



**Indiana
Department of Education**

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School Quality Review Report:

Medora Jr. and Sr. High School

Review Date: April 15-17, 2014

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School Quality Review First Priorities

Medora Jr. and Senior High School

The following First Priorities should be addressed in school improvement planning and be included in your Student Achievement Plan with appropriate interventions aligned to the Turnaround Principles cited:

Turnaround Principle 1 School Leadership:

1. Develop intentional processes that address accountability and expectations.
2. Communicate and model high expectations for students and staff.
3. Professional development and classroom walk-throughs need to be utilized to improve staff understanding of active learning and student engagement strategies.
4. Relevant and meaningful lessons aligned to College and Career Ready State Standards need to be consistently delivered.
5. Revisit the RISE evaluation process and discuss the expectations for staff; monitor progress of staff and provide regular feedback to staff regarding performance.
6. Provide staff with targeted professional development aligned to needs according to the data collected from formative assessments and observations/classroom walk-throughs.

Turnaround Principle 3 Instruction:

1. Develop and implement an effective instructional process that includes:
 - a. Data-driven decision-making
 - b. Intentional use of curriculum and pacing guides

Turnaround Principle 4 Curriculum, Assessment and Intervention:

1. Design the after school program to include remediation and interventions that address individual student needs identified through formative and summative assessments.
2. Align curriculum with the adopted College and Career Ready State Standards.

3. Create pacing guides and calendars to ensure instruction, intervention, and assessment are all tightly aligned.
4. Develop a Master Schedule that allows for intervention and enrichment.

Turnaround Principle 6 Effective Use of Data:

1. Identify data points: ISTEP, ECA, Acuity, STAR, DIBELS
 - a. Determine the strengths and weaknesses identified in data
 - b. Determine intentional targets for instruction and intervention from data
 - c. Design an instructional and Response to Intervention program that align to the targeted areas for improvement.

Information about the School Quality Review

In 1999, the Indiana General Assembly enacted Public Law 221 (P.L. 221) which serves as Indiana's accountability model for schools and districts. In response to the accountability process, the State Board of Education developed a requirement that schools in year four of probationary or "F" status participate in the School Quality Review process to assist with identifying priorities for school improvement.

The goal of the School Quality Review is to identify the school's strengths and areas needing immediate improvement. Reviewers examined school data and survey information, observed every classroom, interviewed stakeholder groups and interviewed every staff member with standardized questions to identify areas for reinforcement or correction. Additionally, reviewers worked collaboratively before, during, and after the on-site visit to review and prepare findings. Schools were directed to include first priorities in their School Improvement Plans.

To provide reliable and high-quality feedback to the schools, a rigorous training process was followed for all review team members. Additionally, all reviewers were trained in the Effective Learning Environments Observation Tool (ELEOT) from AdvancED and were able to identify best instructional practices. Reviewers reviewed survey and school data information before the on-site visit. Interview questions were also selected before the visit and were revised as necessary throughout the visit to allow the reviewers to obtain reliable and verifiable feedback.

In preparing the School Quality Review Report, the reviewers used the Quality School Review Rubric Indicators and Rubric to indicate progress on the 8 Federal Turnaround Principles for Priority Schools. The Turnaround Principles have been identified by the US Department of Education (USED) as being critical to the success of turning around a struggling school. The reviewers examined evidence provided by the school leadership team as well as school data to make determinations of highly effective, effective, improvement necessary or ineffective for each of the indicators for the turnaround principles. After reviewing the rubric ratings, the review team designated, "First Priorities" based on the areas needing to be addressed first in school improvement planning. While many ineffective areas may be discussed in the report, the team wanted to prioritize improvement areas and assist the school in identifying next steps for immediate action.

Indiana Department of Education Outreach staff will continue to monitor and support educators with implementing first priorities in School Improvement and Student Achievement Plans in all year four schools to ensure the review team's findings and recommendations are implemented with fidelity.

Quality School Review Rubric Indicators

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 1: Ensure that the principal has the ability to lead the turnaround effort. Under the definition of “turnaround principles” in the document titled ESEA flexibility, an LEA that has reviewed the performance of the current principal in a priority school and determined that it would like to retain that principal to lead the turnaround effort must “demonstrate to the SEA that the current principal has a track record in improving achievement and has the ability to lead the turnaround effort” The SEA has the responsibility of ensuring that an LEA has either made this demonstration or replaced the principal for each priority school that is implementing interventions aligned with the turnaround principles. The principal review that is required to meet the turnaround principle regarding providing strong leadership in a priority school is fairly narrow and is conducted for the specific purpose of determining whether the principal has the ability to lead the turnaround effort.

