

2017 -
2018

Continuous Improvement Process Plan

Stella Schola Middle School

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DESCRIPTION OF SCHOOL

Provide a description of the school, its performance history, demographic make-up, academic focus, school culture focus, and parent/family/community engagement strategies.

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Stella Schola ("Star School" in Latin) is a Choice middle school in Lake Washington School District. Stella Schola offers sixth, seventh, and eighth graders a comprehensive, consistent, challenging and classical learning environment with high academic and behavioral standards and solid teacher support. The school encourages parents and community members to assist students in developing skills to become independent and self-sufficient adults who will succeed and contribute responsibly in a global community.

The rich, classical learning environment is based on historical themes with an emphasis on mastery learning for all students. By integrating as many subjects as possible into year-long historical themes, students learn from the past to make better choices and decisions in the future. Students have the same teacher for most of the school day, which enhances opportunities for integration of subject matter, helps promote curricular continuity, and increases the students' sense of belonging during early adolescence. Teachers work collaboratively to provide a challenging, stimulating, and hands-on curriculum for students. In-depth studies of the core subjects are emphasized. Students participate in a student-to-student mentoring program.

Stella Schola's unique schedule allows teachers to create a highly personalized environment for students. Students get individual academic assistance after school as necessary to ensure mastery of content. Students recognize the benefits of their hard work and focus on learning by experiencing personal and academic success.

DISTRICT PERFORMANCE TARGETS

	Indicators <i>Note: Indicators based on state assessments</i>	Baseline Performance	Current Performance	Target Performance
		2014-15	2016-17	2018
		District	District	District
8 th Graders' on Track for Success	% of 8 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	81.1%	80.9%	92%
	% of 8 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	71.5%	74.5%	85%
	% of 8 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Science	83.4%	86.0%	93%

Grade 6-8 Literacy and Math Data based on the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and reported on the OSPI Washington State Report Card (<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/>).

Process to determine School Performance Targets:

Lake Washington School District developed a strategic plan for implementation in 2013-2018. Part of the strategic plan includes Student Learning Milestones and indicators of student success. Many of the indicators are measured based on state testing results. A process was implemented to set performance targets for each indicator. For the 2014-15 school year, the state adopted the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) to measure student progress in Math and English Language Arts. Due to this change, the district made adjustments to the 2018 performance targets in these areas. The performance targets were set based on the 2015 SBA results.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE OVER TIME

		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
6th Graders' on Track for Success	% of 6 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	≥95.0%	≥95.0%	93.3%				
	% of 6 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	83.3%	≥95.0%	≥95.0%				
7th Graders' on Track for Success	% of 7 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	≥95.0%	≥95.0%	93.3%				
	% of 7 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	93.3%	86.2%	≥95.0%				
8th Graders' on Track for Success	% of 8 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Literacy	≥95.0%	≥95.0%	93.3%				
	% of 8 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Math	≥95.0%	≥95.0%	≥95.0%				
	% of 8 th graders meeting or exceeding state standards in Science	90.0%	≥95.0%	≥95.0%				

Grade 6-8 Literacy and Math Data based on the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA) and reported on the OSPI Washington State Report Card (<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/>).

CIP REFLECTION: EVALUATE OUTCOMES

2016-17 CIP Goals and 2017 Outcomes:

Data:

	Goal	Achievement (Achievement Level Descriptor)
Literacy: 6-8 ELA	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2017 ELA SBA.	96% met or exceeded standard
Math: 6-8 Math	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2017 Math SBA.	98% met or exceeded standard
Science: 8 Science	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient and higher on the Spring 2017 Science MSP.	100% of students met or exceeded standard on the 2017 Science MSP.
Achievement Gap	Stella staff will do intentional outreach to under-represented demographic groups to encourage application for the lottery in the January of 2018	Stella staff collaborated with the district to create an informational video. In addition, the administrators reached out to Natural Leaders in the learning community about Stella.
College and Career Readiness	100% of 8 th grade students will take a survey using Career Cruising and will identify at least two possible careers of interest.	100% of 8 th grade students took the Career Cruising survey and identified at least 2 possible careers of interest.
School Effectiveness:	New staff members will be fully integrated this year and the results of the 9 characteristics survey will reflect this with 90% of responses being agree completely or agree mostly..	All responses were agree completely or agree mostly on the 9 characteristics survey.
Attendance and Discipline:	Each staff member will have 100% completion of contacting home of those students who	Each staff member contacted home of students who had 3 consecutive absences 100% of the time.

	reach 3 consecutive absences.				
	There will be no out of school suspensions.				There were 0 out of school suspensions.

