology at least at the basic level of communication for homework and upcoming class activities.

Deliverables:

1. Weekly blogs, regular Facebook posts, and other communication channels will be utilized to inform parents about school event and activities; educate regarding key district initiatives; and provide opportunities to advance Social and Emotional Learning through shared supports and communications.
2. Schoology will be utilized to provide staff members with easy access to key documents, daily events, and online resources.
3. Schoology will be utilized by staff members in order to better communicate class/grade level events, homework, and class activities/communications.

Goal Area 3: Curricular/Program Improvements

Goal Statement:

Curricular and program improvements will be explored/implemented during the 2016-17 school year in the following areas: Math, Talented and Gifted, Science, and Grade Reporting.

Timeline:

Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

Measures

1. A primary resource will be identified to best support student instruction in Math for implementation in the 2017-18 school year.
2. Science Staff members at the Middle School will report full understanding of the Next Generation Science Standards.

Deliverables:

1. Math programs will be piloted at all grade levels in order to identify the best

program to support student instruction.

2. The recently revised Talented and Gifted Program (TAG) will be implemented with fidelity in order to best place students in instructional classes.
3. Staff members and administrators will participate in a convened study of our current grading system and the implementation of a standards based reporting (report card) system.
4. Science teachers will complete level two NGSS training. Units of study will be implemented to meet the national science standards.

Goal Area 4: Social Emotional Learning and Positive Student Behaviors

Goal Statement:

Social Emotional Learning standards (SEL) will be integrated into all curricular areas in order to best support student SEL learning targets and promote positive student behaviors.

Timeline:

Fall 2016 - Spring 2017

Measures:

1. Middle school staff members will respond favorably on staff survey related to teaching students positive behaviors, SEL programs and provided program resources and tools.
2. Students will respond favorably to surveys regarding identified school climate issues related to SEL and the school environment.

Deliverables:

1. Representatives from each grade level will coordinate SEL programs and services throughout the school year to assure SEL learning targets are addressed.
2. Professional Development will be provided to all staff members regarding the SEL standards and identified building supports and programs.
3. The MTSS (Multi Tiered System of Support) committee will revise/update the resources and behavior guidelines and provide the staff with ongoing training and supports to promote positive student behaviors.