INDICATORS

1.1	The principal uses data to establish a coherent vision that is understood and supported by the entire school community
1.2	The principal develops and promotes a coherent strategy and plan for implementing the school vision, which includes clear measurable goals, aligned strategies and a plan for monitoring progress and driving continuous improvement.
1.3	The principal uses data to work collaboratively with staff to maintain a safe, orderly and equitable learning environment.
1.4	The principal communicates high expectations to staff, students and families, and supports students to achieve them.
1.5	The principal ensures that a rigorous and coherent standards-based curriculum and aligned assessment system are implemented with fidelity.
1.6	The principal ensures that classroom level instruction is adjusted based on formative and summative results from aligned assessments.
1.7	The principal uses informal and formal observation data and on-going student learning outcome data to monitor and improve school-wide instructional practices and ensure the achievement of learning goals for all students (including SWD and ELLs).
1.8	The principal ensures that the schedule is intentionally aligned with the school improvement plan in order to meet the agreed upon school level learning goals.
1.9	The principal effectively employs staffing practices (recruitment and selection, assignment, shared leadership, job-embedded professional development, observations with meaningful instructional feedback, evaluation, tenure review) in order to continuously improve instructional and meet student learning goals.
1.10	The principal uses data and research-based best practices to work with staff to increase academically-focused family and community engagement.

SCHOOL CLIMATE & CULTURE

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 2: Establish a school environment that supports the social, emotional, and learning needs of all students. To determine which non-academic services or activities will be appropriate and useful under this principle, an LEA should examine the needs of students in a priority school. Based on the results of that examination, an LEA might choose to carry out a number of activities to address emotional, and health needs; implementing approaches that improve school climate and discipline such as implementing a system of positive behavioral interventions and supports or taking steps to eliminate bullying and student harassment; or initiating a community stability program to reduce the mobility rate of students in the school.

INDICATOR

2.1	The school community supports a safe, orderly and equitable learning environment.
2.2	The school community maintains a culture that values learning and promotes the academic and personal growth of students and staff.
2.3	High expectations* are communicated to staff, students and families; students are supported to achieve them. <i>*Expectations of professionalism, instruction, communication and other elements of the school's common teaching framework to staff; Expectations of attendance, academic performance, behavior, postsecondary attainment, etc. to families</i>

EFFECTIVE INSTRUCTION

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 3: Ensure that teachers utilize research-based, rigorous and effective instruction to meet the needs of all students and aligned with State Standards. As part of meeting the turnaround principle regarding strengthening the school's instructional program based on student needs, and LEA may choose to improve the school's kindergarten or preschool program so that it is research-based, rigorous, and aligned with State Standards.

INDICATORS

3.1	Teachers ensure that student-learning objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely, and are aligned to the standards-based curriculum.
3.2	Teachers use multiple instructional strategies and multiple response strategies that actively engage and meet student learning needs.
3.3	Teachers use frequent checks for understanding throughout each lesson to gauge student learning, and to inform, monitor and adjust instruction.
3.4	Teachers demonstrate necessary content knowledge.
3.5	Teachers demonstrate the necessary skills to use multiple measures of data, including the use of diagnostic, formative and summative assessment data, to differentiate instruction to improve student achievement.
3.6	Teachers hold high expectations for all students academically and behaviorally as evidenced in their practice.

CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT, AND INTERVENTION SYSTEM

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 4: Ensure that teachers have the foundational documents and instructional materials needed to teach to the rigorous college- and career-ready standards.

INDICATORS

4.1	The district or school curriculum is aligned with the Common Core Ready State Standards (CCRSS).
4.2	Teachers and school leaders collect classroom level data to verify that the adopted and aligned CCSS curriculum is the “taught” curriculum.
4.3	The district provides formative assessments in literacy and math to enable teachers to effectively gauge student progress and inform instructional decisions at the classroom and team levels.
4.4	Instructional materials and resources are aligned to the standards-based curriculum documents.
4.5	An intervention plan designed to meet the learning needs of students who are two or more years behind in ELA and Mathematics is planned, monitored and evaluated for effectiveness based on defined student learning goals.

