

**Kennedy Middle School
School Improvement Team
November 30, 2023**

I. Attendance: Ms. Allen, Ms. Spontak, Ms. McNeirney, Ms. DeWalt, Ms. Goodrum, Ms. Cafero, Ms. Mateen, Ms. Johnson-Ritchey, Ms. Gaston, Ms. Reaves, Ms. Nathan, Ms. Foote, and Ms. Luqmaan

II. Current Enrollment:

6th- 338 7th- 302 8th- 327 Males- 521 Females- 446 All- 967

Hispanic- 42.2%
African American- 39.9%
White- 6.9%
Asian- 6.4%
Two or More- 4.1%
American Indian- .2%
Pacific Islander- .2%
Students with Disabilities (SWD)- 13.3%
Academically or Intellectually Gifted (AIG)- 7.8%
Multilingual Learners (ML)- 21.3%
Students with 504s- 2.6%
McKinney-Vento- 2.6%

Announcements:

11/30: Band Concert
12/7: Basketball Game (Home)
12/11: Basketball Game (Away)
12/11-12/12: Progress Reports
12/14: Basketball Game (Away)
12/18: Home Basketball Game
12/20: Optional Teacher Workday
12/21 - 1/1: Winter Break
1/2: Optional Teacher Workday
1/4: Basketball Game (Away)
1/8: Basketball Game (Home)
1/11: Basketball Game (Home)
1/15: MLK, Jr. Holiday
1/17: Basketball Game (Away)

III. Title IX:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is a Federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs and activities. All public and private schools, school districts, colleges, and universities receiving any Federal funds must comply with Title IX.

4 Incidents (3 resolved and 1 unresolved)

IV. Review of SIP

www.indistar.org

Username: GuestS16777 Password: GuestS16777

Lead Updates:

Technology/Dewalt- There are 31 chromebooks that have been sent to be repaired. Mid-year chromebook verification is due on 12/5. An email has been sent to all staff to let them know the schedule for verifying all students' chromebooks.

Athletics/Goodrum- Basketball season has started. The 1st game is 12/7. All games are listed above until mid January. I will make updates on Parent Square and the next meeting as needed.

MTSS Update/Curns

Tier 2 and Tier 3 ELA students in all grade levels worked on completing iReady diagnostic testing. We will begin progress monitoring these students next week. Tier 2 and Tier 3 students in Math will begin to have access to Dreambox next week, starting with 6th grade and working our way up to 8th grade.

Science & Social Studies/Cafero

6th Grade Science is currently on the waves unit. They have discussed transverse, longitudinal, sound, and light waves. They are testing Thursday and Friday. Next week, they will start the lesson on cow eye dissection.

7th Grade Science is currently on Unit 2 Lesson 3. They are discovering the 11 body systems and the 5 levels of organization. The current lesson covers the parts of the bone and the association between a human arm and a chicken wing. They will continue with Unit 2 until the break.

8th Grade Science is currently discussing the history of Earth and its life forms based on evidence of change recorded in fossil records and landforms. They have also discussed theories and processes that impact the Earth over time. They will have a test on Monday and Tuesday and then start molecular biology.

6th grade SS: Finished a unit test for unit 2. Starting Unit 3: Ancient India and Ancient China. Mr. Isgrigg's students also are working on an extra project to compile a list of family recipes to show how traditions and customs are passed down from generation to generation.

7th grade SS: Finishing up their unit on the American and French Revolutions with a test today. They also created Enlightenment thinker posters to help with visuals for the unit.

8th grade SS: Starting their unit on Westward expansion, then they will work on their Civil War unit.

ELA/Mateen

6th grade- (standard and honors)- Anchor text: *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*
Students just took unit 1 mid-unit and had the opportunity to retest. Currently, the lessons are focused on standards RI 6.1-4 which include various skills like inferencing, central idea, and analyzing why author's make certain structural choices in a text. Students are studying design thinking and how that creativity can have positive effects on a community.

7th grade (standard and honors)- Anchor text: *Patient Zero*

Students took a mid-unit last week; they're focusing on power standards which are very important for the EOG and benchmark tests. Next week, students will be introduced to argumentative terms and will be analyzing how authors make arguments. They will be completing note catchers designed to help students both identify and evaluate the effectiveness of authors' claims.

8th grade (standard and honors)- Anchor text: *Omnivore's Dilemma*

Students took a mid-unit last week. As students begin unit 2, students will be learning how to research, so that they can create their own arguments around healthy actions and living.

Math/Johnson-Ritchey

6th grade - (Standard and Honors) have moved on from the geometry topics that they were covering in Quarter 1 and are currently working on operations with rational numbers, specifically multiplying and dividing fractions. This is being done in the context of unit rates, ratios and percents.

7th grade standard - are currently working on proportional relationships and percentages. This ties back into work they did in unit 1 and 2 with scale drawings and proportional relationships. In this unit, students will apply their understanding of proportional relationships to explore percents (a ratio out of 100) and apply that work to calculate sales tax, tip, discount.

7th grade honors - are currently working on dilations, similarity, and an introduction to slope. Dilations apply students' knowledge of proportional relationships to explore similar (same shape but different size) figures. Students will then use similar triangles to explore the idea of slope of a line. This topic addresses 8th grade standards.

8th grade - is applying their understanding of slope to write equations of lines. They are finishing Unit 3 this week and are moving into solving multi-step equations and inequalities with variables on both sides. This will lead to solving systems of linear equations by graphing.

We are in a unique time where the work that is being done in each grade level has direct alignment to the next grade level. Vertical alignment like this allows us to share instructional strategies and practices among teachers at each level to build consistency in language and approaches.

SIP Indicators Review

A1.07: All teachers employ effective classroom management and reinforce classroom rules and procedures by positively teaching them.

A2.04: Instructional Teams develop standard-aligned units of instruction for each subject and grade level.

A4.01: The school implements a tiered instructional system that allows teachers to deliver evidence-based instruction aligned with the individual needs of students across all tiers.

A4.06: All teachers and staff are attentive to students' emotional states, guide students in managing their emotions, and arrange for support and interventions when necessary.

A4.16: The school develops and implements consistent, intentional, and ongoing plans to support student transitions for grade-to-grade and level-to-level.

B1.03: A Leadership Team consisting of the principal, teachers who lead the Instructional Teams, and other professional staff meets regularly (at least twice a month) to review implementation of effective practices.

B2.03: The school has established a team structure among teachers with specific duties and time for instructional planning.

B3.03: The principal monitors curriculum and classroom instruction regularly and provides timely, clear, constructive feedback to teachers.

C2.01: The LEA/School regularly looks at school performance data and aggregated classroom observation data and uses that data to make decisions about school improvement and professional development needs.

C3.04: The LEA/School has established a system of procedures and protocols for recruiting, evaluating, rewarding, and replacing staff.

D1.02: The LEA/School has aligned resource allocation (money, time, human resources) within each school's instructional priorities.

E1.06: The school regularly communicates with parents/guardians about its expectations of them and the importance of the curriculum of the home (what parents can do at home to support their children's learning).

V. Other News or Questions

VI. Next Meeting- 1/18/2024