## FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2013-2015

School:

Roger Sherman School

Principal/Headmaster:

Eileen O. Roxbee

Date:

September 2013/September 2014

Team Members:

Eileen Roxbee, Molly Farrell, Robyn Walters, Becky Dowd, DeAnna Kopchik,

Kara Atilho, Lauren Moreno,

#### Narrative Analysis of Student Data

Our student data shows a high proportion of our students at or above grade level in reading as measured by our district benchmark assessments and CMT results. Third grade DRA2 scores are at least 16.7 percentage points (80%) below that of other grade levels, on the CMT the percentage of third grade students that met goal in reading was 83.5% with an average scale score of 270.1 which is the highest score in the 8 years that we have data. The average scale score in 4<sup>th</sup> grade was 287.0 /86.7% at/above goal and in 5<sup>th</sup> grade 265.5/90.9% at/above goal.

In Math, our district blue ribbon benchmark assessments demonstrate students are aligned to the district benchmark data with a higher percentage of students at the 75% range in fourth grade.

In writing 83.5 in third grade 88.5 in fourth grade 93.5 in fifth grade achieved goal on the CMT.

Our 2014 benchmark assessment show growth at all grade levels in math and reading, except for a slight decrease in fifth grade reading scores.

## **Celebrations**

Our district benchmarks demonstrate a strong program. Students perform well on all district benchmark assessments. School wide data on our school climate survey demonstrate that we support the emotional wellbeing of students and adults. Our grade level rounds opened doors to teachers sharing practice which lead to a school wide implementation of student accountability practices that helped inform instruction. Data sharing changed from sharing numbers and percentage that demonstrated student's growth but rather focused on student work and the instructional strategies that worked to help them grow.

#### Challenges

The 2013 end of year third grade benchmark assessment in reading identified a drop in the number of students reading at the expected level by the end of the school year. 80% of student, compared to all other grade levels as indicated above. Our 2014 data demonstrated growth in the reading scores of the 2013 third grade class. (5% of fourth grade students met to exceed reading goals by the end of the 2014 school year.

#### Hypothesize cause of these results

Across the district, our reading benchmark assessments top the list, except for third grade. Student tested at this grade level transition from verbal retell and recall to written responses. Close attention to this process and additional calibration scoring comprehension is needed A focus on reading comprehension scores in 2014 uncovered a fluency issues that holds students back from passing a level. Support groups for fluency were formed and additional resources purchased to help support this area of reading.

## By level student achievement targets for June 2015

## Reading Goal

SLO: Students will read grade level text with purpose and understanding

- Kindergarten: at least 95% of students continue to be at or above grade level with satisfactory or excellent scores on benchmark assessments
- First Grade: at least 95% of students continue to be at or above goal (level with satisfactory or excellent scores on benchmark assessments
- Second Grade: at least 95% of students continue to be at or above goals with satisfactory or excellent scores on benchmark assessments
- Third Grade: at least 90% of students continue to be at or above grade level () with satisfactory or excellent scores on benchmark assessments
- Fourth Grade: at least 95% of students continue to be at or above grade level ( with satisfactory or excellent scores on benchmark assessments
- Fifth Grade: at least 95% of students continue to be at or above grade level () with satisfactory or excellent scores on benchmark assessments

## Math Goal

SLO: Students will comprehend and solve (multi step) word problems that call for grade level appropriate operations using objects, drawings, and equations.

- Kindergarten: 5 10 percentage point growth above as measured by IReady from October 2014 May 2015
- First Grade: :5- 10 percentage point growth above as measured by IReady from October 2014 May 2015
- Second Grade: 5 10percentage point growth above as measured by IReady from October 2014 May 2015
- Third Grade: 5 10percentage point gain in as measure by IReady, from October 2014 May 2015
- Fourth Grade: 5 10percentage point gain in as measure by IReady, from October 2014 May 2015
- Fifth Grade: 5 10percentage point gain in as measure by IReady, from October 2014 May 2015

#### **Writing Goal**

SLO: Students will complete on demand writing assessments, fiction and non-fiction, demonstrating a years growth in writing.