EFFECTIVE STAFFING PRACTICES

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 5: Develop skills to better recruit, retain and develop effective teachers.

INDICATORS

5.1	Hiring timelines and processes allow the school to competitively recruit effective teachers.
5.2	School leadership uses teacher evaluation to provide feedback for improving classroom practices, informing professional development and increasing learning outcomes
5.3	Teachers are provided professional development that enables them to continuously reflect, revise, and evaluate their classroom practices to improve learning outcomes in both a structured collaborative setting and individually.
5.4	Staff assignment is intentional to maximize the opportunities for all students to have access to the staff's instructional strengths.

ENABLING the EFFECTIVE USE of DATA

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 6: Ensure the school-wide use of data focused on improving teaching and learning. Examples of data that an LEA may consider include: student outcome data, such as student achievement data, graduation rates, dropout rates, student attendance rates, percentage of students completing advanced coursework, discipline incidents, truants, distribution of teachers by performance level on the LEA's teacher evaluation and support system, and teacher attendance rate. An LEA may also wish to examine the results of formative or interim assessments to help improve classroom instruction.

INDICATORS

6.1	Multiple forms of data are presented in user-friendly formats and in a timely manner to drive all decisions for improving climate and culture.
6.2	Multiple forms of data are presented in user-friendly formats in a timely manner to drive all decisions for improving student achievement.
6.3	A specific schedule and process for the analysis of on-going formative assessment data tied to the CCRSS aligned curriculum that includes the specific goals for improvement, defined strategies, progress monitoring and evaluation.

EFFECTIVE USE of TIME

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 7: Redesign time to better meet student and teacher learning needs and increase teacher collaboration focusing on improving teaching and learning. An LEA has flexibility in determining how to meet the turnaround principle regarding redesigning the school day, week, or year in a priority school. An LEA should examine the current use of time in the school and redesign the school day, week, or year based on the particular needs of the school. For example, an LEA may choose to add time to the school day or add days to the school year. However, an LEA is not required to add time; it may also redesign the school day by for example, moving to block scheduling to reduce transition time between classes and increase instructional time.

INDICATORS

7.1	The master schedule is clearly designed and structured to meet the needs of all students.
7.2	The master schedule is clearly designed to meet the intervention needs of all students who are two or more years behind in ELA or Mathematics.
7.3	The master schedule is clearly structured and designed to meet the professional development needs of staff.

EFFECTIVE FAMILY and COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TURNAROUND PRINCIPLE 8: Increase academically focused family and community engagement. An LEA might conduct a community-wide assessment to identify the major factors that significantly affect the academic achievement of students in the school, including an inventory of the resources in the community and the school that could be aligned, integrated, and coordinated to address these challenges. An LEA might choose to establish organized parent groups, hold public meetings involving parents and community members to review school performance and help develop school improvement plans, use surveys to gauge parent and community satisfaction and support, implement complaint procedures for families, coordinate with local social and health service providers to help meet student and family needs, provide wraparound services for students, or provide parent education classes (including GED, adult literacy, and EL programs).

INDICATORS

8.1	Families are engaged in academically related activities, school decision-making, and an open exchange of information regarding students' progress in order to increase student learning for all students.
8.2	Community groups and families of students who are struggling academically and/or socially are active partners in the educational process and work together to reduce barriers and accelerate the academic and personal growth of students.

Turnaround Principle # 1 Title: School Leadership

Circle the Overall Rating: **1 Ineffective** 2 Improvement Necessary 3 Effective 4 Highly Effective

Description of Improvement Necessary Areas:

1.1 The principal uses data to establish a coherent vision that is understood and supported by the entire school community; 1.2 The principal develops and promotes a coherent strategy and plan for implementing the school vision, which includes clear measurable goals, aligned strategies and a plan for monitoring progress and driving continuous improvement; 1.3 The principal uses data to work collaboratively with staff to maintain a safe, orderly and equitable learning environment; 1.10 The principal uses data and research-based best practices to work with staff to increase academically focused family and community engagement.

Actionable Statement: The principal will use data to establish a coherent vision that is understood and supported by 100% of the school community. The principal will develop a plan for monitoring progress toward continuous improvement.

