

Community Conversation Project

NEA Regional Shareholders
Harrisburg, Arkansas

October 27, 2008

Handout I. Understanding the Five-Point Action Agenda fro the Whole Child

Facilitator: Dr. Matt McClure

1. Now that you have seen the five-point agenda, what are some of the things that public schools in your community are doing to ensure this whole child approach?

Safe- Resource officers, SRO officers, closed campuses, Crisis drills

Health- School nurses, health fair, ACSIP, wellness committee, fresh fruit every week

Social Workers, Anti-Bullying policy, Resource Officer, Church that tutors students, Health/Wellness, Achievement GAP, Parental Engagement, PAC Meeting, Outside Organizations, Cont. Programs, Robotics Engineers, Testing, Explore, PLAN, Kudu, Benchmark, College Friends, Breakfast, weekend backpacking

Safety-SRO Officers (local law enforcement), uniforms for students, school crisis plan, I.D. badges

Health- Immunizations, health screens, breakfast plan, grandparent volunteers

Wellness program - food service managers analyze menu, nurse, DE, fresh fruit/vegetable grant, mental health workers, and tobacco grant

Engaged – PD for making learning relevant, mentoring programs for students, standards based instruction

Healthy – PE, nurses keep up with all health issues,

Challenge – not challenging everyone, wouldn't have as much dropping out

Safe – schools are too open; need more buses (buses too crowded)

Engagement – no, too many tardies

Supportive – super! Jumpstart all adults interest community

Health – vision screening, dentist come into schools to pick up children, nurses, mental health therapist, breakfast/school day/summer, Health Wellness committees on campuses

Safety – social workers in schools, school resource officers, focus on higher level thinking

2. What is missing?

Doing all these things, evaluation, parental involvement

Lack of engagement (student), parental involvement, the relevance of the curriculum

Relevance & engagement in real-world tasks

Safety could be improved, not challenging enough, too many tardies

Parental involvement, too much pressure on teacher for personal contact with children, relevance, engagement, accountability

3. One Big Idea*

Parental involvement to keep kids healthy partnerships
Trying to do too many things unfunded, manpower, time
Doing some of each
Engagement / relevance
We are addressing each area but none of these are fully developed

4. This is what your group will report out to the larger group. Please capture a key point or theme of major importance to your group.

Parental involvement
C-challenge
H-health
E-engagement
S-sage
S-support
CHESS!

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Handout 3. The Legislative Agenda

Facilitator: Dr. Matt McClure

1. Now that you have seen possible issues to be addressed during the legislative session what do you believe will be the most important for impacting teaching and learning for your school/community?

End of Course if students don't pass will not get credit for class
Subgroup Population
Transportation and fuel impact on budget

Leadership development – as experienced administration are leaving who are coming up to replace them?

EVC testing, supplemental services, reliability of the test, ACSIP window-submission/approval, uniform calendar for all schools

NCLB-revamp, unfunded mandates

AYP subgroup, algebra I and Algebra II Gap, Transportation funding

NCLB reauthorization, testing dates, sub groups, college scholarships

Sub pop number, Pre-AP concurrent, staff & student issues confusion, Literacy test scores

Health Insurance, ACT 35, Supplemental service, transportation

Health Insurance

2. What major changes would you like to see?

NCLB Reauthorization

100% on test

Subgroups-if one group is removed from SI another subgroup will not keep you in SI

Subgroup changes where we can be like the other states

Sp. Ed., count one time in sub-population

The whole assessment system

Funding, Test Sp. Ed. @ IEP label

Sp. Ed.

Move emphasis on growth of child

ACT 35

Algebra II, EOC (Disconnect between the course and the EOC)
EOC retake/testing/credit issues

8th grade testing

If they move it to 9th grade, no problem

Prof. tied to graduation!

One test to determine credit for class

3. One Big Idea*

Making 100% proficiency on test unrealistic

AYP Subgroups- keep kids in school and give credit where credit is due!

The Big Issue for most schools is transportation costs and health insurance. Can't do supplemental field trips which has an impact on learning

Consistency, curriculum, calendar, test reliability etc.

Help with health insurance

AYP Subgroups – Use common sense in revamping

Need more consistency across the state?

Unrealistic Goals

Focus on students NOT regulations

4. This is what your group will report out to the larger group. Please capture a key point or theme of major importance to your group.

Insurance – teacher concern

Transportation – district concern

Use common sense in making changes

Count GED in graduation rate (like other states). No assessment between 8th grade

Benchmark, & EOC Lit

Lack of monitoring of home-schooling

Time-line of approval of ACSIP plans – quicker return for revision

State school calendar

NCLB – mandates test 1 area in 9-12, but AR tests 3 areas

Graduation tied to proficiency of EOC tests

GED dropout rate

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Handout 2. Professional Development Resource and IDEAS

Facilitator: Deborah Coffman

1. What has been your knowledge of IDEAS and have you been using the resource?

Co-op's, used during summer retreat, some districts using for PD hours, especially late attendees

PD website, ID number, some schools have policy about number of hours used for teachers not teacher to keep license current, use for PGP Accessible, M to H percentage

Offers professional development, used for technology

Number of times – use of limited basis, PD tool-kit, getting better all the time, many used for technology PD

Familiar, IDEAS to search information-to reinforce, encouraged everyone to register, staff development on how to use it, good for group that never want to go to PD

Fair to Middle – How do we get word out?

2. Do you feel that your school district or community could use the information provided? What would be two or three ways to use this resource you believe would be most helpful?

EETT Grant-part of PD (technology) is on-line {in cadres}, literacy groups take course on-line before implementing in class (watch some examples), Meet PD requirements / Build Professional Growth Plans

Professional learning communities, uses to supplement, to get big ideas, must be self motivated, more supportive in group setting

Accessible, Retired teacher, New hires, PGP

Offers professional development, used for technology

IC Maps, Great tool for teachers who can't attend PD, Good if used correctly, Great if used with a facilitator

Provide PD for staff that do not like to go to PD, Specific PD to your needs, Targeted PD, Teacher Improvement Plans

Secondary Source, What to improve? Reflection

3. One Big Idea*

Can be used to help individualize PG plans and provide resources to support that growth

We have to move familiar, Focus on needs & get PD with purpose, Making time to learn how to use effectively

Meet Individual needs of teacher Links to PGP

Customized Professional Development on your own

Great resource if used correctly and monitored

PD for Individual Needs

Mandated and Unfunded PE teachers

4. This is what your group will report out to the larger group. Please capture a key point or theme of major importance to your group.

Versatile ? Focused PD

Not passing EOC, Sub-group different each year