 All students will demonstrate one year growth from the beginning of the year to the end of year assessment on the On Demand Writing assignments

## **Parent Feedback Goal:**

SLO: Students will follow classroom and school rules.

- Students at all grade levels will demonstrate respectful behavior as outlined in classroom and school rules
- Referrals for behavior investigations will decrease by 10% by the end of 2014

## School-wide Focused Strategy

Based on student achievement data in K-5 core areas, the academic environment must be designed to determine and regularly adjust for a high level of rigor for whole group, small group, and individual students by focusing on high level questioning and understanding text/task using rubrics, scales, and goals to monitor student growth.

## **Theory of Action Underlying This Plan**

The purpose of a Theory of Action is to outline the central tenets of our strategy to achieve the Mission of the school district. As adopted in March of 2014, the district's Mission is as follows:

The mission of the Fairfield Public Schools, in partnership with families and community, is to ensure that every student acquires the knowledge and skills needed to be a lifelong learner, responsible citizen, and successful participant in an ever changing global society through a comprehensive educational program.

There are four main tenets to this Theory of Action. Under each tenet, there are sample actions that the school is undertaking that support this tenet. These actions are school priorities; some may be in the early stages of implementation.

Underlying this Theory of Action is the expectation that all staff members, teams, departments and schools engage regularly in reflective practice – examining data, taking action, reviewing the results of our actions, adjusting our practice to improve results and evaluating our effectiveness in a cycle of continuous improvement.

#### **Instructional Program**

If we ensure that a rigorous, comprehensive instructional program is consistently delivered across all grade levels and departments, with alignment between the written, taught and assessed curriculum, then instruction will be of consistently high quality and student learning will improve.

- Implement English/Language Arts and Mathematics curriculum that meets or exceeds the Connecticut Core Standards
- Implement common assessments aligned to the curriculum in all content areas (IReady, Fountas & Pinnell, on demand writing, CMT science, CT physical fitness test, CAP, Letter ID, School Climate survey, Attendance/truancy)
- Hold staff accountable for consistent implementation of approved curriculum
- Implement and evaluate the effectiveness of evidence-based instructional strategies in all content areas
- Ensure a positive school climate

#### Teams/School Improvement Plans

If we work effectively in teams to examine school and individual student progress, create a culture where individuals regularly research and engage in developing and sharing effective practices related to questioning rigorous task, and student "withitness" and regularly support and supervise teachers in implementing effective classroom practices, then teachers will improve instruction and student learning will improve.

- Implement School Improvement Plans based on data and research-based practices that will improve achievement (includes academic and school climate indicators)
- Implement school-wide data teams in each school to review progress on the SIP, share effective practices, and adjust SIP as warranted
- Implement grade level or departmental data teams

## **Leadership Capacity**

If we strengthen the instructional leadership capacity of teachers and administrators, then we will be better able to identify and implement effective instructional practices and help teachers improve their practices through support and accountability. This improved instructional practice will lead to improved student learning.

- Implement Instructional Rounds
- Implement Professional Growth and Evaluation Plans
- Implement grade level rounds and debriefing sessions based on problem of practice
- Participate in cross school professional development connected to our problem of practice

- Utilize grade level meeting time to support curriculum initiatives and dialogue between specialist, classroom teachers and administration
- Support teacher continued growth through professional learning opportunities

#### Resources

If we provide our staff and students with appropriate levels of educational resources (human, time and material) and if they use these resources effectively, then student learning will improve.