Evidence from Data:

- Surveys do not support a rating of effective due to lack of evidence that the entire school community supports, implements, or understands the school mission.
- Surveys do suggest that some staff and community support, implement, and understand the school mission.
- School Improvement Plan does not involve the whole school community (Select staff are responsible for developing the plan and other staff are not part of the development of the plan)
- Formative assessment data is present but not clearly defined for all
- Little or no data to support family and community engagement. Limited community involvement with limited parent involvement.

Evidence from Observations:

- The principal supports and encourages structures such as PTOs, and parent groups.
- The principal has some partnerships with organizations within the community.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Some staff know about the school improvement plan and other staff indicate they know there is one but they were not involved in the development of the plan
- School mission/vision can be articulated by some of staff when asked, however not all know the school vision/mission
- School Improvement Plan is not consistently referenced and revisited by the whole school community
- Not everyone follows the school mission/vision
- Some staff members are unsure of the development of the plan and who develops it.
- Staff members indicate behavior is a significant barrier that keeps teachers from being able to teach.

Description of Ineffective Areas:

The following areas have been rated ineffective and need immediate attention:

1.4 The principal communicates high expectations to staff, students, and families, and supports students to achieve them; 1.5 The principal ensures that a rigorous and coherent standards-based curriculum and aligned assessment system are implemented with fidelity; 1.6 The principal ensures that classroom level instruction is adjusted based on formative and summative results from aligned assessments; 1.7 The principal uses informal and formal observation data and ongoing student learning outcome data to monitor and improve school-wide instructional practices and ensure the achievement of learning goals for all students (including students with disabilities and English Learners); 1.8 The principal ensures that the schedule is intentionally aligned with the school improvement plan in order to meet the agreed upon school level learning goals; 1.9 The principal effectively employs staffing practices (recruitment and selection, assignment, shared leadership, job-embedded professional development, observations with meaningful instructional feedback, evaluation) in order to continuously improve instruction and meet learning goals.

Evidence from Data:

- Student achievement data has remained low for several years and students have not demonstrated growth.
- Walkthrough data is not aligned to School Improvement Plan
- The Master Schedule reflects a lack of course offerings (CTE, AP, Dual Credit, Vocational Education)

Evidence from Observations:

- Very few parents are seen throughout a given school day in the building and very few parents attend school activities.
- Students are not engaged in classroom instruction consistently from classroom to classroom.
- Best instructional practices are missing in most classes at the secondary level.
- Lessons are not aligned to standards and do not appear to follow a curriculum map.
- Staff expectations are low for students.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Several staff stated that it is difficult to get parents and community involved in the school.
- Several teachers indicated that staff is not held accountable to implement best practices and follow-through is a continual problem.
- Teachers indicated they did not follow a curriculum map.
- Teachers indicated a need for targeted professional development to assist them with improving instruction and behavior management.
- During interviews, many staff indicated that students at Medora were “poor” and had issues that prevented them from being able to learn. The needs of the community are often cited as a reason students are low performing. The staff has low expectations for students.
- Staff also indicated that even their “best” students leave Medora unprepared for life after high school and students often require remediation in college, due to a lack of rigor at Medora.

Summary of First Priorities that need to be intentionally addressed in your School Improvement Plan:

The School Quality Review Team had serious concerns about the need to provide more direct leadership and supervision to the staff at Medora. The following areas need to be addressed in school improvement planning:

1. Develop intentional processes that address accountability and expectations.
2. Communicate and model high expectations for students and staff.
3. Professional development and classroom walk-throughs need to be utilized to improve staff understanding of active learning and student engagement strategies.
4. Relevant and meaningful lessons aligned to College and Career Ready State Standards need to be consistently delivered.
5. Revisit the RISE evaluation process and discuss the expectations for staff; monitor progress of staff and provide regular feedback to staff regarding performance.
6. Provide staff with targeted professional development aligned to needs according to the data collected from formative assessments and observations/classroom walk-throughs.

Turnaround Principle # 2

Title: School Climate and Culture

Circle the Overall Rating:

1 Ineffective

2 Improvement Necessary

3 Effective

4 Highly Effective

Description of Improvement Necessary Areas:

The following area (in italics) has been identified as needing improvement based upon observations and interviews of parents, students, and staff.

2.1 The school community supports a *safe, orderly and equitable* learning environment. Medora Jr. and Sr. High School is safe and clean, with very few facility issues.