Narrative Reflection:

Narrative Reflection	
Process:	<p>Our CIP goals were driven by student needs demonstrated on in-class work and on assessments.</p> <p>Staff collaborated on specific speaking and listening skills and provided multiple opportunities for student practice. Staff delivered direct-instruction of math skills, coupled with student-centered explorations and hands-on experiences. Students participated in multiple inquiry-based learning projects, including the engineering and architectural sciences. New district adopted math and science curriculums were implemented.</p> <p>Staff monitored progress in the three content areas via anecdotal notes of in-class observations, mid-chapter assessments, active participation in class discussions and activities.</p>
Literacy: 6-8 ELA	<p>In Literacy, Stella Schola 96.6% of students scoring “proficient or higher” on the Spring 2017 ELA SBA, this is three out of ninety students. The teachers’ PGE goal was centered around reading comprehension and fluency. .</p>
Math: 6-8 Math	<p>In Math, Stella Schola exceeded the goal of 91% of students scoring “proficient or higher” on the Spring 2017 Math SBA by 93% of the students scoring Level 3 or 4. This was a pleasant surprise because math was challenging for many students and we were using a new curriculum. The new curriculum is much more aligned to the Common Core State Standards.</p>
Science: 8 Science	<p>In Science, Stella Schola achieved 100% of students scoring “proficient or higher” on the Spring 2017 Science MSP- this is cause for celebration!</p>
Achievement Gap	<p>The demographics of Stella Schola Middle School currently are not reflective of the demographics of the Lake Washington School District and have never been historically. It is important that we have a diverse group of students applying for the Stella Schola lottery. Part of this requires active recruitment and widespread dissemination of information about the school, especially for those who may not be able to attend the parent information night. This is something all Choice schools are working on and as a collective effort the district created a video that showcases each school. This is an area we hope to continue to keep our focus.</p>

College and Career Readiness	As students move on to different high schools in the district we are proud that each 8 th grade student has exposure to Career Cruising and has identified potential interests. In addition, throughout their time at Stella, professionals from many different fields come to visit Stella students in the classroom and/or students have an opportunity to see professionals in their work environments.
School Effectiveness:	100% of the responses on the 9 Characteristics Survey were “Agree Mostly” or “Agree Completely.” This demonstrates that new staff are feeling comfortable and a sense of ownership within the school climate and culture.
Attendance and Discipline:	We are pleased that no students received suspensions this year. In addition, our follow up with students missing consecutive days of school helped to build positive relationships between home and school and families could see that we care for their student.

ANNUAL SCHOOL GOALS

2017-18 Annual School Goals:

SMART Goals	
Literacy: 6-8 ELA	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2018 ELA SBA.
Math: 6-8 Math	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient or higher on the Spring 2018 Math SBA.
Science: 8 Science	100 % of SSMS students will score proficient and higher on the Spring 2018 Science MSP.
Achievement Gap	100% of 8 th grade students receiving Special Education services will meet or exceed standard on all SBA assessments.
College and Career Readiness	100% of 8 th grade students will take a survey using Career Cruising and will identify at least two possible careers of interest.
School Effectiveness:	Staff members will be fully integrated this year and the results of the 9 characteristics survey will reflect this with 90% of responses being agree completely or agree mostly.
Attendance:	Each staff member will have 100% completion of contacting home of those students who reach 3 consecutive absences.

Discipline:

There will be no out of school suspensions.

Annual School Goals: Academic

The goals were selected as a school team by all the educators after analyzing our students and SBA scores.