- For each improvement initiative, provide effective professional learning for all staff members on a continuous basis
- · Align school resources to enact school priorities
- Partner with parents to achieve system priorities and goals
- Improve intervention efforts for struggling students and high-achieving students
- · Hire highly qualified staff and support personnel

# SCHOOL-WIDE STRATEGIES Problem of Practice

ased on student achievement data in K-5 core areas, the academic environment must be designed to determine and regularly adjust for a high level of rigor whole group, small group, and individual students by focusing on high level questioning and understanding text/task using rubrics, scales, and goals to nitor student growth.

FOCUSED STRATEGY (addresses the oblem of practice and are limited in number and high		ADULT ACTIONS persons responsible, the timeline and now actions will be monitored)	IIV (identif	NCE OF SUCCESSFUL IPLEMENTATION by student achievement asures and timeline)	S	PECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDED
	plan ctive	<ul> <li>Teachers will develop SLO's/IA's based on student data</li> <li>Teachers will link questions ask common core and high level thing.</li> <li>Teachers will implement rubrics learning scales to provide inform students about what they know they know it.</li> <li>Teachers will model strategies the students navigate through challed text or a challenging tasks.</li> <li>Teachers review student work, instructional practices in data inform instruction individually or groups.</li> <li>Teachers will evaluate the effect of their lessons/units and adjust according to the refection on learning.</li> <li>The curriculum is compacted to needs of the students based on collected.</li> <li>Teachers meet with grad partners, the principal and</li> </ul>	ed to the nking and nation to and how hat help enging data and teams to r in small ctiveness ust plans student meet the the data le level support	Winter benchmark assessments dem growth towards the year goal, at least students will meet exceed grade leve expectations     End of year goals exceeded	onstrate e end of 60% of or	<ul> <li>Materials</li> <li>Professional development on ref practice</li> <li>Professional development of ass student growth with reflective praction of reading benchmark assessments</li> <li>Resources on metacognition and questioning</li> <li>Professional; learning t on impleascales and rubrics</li> </ul>
		teachers to share effective stra challenges and plan lessons acc • Teachers participate in rounds	cordingly			

	data on our problem of practice  Teachers will use technology an multiple resources effectively	d	
Student sflections are llected with exit ps, journals, etc. d have a rubric ore to track provement	Teachers implement scales/rubrics and share with students	Journal rubrics are scored and tracked for growth (on-going)	PD on questioning and conferencing
Feachers will pnitor social eractions at cess to prevent ean spirited haviors hool Climate irvey results monstrate that % of students cort not knowing e school rules. win meetings and ade level morning eetings will pport rules	<ul> <li>Teachers will provide opportunities for student to address troublesome situations during morning/afternoon meeting related to school survey results</li> <li>Teachers will implement the strategies suggested in the health curriculum and RC</li> <li>Teachers will bring students to recess every day</li> <li>Teachers will plan at least one organized game for each outside recess</li> <li>PTA meetings will have a school climate update.</li> <li>The School Climate Team will meet to discuss the survey results and plan supports necessary.</li> </ul>	Referrals for bullying investigation will drop by 10% in the spring 2014 survey referrals will continue to decrease from the 2014 totals	Time for planning     Scheduling
view. 15% of rents perceive llying as an issue Sherman			

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•	Based on student achievement data in K-5 core areas, the regularly adjust for a high level of rigor for whole group, s	ne academic environment must be	designed to determine and
	regularly adjust for a high level of rigor for whole group, c	inai group, and marridual student	<b>.</b> .
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## SCHOOL-WIDE STRATEGIES-Problem of Practice

Based on student achievement data in K-5 core areas, the academic environment must be designed to determine and regularly adjust for a high level of rigor for whole group, small group, and individual students by focusing on high level questioning and understanding text/task using rubrics, scales, and goals to monitor student growth.