Evidence from Data:

- From parent surveys, only 50% of parents felt that the school was effective at maintaining a safe, orderly and comfortable environment for parents and students.
- Parent surveys indicate that only 48% feel welcome, supported and actively involved in the school.

Evidence from Observations:

- The school building is safe and clean.
- Teachers and students take pride in their school.
- There is a clear sign-in process for students and parents and safety procedures are in place.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Academic learning time is respected with minimal interruptions.
- The school is very welcoming.
- Because the school is small, the staff is familiar with students and their families.
- Teachers are caring and help to resolve situations with students. They try to have relationships with the students.
- Bullying is really not an issue at the school, but some students misbehave by not showing respect or self-control. The students indicated that the Principal and teachers are available to help if needed.
- Students stated that the expectations are to be respectful at all time, be safe, responsible and caring, and get good grades.
- Parents are utilized as substitute teachers, which increases the family-like culture.
- The school has an electronic entry (with a buzzer) as well as cameras to monitor actions in the school. They also have a police officer that is seen in the building.

Description of Ineffective Areas:

The following area (in italics) has been identified as ineffective as a result of observations and interviews.

2.1 The school community supports a *safe, orderly and equitable learning* environment; 2.2 the school community maintains a culture that values learning and promotes the academic and personal growth of students and staff.

Evidence from data:

- Based upon teacher survey data, only 30% of teachers feel that the students behave well and have positive attitudes towards learning.

- 50% of teachers surveyed strongly agree that the schools rules are implemented consistently and communicated clearly to students, parents and staff.

Evidence from observations:

- There are no common classroom routines or instructional strategies in place.
- There are not defined expectations for classroom practice and supports provided for students in need.
- While Acuity data is utilized by the RtI Director for progress monitoring, data is not used to drive instructional decisions by the classroom teachers.

Evidence from Interviews:

- There is not a clear and consistent policy for behavior, nor are there consistent responses to behaviors in classrooms or from the administrative office.
- There is no communication or system of support in place to meet the students' academic, social/emotional and behavioral needs.
- The principal does not challenge actions that demonstrate low expectations.
- To address remediation needs, the school implemented intervention time during the last hour of the day during the snow day waiver, which provided schools the opportunity to add extra time to the school day for snow make-up. Other student needs are discussed with parents and the student to determine the best services. A consistent and sustainable process is not utilized.
- The general consensus from parent interviews indicates that the school environment is welcoming, but the academic expectations are lower than what they have for their children. There are issues with getting the right staff to fulfill certain classes (science), the policy for attendance is not strict enough, and the math department is perceived as lacking rigor.
- Students indicate that they are not pushed academically. They receive "packets" for work and sometimes "class is too easy." They also stated that they could use tickets to purchase 30 minutes of naptime.

Actionable statement:

- Create a leadership team to allow for shared leadership, school-wide communication and execution of school mission and vision
- Continue to develop and communicate high expectations to students, staff, and parents through multiple lines of communication (ie: newsletters, website, phone calls, social media, etc.)
- Implement behavior policies and procedures with consistency. Regularly review and analyze behavior and attendance data.
- Communicate SMART Goals and the progress toward reaching the goals to staff, students, community members and families

Turnaround Principle # 3

Title: Effective Instruction

Circle the Overall Rating: 1 Ineffective **2 Improvement Necessary** 3 Effective 4 Highly Effective

Description of Improvement Necessary Areas:

3.2 Teachers use multiple instructional strategies and multiple response strategies that actively engage and meet student learning needs; 3.3 Teachers use frequent checks for understanding throughout each lesson to gauge student learning, and to inform, monitor and adjust instruction; 3.4 Teachers demonstrate necessary content knowledge; 3.6 Teachers hold high expectations for all students academically and behaviorally as evidenced in their practice;

Evidence from Data:

- ELEOT assessments indicate that 41% of classrooms observed showed little evidence of differentiation, while in 42% of the classrooms observed, differentiation was not observed at all.
- Checking for Understanding occurred very little during classroom observations – only 33% showed some evidence and 25% showed no evidence of this practice.
- 100% of teachers surveyed indicate that they use frequent checks for understanding throughout the lesson, however, classroom observations indicate a strong discrepancy between what teachers stated and what was observed.
- Interventions were not embedded into school calendar; rather they were added to the end of the school day as a result of the extended day waiver offered by the Indiana Department of Education after many missed snow days.
- The principal was not able to show comprehensive data on instructional walk-throughs. The walkthrough form was broad, not focusing on any particular strategies, instructional procedures, or student engagement.

