

Eureka Springs Middle School

2023-2024 School Improvement Plan (SIP) – June 2023

Eureka Springs School District
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2023-2024 School Improvement Goals

As we continue to work to close the gaps caused before and during the COVID pandemic, we want to further increase scores in Reading, Math, English, Science, and Writing and close these gaps even more with our biggest focus on Reading and Math. We will use the 2023 Spring Summative test scores (ACT Aspire scores) to create plans of who will receive interventions (along with other data (IXL and Lexia diagnostics). We will use the Lexia, MAP testing IXL Diagnostic data to measure growth throughout the year. The 2024 Spring Summative test scores (ATLAS scores) will be used as a measure to look for future growth (comparing it to future ATLAS Summative test scores.

Identified Subgroups: All Students (RTI I), including all 504, ESL, and Special Education Students; Also, Academic RTI II/III groups in Reading and Math.

Primary Priorities: Increase all students' reading levels and math levels – this includes students of all races, gender, and those in special education, having a 504, and/or ELA students.

Continue to use the current curriculum (including the new curriculum started in math last school year). We also implementing new software to close gaps in Reading skills and will continue using this with all students as well. We will also continue to use NWEA MAP Growth testing (Math and Reading) as well as IXL Diagnostics and Lexia diagnostics to replace the Fall Interim. The new testing system does not expect to have the Fall Interims ready in time.

We will continue remediation for struggling students in math. Since Reading is the base for all classes, improving Reading skills will help improve student's skills in Social Studies and since Math and Reading are the base elements of Science classes, these skills will improve as well as we improve our student's area in these areas. We will continue to use Reading software to work in bringing up out students' reading level.

We will continue using our PBIS Committee to continue to bring a more positive culture within our school and continue to have students create a Student Success Plan (by 8th grade) to create goals for their future in high school and college.

School Improvement Plan – Goal 1: Literacy Plan

Curriculum, Assessment, and Instructional Planning - Assess student learning frequently with standards-based assessments

Curriculum: IID02: The Language Arts department will continue using their previous curriculum with the addition of the Lexia program. We implemented Lexia Core5 for our 5th Grade Students and Lexia PowerUp for our 6th-8th Grade Students to use during the ELAR classes as well as in Reading Intervention during RTI Advisory time.

Assessment: We will use data from ACT Aspire Reading, English, and Writing; MAP Reading; Lexia; and IXL Diagnostics as needed to determine the need for remediation intervention. Students may also be assessed using teacher created common formative assessments. Assessment data will be collected which will follow the student to the next grade and will be reviewed by instructional teams to determine the effectiveness of instruction and to determine subsequent actions.

Instructional Planning: Language Arts teachers will plan lessons from data of previous assessments (ACT Aspire, NWEA MAP Growth scores in Reading, Lexia Scores, IXL ELAR Diagnostics, and teacher made writing assessments.) Remediation will be completed by all students in class and we will assign specialized Reading RTI II groups in advisory time to work towards the 90 minutes daily of Reading Instruction for those below grade level in Reading.

Professional Development: All teachers and administration staff who have not completed the course will continue to take Professional Development in the Science of Reading Courses through Arkansas Ideas (online courses) and/or in person through the educational co-op. This includes teachers who are not ELAR teachers, as Reading and Vocabulary are a dominant skill in all classes. Professional development will continue as needed to further increase knowledge and help create better plans of instruction for our students.

Timeline: The plan of interventions (during lunch times, during RTI advisory/enrichment times, and/or before or after school) and/or remediation (during class – in small groups or individually – with teacher and/or with self-paced course online). Initial lists will be created data from the April/May 2023 ACT Aspire Summative tests as well as data from the Fall 2023 NWEA MAP Growth testing. Literacy teachers will also assess students using IXL Diagnostic and Lexia initial assessments to give them more data to work with and make better decisions.

This data will be shared with the SIP/PBIS committee as well. Throughout the school year, adjustments will continue to be met to meet the needs of our students. The SIP/PBIS committee will meet in September, January, and May to analyze data and adjust the school's improvement plan.

This data, along with an updated plan, will be shared to the school board after each of these meetings and then posted online in the "State Required" page of the district's website.