As a team, we selected this goal because 27 out of 90 students were at, near, or below standard in Claim 1 Reading on the ELA SBA and showed some difficulty in daily assignments.

We will be differentiating the assignments to allow for reading levels ranging from below 6th grade (special needs students) through 12 grade (challenge for higher 8th grade readers). We plan to allow for Socratic Seminars centered around readings to allow for verbal discussion and practice of conversational skills, listening, and comprehension.

To ensure students receive necessary interventions, we will practice comprehending nonfiction text frequently and in a variety of ways and encourage students to seek assistance with the teacher one-on-one after school hours.

We are going to monitor progress via daily assignments, grades, and professional observations.

Annual School Goals: Achievement Gap

On the 2017 SBA, 100% of 7th grade students receiving special education services did not meet standard on all SBA assessments. This year we want to see the students meet or exceed standard as 8th graders.

Annual School Goals: College and Career Readiness

Given the CORE 24 requirement in High School, we would like to support students as they transition, enabling them to select courses and pathways that may align to their career interests. We want every student to be goal and future oriented. We will administer the survey in Career Cruising and follow up with any students who do not complete the survey. In addition, we will make sure students have a record of their results.

Annual School Goals: School Effectiveness

There is one new staff member, one staff member in her 2nd year, another in her 3rd year. With a small staff (6) it is critical that everyone feels as if they are part of the school and supported.

Annual School Goals: Attendance

There are very few attendance and discipline concerns at Stella Schola Middle School. Weekly review of attendance data and follow up with teachers.

Annual School Goals: Discipline

Click here to enter text.

INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES AND REQUIRED RESOURCES

<i>Goal Area</i>	Math
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	To support this goal, we will use a varied approach by using direct teaching, group exploration, independent practice, and group practice. If students are struggling, we will be available for one-to-one appointments after school and use supplementary materials when the whole class needs extra practice. We will post grades within 48 hours so students know where they stand, review homework problems that the majority of the class misses, and allow retakes on chapter tests.
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	As a staff, we need time to plan effective and engaging math lessons that grade-level appropriate and meet the needs of our students. We also need collaborative time to investigate current best math practices.
<i>Resources needed</i>	Time and effective and engaging math curriculum.
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Team.

<i>Goal Area</i>	Science
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	I will provide multiple hands-on lessons so students can experience and apply science concepts in many ways. I will provide detailed and frequent feedback on student work, and teach in multiple genres (i.e. direct approach, group projects, individual projects, inquiry based lessons, etc.).
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	I am involved in the middle school science pilot, and am discussing implementation of the Next Generation Science Standards with a colleague in Eastern Washington.
<i>Resources needed</i>	Time and pilot materials.
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Individual.

<i>Goal Area</i>	Literacy
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	Analyze student progress and next steps as the year continues. We are also order a few comprehension texts to allow for stretching students comprehension in the area of nonfiction!
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	Continued work on rubric development that spans all 3 grade levels
<i>Resources needed</i>	Time

<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Team
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Goal Area	School Effectiveness
<i>Strategy to support goals</i>	Weekly staff meetings, clear building decision making model, open communication
<i>Professional Learning needed</i>	Click here to enter text.
<i>Resources needed</i>	LEAP time, Admin support, time
<i>Responsible individual or team</i>	Admin Team, all staff

PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Strategies to involve parents, families, and the community in the Continuous Improvement Process

We involve parents, families, and the community in our school by doing the following:

- invite parents and legislators into the classroom,
- invite parents to participate in the PTO,
- take students out into the community via Honors Society and various field trips,
- provide community support via food drives and students servicing the community,
- invite parents in to the classroom as guest speakers and experts in the field,
- partner with Microsoft and Google for the Hour of Code,
- have parents work with students individually (i.e., math facts, reading) at school,
- send out biannual survey to allow for parental feedback,
- ask for student feedback, on our instruction
- provide opportunities for parents to attend student presentations,
- Hold parent/student/teacher conferences twice a year
- invite families to participate in school events (i.e., skate night, BBQ, pool party)

Strategies to inform parents, families, and the community about the Continuous Improvement Process

Include information in monthly parent letter and share survey results.