Evidence from Observations:

- Teachers' use of multiple engagement strategies is very limited.
- Staff is in the early stages of implementing small group instruction, mainly using small groups for work time rather than differentiating instruction through the use of small groups.
- Teachers have an inconsistent use of 'Checks for Understanding.' Students are mainly asked to show their learning at the end of class, rather than the teacher conducting frequent monitoring throughout the lesson.
- Teachers did not utilize intentional instructional best practices, nor were there any best practices that were used as a school-wide initiative to intentionally engage students in their learning.

Evidence from Interviews:

- The principal indicated that he does conduct sufficient walk-throughs, although the walkthrough data was not complete, nor did it provide evidence that they are being conducted.
- Teachers indicated that the principal does come into the classrooms, but instructional feedback from formal and informal observations was not given. Teachers are text-book driven (no pacing guide/curriculum maps)

Description of Ineffective Areas:

3.1 Teachers ensure that student-learning objectives are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely, and are aligned to the standards-based curriculum; 3.5 Teachers demonstrate the necessary skills to use multiple measures of data, including the use of diagnostic, formative and summative assessment data, to differentiate instruction to improve student achievement.

Evidence from Data:

- ELEOT assessments indicate that 83% of classroom observations only partially demonstrated or did not demonstrate verbalizing the lesson objective to students.
- 42% of students from classroom observations did not understand how the teacher was going to assess their learning.
- Walk-through forms are not focused on the instructional process. The forms are very broad and general and used as a checklist rather than a tool to guide discussion or professional development. There is no evidence that effective feedback is given.

Evidence from Observations:

- Learning objectives were either not consistent in format or non-existent.
- While there are some initial efforts to implement small group instruction, it was clear that the desks were moved into small groups, but that teachers were utilizing small groups for student work time, rather than for providing differentiated instruction opportunities.
- Class sizes were very small, giving teachers ample opportunities to differentiate.
- Teachers did not follow any instructional process or structure to intentionally include a learning objective, delivery of lesson, formative assessment, or checking for mastery of the learning objective.
- Teachers teach from textbook only and don't ensure that taught curriculum is aligned to standards. Some teachers were not teaching the correct standards.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Interviewees indicated that data were not used to drive instruction. The Principal indicated that they were just getting started with utilizing student learning data to drive instruction.
- The RtI Director mainly uses Acuity to monitor progress, but looking at data is not a part of the school's culture.
- Student engagement is defined as compliance – the students looking at the teacher.
- Formative assessments are also not used to guide instruction. Some teachers use exit tickets, but it is not a consistent or expected practice.
- They are in the beginning stages of differentiation, currently participating in a book study and discussing practices.

Summary of First Priorities that need to be intentionally addressed in your School Improvement Plan:

- 1) Develop and implement an effective instructional process that includes data-driven decision making that is consistent and a regular part of planning, assessment, interventions, and monitoring.
- 2) Develop and implement the intentional use of curriculum and pacing guides to align all lessons and assessments to Indiana's College and Career Ready Standards.

- 3) Develop and implement an intentional walk-through form that focuses on the instructional process as well as specific instructional initiatives. Provide immediate constructive feedback.
- 4) Use evaluation and walkthrough data to understand the teacher development that is needed.

Turnaround Principle # 4 Title: Curriculum, Assessment, and Intervention System

Circle the Overall Rating: **1 Ineffective** 2 Improvement Necessary 3 Effective 4 Highly Effective

Description of Ineffective Areas:

4.1 The district or school curriculum is aligned with College and Career Ready State Standards (CCRSS); 4.2 Teachers and school leaders collect classroom level data to verify that the adopted and aligned CCRSS curriculum is the “taught” curriculum; 4.3 The district provides formative assessments in literacy and math to enable teachers to effectively gauge student progress and inform instructional decisions at the classroom and team levels; 4.4 Instructional materials and resources are aligned to the standards-based curriculum documents; 4.5 An intervention plan designed to meet the learning needs of students who are two or more years behind in ELA and Mathematics is planned, monitored and evaluated for effectiveness based on defined student learning goals.

