

SCHOOLS OF INNOVATION (SOI) UPDATE

ATKINSON REACH ACADEMY

MILBURN T. MAUPIN – A CATALPA MODEL SCHOOL

ATKINSON REACH ACADEMY



DEMOGRAPHICS (RELATED TO SOI)

- Every student enrolled at Atkinson is participating in the REACH Academy

FISCAL RESOURCES SUPPORTING THE SOI

- Over two million dollars will have been expended over a four-year period
- Expenditures include, but are not limited to:
 - After School Program
 - Medical Clinic Remodel
 - Additional Instructional Assistant
 - Mental Health Counselor
 - REACH Intervention Teacher
 - REACH Resource Teacher

BACKGROUND - WHERE WE STARTED

- 2014-15 Atkinson staff determined that the school would become a School of Innovation
- 2015-16 First year of implementation (most components in place)
- 2016-17 All but one of the components (Adult Literacy) in place
- Eleven KTIP teachers over the last two years

CHALLENGES

- Getting parents to trust the medical clinic concept
- Transportation for non-resides students for REACH (extended day during school year)
- Maintaining staffing of the additional REACH Instructional Assistant
- Parental follow through with recommendations from Mental Health Counselor
- Coordinating all the family literacy resources to implement the component

STEPS TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES

- Medical clinic held an open house
- Medical clinic was open during school's open house
- School Nurse serves as liaison between families and clinic
- Weekly communication with HR department regarding staffing issues
- Family team meetings with parent to discuss the whole child, needs, services, and next steps

CURRENT REALITY

- REACH is a positive force moving the entire school community in the right direction
- Provided 13,485 extended school hours through Summer Boost
- Provided 2,489 extended school hours through after-school extended day
- Provided 2,489 additional school meals to students

CURRENT REALITY (CONTINUED)

- Mental Health Counselor: 132 students have received small group counseling during 308 sessions, 127 classroom counseling lessons, 208 individual student counseling sessions, 27 family team meetings, 20 district trainings
- Medical clinic is being utilized by families and staff members
- Staff attendance is 97 percent
- September 6 – October 30 there were 3,423 hours of literacy and math interventions
- Conducted 257 home visits during summer break
- Atkinson **Made their AMO** target for student achievement on KPREP

MOVING FORWARD

- More families/children utilizing the medical clinic
- Improve student attendance
- Family literacy component to be operational
- Increase the out-of-school opportunities for students
- Increase college visits – exposure to post-secondary education for students
- Improve the implementation level of every REACH component

MILBURN T. MAUPIN ELEMENTARY - A CATALPA MODEL SCHOOL



DEMOGRAPHIC DATA RELATED TO THE SOI

- Limited number of teachers trained in the model:
 - Only 17 percent of classroom teachers fully trained in Waldorf methods
 - 21 percent of classroom teachers have two or more summers of training in Waldorf
 - 62 percent of classroom teachers have less than two weeks of training in Waldorf

*Classroom teachers include certified full-time employees that are responsible for instruction on a daily basis

FISCAL RESOURCES SUPPORTING THE SOI

- Over two million dollars will have been expended over a four-year period
- Expenditures include, but are not limited to:
 - Classroom startup funds
 - Teacher extended time
 - Registration for Kentahten training (\$1,000 per participant each year)
 - Additional special area teacher
 - Five retired teachers

BACKGROUND – WHERE WE STARTED

- 100 percent turnover in school administration from the 2014-15 to the 2015-16 school year
- 88 percent of teacher turnover (translates to only one certified teacher remaining from the 2014-15 school year)
- No opportunity to reset academic baselines due to limited change in student population
- Fourteen KTIP teachers over the last two years
- 2015-16: 41 percent of the teachers who started the school year did not return for this current year creating instability for students and staff

CHALLENGES

- Sixteen of the current teachers on staff are either new to teaching and/or new to the currently assigned grade level, indicating a lack of teacher expertise
- The SOI curriculum did not align with the assessed curriculum measured by KPREP, nor with the JCPS 3rd Grade Reading Pledge, nor with the JCPS literacy and numeracy benchmarks
- Kentahten training does not address teacher expertise with teaching and learning content standards

CHALLENGES (CONTINUED)

- Parents and teachers who have chosen the SOI model represent a vocal minority of stakeholders which further disenfranchises those who do not embrace the model
- There is a disconnect between the SOI model and the experience more than 90 percent of the students have in their homes
- The staff follows two distinct philosophies around teaching and learning which impedes school improvement

STEPS TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES

- Instruction aligned to match the grade level standards on KPREP (SBDM policy approved in November, 2016)
- Collaborated to revise the Mission, Vision, and Core Values
- Mentors provided for new and less experienced teachers
- Mental Health Counselor added
- Differentiated faculty meeting and PLC time to meet teacher needs

STEPS TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES (CONTINUED)

- Systems in place and operating to meet the diverse social, emotional, academic, and physical needs of the student population
- Student behavior management systems have improved as evidenced by the significantly lower number of student behavior incidents and suspensions

CURRENT REALITY

- AdvancED Diagnostic Review scheduled in January due to KDE designation as a priority school
- Working to identify and address the needs of novice learners and meet novice reduction goals
- Commitment to raising the level of proficiency for all students
- Developing cultural responsiveness and cultural competency of staff members is a priority for school leadership
- School leadership is determined to meet the challenges outlined earlier in this presentation

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