School Improvement Plan – Goal 2: Numeracy Plan

Curriculum, Assessment, and Instructional Planning - Assess student learning frequently with standards-based assessments

Curriculum: IID02: All grades will also use Illustrated Math curriculum this school year as we fully transition all four grades into Illustrated Math, which will be the main curriculum used in the 2023-2024 school year and on. (This year, teachers and students will have access to use the curriculum both digitally and in print form). In addition, for all grades, 5th-8th grades, we will also use the online resource of IXL. Some teachers may also use the online resource of Prodigy Math as well as other online resources they choose (PearDeck, NearPod, Quizlet, Kahoot, Quizzez, GimKit, etc.)

Assessment: The Math Coach and the Math teachers will use data from ACT Aspire Math from April 2023, Fall IXL Diagnostics, and Fall NWEA MAP Math scores as needed to determine the need for remediation and/or intervention. Students may also be assessed using teacher created common formative assessments as well as teacher observations. Assessment data will be collected which will follow the student to the next grade and will be reviewed by instructional teams to determine the effectiveness of instruction and to determine subsequent actions.

Instructional Planning: Math teachers will plan lessons from data of previous assessments (listed previously.) Remediation will be in class, in small groups, individual, or IXL – as appropriate. Mrs. Ellis, the Math Coach/Interventionist, will also pull students for intervention (Three to four days a week from the student's three electives – one day a week from each elective – for 7th and 8th graders. 6th graders will have enrichment rotations, in which the 6th grade math teacher will have each student one to two days a week during enrichment time for extra remediation and/or remediation time in math. If a student is needing more, she will pull that student during other rotations for extra remediation. For 5th graders, they will be pulled one to two times a week from their enrichment time by the math coach/interventionist. For 7th and 8th graders, this only applies to students needing intervention that are not scheduled in Mrs. Ellis' daily Math Enrichment classes where they are already receiving math remediation/enrichment.

School Improvement Plan – Goal 3: Changes to PLC

Professional Development – Phase 1: We held, in September 2022, vertical alignment meetings with high school teachers to create a plan for our students to move into the high school in a seamless manner and to create a plan for our students to have the skills they need to be successful in the high school. We are meeting during July 2023 to update these with the new standards. During the July 2023 PLC, we will also update the Essential Standards within the new standards.

Professional Development – Phase 2: We have increased our PLC meetings to twice a month to include horizontal alignment and RTI II and III discussions. These meetings are held in the first week of each month and the third week of each month.

During these meetings we also discuss current lesson plans and get horizontal teachers to throw in feedback in vocabulary used, how it applies in next grade, etc. We will look over data and discuss strategies to implement in classes as well as advisory (7th-8th grades) or enrichment (5th-6th grades).

Professional Development – Phase 3: We held a vertical alignment meeting with the elementary school during the last school year with the 3rd and 4th grade teachers, to express what standards we need them to focus on more for their students to be more successful when they reach the middle school in the basic skills of math and reading. We shared the strategies we are using as well as have them share what strategies they are implementing. The 5th grade teacher plans to meet with the 4th grade teachers more during the 2023-2024 school year to keep vertical alignment in effect, especially with the new changes to the math standards.

School Improvement Plan – Goal 4: PBIS Implementation

All 5-8 teachers, staff, and students will implement PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) with fidelity to join the other schools in our district also implementing PBIS. During the 2023-2024, we are starting with a new digital format to fill out forms and a new mentoring program to help keep RTI II and III students more in focus to the actions. The new program will be called "Check In/Check Out." Extensive training to the new forms and mentoring program will occur at the beginning of the new school year to get the program flowing smoothly.

Professional Development: Most of our teachers have already had initial training and had the refresher training in September 2022 PLC. All teachers will get the full training of the new forms and mentoring program at the beginning of the 23-24 school year.

Forming a Committee: A PBIS/RTI committee has been re-created and will continue to analyze the interventions and supports and adjustments will be made as needed – this includes the needs to meet academic as well as behavioral issues. We will have a meeting in August to go over the new plans and adjust as we see the need. We will continue to meet 3 to 4 times during the school year to discuss data, etc.

School Improvement Plan – Goal 5: Student Success Plans

Continue to have students begin a student success plan (currently just applies only to 8th grade students, but the plan is to eventually bring it down to 7th grade and possibly into 5th and 6th in the future) for each individualized student that will follow them into high school and will be used extensively in 8th - 12th grades (especially in high school).

By the time each student leaves 8th grade, a student success plan will be created and recorded in the Naviance online program. The high school counselor and/or high school teachers will continue to have students update the plan and use it for planning high school courses, planning for college or other avenues, and a lot more. Parents will also have accounts that allow them to view their student's data.