Evidence from Data:

- 80% of teachers surveyed stated that they do not collaboratively plan lessons using curriculum maps and sequence student-learning objectives.
- The school has no curriculum or pacing guides.
- The master schedule provides time at the end of the day for extra Acuity time as a result of the snow day waiver.

Evidence from Observations:

- Teachers do not utilize any district or school curriculum or pacing guide to guide instruction.
- During classroom observations, some lessons were not aligned to the appropriate State Standards.
- Interventions have not been implemented at the classroom level. Students work together in groups during student practice time, however, individualized differentiated instruction does not occur across classrooms.

Evidence from Interviews:

- The school has no curriculum or pacing guide to guide instruction.
- Lessons are driven mainly by textbooks, but also from outside resources.
- Principal does not have any knowledge or understanding of curriculum alignment. He was unable to articulate how teachers align lessons to the CCRSS.
- Students participate in end of day Acuity lessons for interventions.

Summary of First Priorities that need to be intentionally addressed in your School

Improvement Plan:

- 1) Develop and implement a curriculum and pacing guide that is aligned with Indiana’s CCR Academic State Standards.
- 2) Develop and implement the intentional use of curriculum and pacing guides to align all lessons and assessments to Indiana’s Academic Standards.
- 3) Create master schedule that includes remediation and enrichment interventions.

- 4) Design the after-school program to include remediation and interventions that address the individual student needs.

Turnaround Principle # 5

Circle the Overall Rating:

1 Ineffective**Title: Effective Staffing Practices**

2 Improvement Necessary

3 Effective

4 Highly Effective

Description of Ineffective Areas:

5.1 Hiring timelines and process allow the school to competitively recruit effective teachers; 5.2 School leadership uses teacher evaluation to provide feedback for improving classroom practices, informing professional development and increasing learning outcomes; 5.3 Teachers are provided professional development that enables them to continuously reflect, revise, and evaluate their classroom practices to improve learning outcomes in both a structured collaborative setting and individually; 5.4 Staff assignment is intentional to maximize the opportunities for all students to have access to the staff's instructional strengths; 5.5 Teachers are provided professional development that promotes independent, collaborative, and shared reflection opportunities for professional growth

Evidence from Data:

- Principal walk-through forms are broad, not focusing on instructional priorities.
- Walk-through forms do not provide valuable feedback to teachers to improve instructional practices.
- Professional Development is not linked to data gathered regarding student needs.
- Only 20% of teachers surveyed feel that the professional development is beneficial and directly linked to instructional practices to improve student achievement.

Evidence from Observations:

- Teachers are not placed strategically in their strongest area to provide remediation and enrichment opportunities.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Teachers are evaluated, but not provided effective feedback.
- Data is not analyzed regularly to drive instruction

Actionable Statement:

- Develop professional development plan based upon student achievement data and teacher evaluation data.

Turnaround Principle # 6

Title: Use of Data

Circle the Overall Rating: **1 Ineffective** 2 Improvement Necessary 3 Effective 4 Highly Effective

Description of Ineffective Areas:

6.1 Multiple forms of data are presented in user-friendly formats and in a timely manner to drive all decisions for improving climate and culture; 6.2 Multiple forms of data are presented in user-friendly formats in a timely manner to drive all decisions for improving student achievement; 6.3 A specific schedule and process for the analysis of on-going formative assessment data tied to the CCRSS aligned curriculum that includes the specific goals for improvement, defined strategies, progress monitoring and evaluation.

Evidence from Data:

- Trend data shows negative impact on student achievement as students' progress through math sequence beyond 6th grade.
- Schedule does not support remediation, enrichments, or interventions.

Evidence from Observations:

- Benchmark data are not used to drive priority scheduling or remediation.
- A data driven climate does not exist among the staff or leadership.
- Data walls, data meetings or empowerment of teachers to own classroom level data is not evident.
- Students do not own their individual scores and/or growth.
- There is little to no evidence given that supports a curriculum aligned to benchmark assessments using backwards design.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Teachers do not have a pacing guide or curriculum map aligned lesson sequence.
- Priority of scope and sequence of subject material is not centered around student achievement on high stakes accountability exams.
- No emphasis placed on high stakes testing; this is evident through the lack of professional development, lack of professional learning community collaboration, lack of out of district visits to higher performing school districts and lack of inter district shared best practices.

Summary of First Priorities that need to be intentionally addressed in your School

Improvement Plan:

- 1) Understand the benchmark tests for macro-level view of student achievement including data trends by cohort.
- 2) Utilize progress monitoring tests for overview of standards deficiencies.
- 3) Collect/Review/Disseminate standards based deficiencies to adjust instructional practices. This includes the monitoring of scope and sequence taught by teachers and the

adjustments made in instruction to impact student mastery of standards. Ensure the RISE model is used with fidelity to hold teachers accountable for personal benchmarking and progress monitoring of student success at the classroom level.

Turnaround Principle # 7**Title: Effective use of Time**

Circle the Overall Rating:

1 Ineffective

2 Improvement Necessary

3 Effective

4 Highly Effective

Description of Ineffective Areas:

7.1 The master schedule is clearly designed and structured to meet the needs of all students; 7.2 The master schedule is clearly designed to meet the intervention needs of all students who are two or more years behind in ELA or Mathematics; 7.3 The master schedule is clearly structured and designed to meet the professional development needs of staff.

Evidence from Data:

- Professional Learning Collaboration time is not built into the schedule
- Professional development is not focused on student needs garnered from data.
- “Double dip” or remediation courses are not built into schedule.
- 43% of parents surveyed do not feel that the school schedule meets the needs of their child.
- 70% of teachers surveyed state that the schedule is not meeting the needs of students.
- 20% of teachers surveyed agree that there is sufficient flexibility to allow for students to enter and exit interventions throughout the year.

Evidence from Observations:

- There is no evidence that teachers collaborate on curriculum or lesson planning.
- No cross curricular focus observed to bring in highly accountable areas to mainstream coursework.
- Lesson objectives are not consistently posted or learning outcomes communicated to students.
- There is no professional development plan or a calendar of PD events developed to address the priorities of the school.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Administration has not taken advantage of professional growth opportunities by visiting higher performing school districts in the region.
- Teachers have no clear direction on professional development and little to no input on school improvement plan.

Summary of First Priorities that need to be intentionally addressed in your School Improvement Plan:

- 1) Create a master schedule with intentionality that addresses the needs of the school based on data from climate/culture surveys, academic needs, and teacher evaluation results.
- 2) The master schedule must focus on remediation and/or double dip scheduling through the repurposing of staffing.
- 3) Data must drive the priority of courses offered and the class period the courses will be offered to maximize dual credit offerings through vocational courses.

Turnaround Principle 8: Effective Family and Community Engagement:

Circle Overall Rating: **1 Ineffective** 2 Improvement Necessary 3 Effective 4 Highly Effective

Description of Improvement Necessary Areas:

8.1 Families are engaged in academically related activities, school decision-making, and an open exchange of information regarding students' progress in order to increase student learning for all students.

Evidence from data:

- Based on parent survey data, 28% of parents surveyed stated that they are not very informed on their child's progress with suggestions on ways to help at home.
- 30% of parents surveyed stated that the teacher does not communicate or provide feedback in a timely manner.
- 80% of parents surveyed agree that they have a positive relationship with the school, but 88% of the same parents state that they most likely approach the principal for information, while only 8% approach the teacher.

Evidence from observations:

- There is no observable data to report.

Evidence from interviews:

- Parents are unclear about the expectations of their child and how the school is supporting their path to college or career.
- According to parents, elementary teachers communicate well with parents, but the high school teachers do not. The parents indicated it takes a long time to get a response from secondary staff.

Description of Ineffective Areas:

8.2 Community groups and families of students who are struggling academically and/or socially are active partners in the educational process and work together to reduce barriers and accelerate the academic and personal growth of students.

Evidence from Data:

- There is no data utilized to identify struggling students.

Evidence from Observations:

- Interventions occurred at the end of the day for a short period of time due to the snow day waiver. The interventions however were not meant to address specific needs of students, placing ALL students on Acuity lessons.
- Staff was not observed working with interventions.

Evidence from Interviews:

- Parents report that they are informed about student learning progress through report cards or calls from teachers.

- The teachers and principal report that there is no remediation or intervention time built into the master schedule.

Summary of First Priorities that need to be intentionally addressed in your School Improvement Plan:

- 1) Develop and implement a method to regularly collect and review student social, emotional, and academic data.
- 2) Develop a system of communicating with parents regularly about the progress of their children.
- 3) Examine community resources that exist to support the overall well-being of the students.