FOCUSED STRATEGY (addresses the problem of practice and are limited in number and high leverage)	ADULT ACTIONS  (include persons responsible, the timeline and how actions will be monitored)	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION (identify student achievement measures and timeline)	SPECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDED
Teachers will plan effective lessons	Teachers will develop SLO's/IAGD's based on student data Teachers will link questions asked to the common core and high level thinking Teachers will implement rubrics and learning scales to provide information to students about what they know and how they know it Teachers will model strategies that help students navigate through challenging text or a challenging tasks Teachers review student work, data and instructional practices in data teams to inform instruction individually or in small groups Teachers will evaluate the effectiveness of their lessons/units and adjust plans according to the refection on student learning The curriculum is compacted to meet the needs of the students based on the data collected Teachers meet with grade level partners,	Winter benchmark assessments demonstrate growth towards the end of year goal, at least 60% of students will meet or exceed grade level expectations End of year goals met or exceeded	Materials Professional development on reflective practice Professional development of assessing student growth with reflective practices Calibration of reading benchmark assessments Resources on metacognition and questioning Professional; learning t on implementing scales and rubrics

	the principal and support teachers to share effective strategies or challenges and plan lessons accordingly  Teachers participate in rounds to gather data on our problem of practice  Teachers will use technology and multiple resources effectively		
Student Reflections are collected with exit slips, journals, etc. and have a rubric score to track improvement	Teachers implement scales/rubrics and share with students	Journal rubrics are scored and tracked for growth (on-going)	PD on questioning and conferencing
Teachers will monitor social interactions at recess to prevent mean spirited behaviors.	Teachers will provide opportunities for student to address troublesome situations during morning/afternoon meeting related to school survey results  Teachers will implement the strategies suggested in the health curriculum and RC Teachers will bring students to recess every day  Teachers will plan at least one organized game for each outside recess  PTA meetings will have a school climate	Referrals for bullying investigation will drop by 10% in the spring 2014 survey referrals will continue to decrease from the 2014 totals	Time for planning Scheduling
School Climate Survey results demonstrate that 40% of students report not knowing the school	update The School Climate Team will meet to discuss the survey results and plan supports necessary		

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rules. Town meetings				
and grade level morning				
meetings will support				
rules review. 15% of				
parents perceive bullying				
as an issue at Sherman.				

## Kindergarten Writing Strategy 2014 - 2015

The Kindergarten team will implement differentiated student checklists and individual goals to help students meet or exceed the end of the year goal for writing, which is a scaled score of 3, on the Fairfield Public Schools On Demand Writing assessment. Targeted questions will be developed to support student growth.

FOCUSED STRATEGY	ADULT ACTIONS	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL	SPECIFIC SUPPORT
(addresses the problem of practice and are limited in number and high leverage)	(include persons responsible, the timeline and how actions will be monitored)	IMPLEMENTATION (identify student achievement measures and timeline)	NEEDED
The Kindergarten team will implement differentiated student checklists and individual goals to help students meet or exceed the end of the year goal for writing, which is a scaled score of 3, on the Fairfield Public Schools On Demand Writing assessment.	The Kindergarten team will monitor student progress through the use of:  On-Demand writing assessments for each unit.  Conferencing and questioning based on students' individual goals  Fairfield Public Schools' Writer's Workshop units of study with additional modifications to add rigor	<ul> <li>Eighty-five percent of kindergarten students will meet or exceed the end of the year goal for writing, which is a scaled score of 3, on the Fairfield Public Schools On Demand Writing assessment.</li> <li>Students' writing will be measured by each On Demand Writing post assessment given at the end of each unit.</li> <li>Student goals will increase in rigor as they progress in their writing.</li> </ul>	Professional learning support will include collaboration with the LAS for learning the new units of study and grade level partners.

	GRADE LEVEL use checklists and individualized student Teacher's College On Demand Assessmen	goals for each student to make on	e year's growth in narrative
FOCUSED STRATEGY (addresses the problem of practice and are limited in number and high leverage)	ADULT ACTIONS (include persons responsible, the timeline and how actions will be monitored)	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION (identify student achievement measures and timeline)	SPECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDED
Teachers will confer with students to encourage withitness.	Teachers will meet with individual students to give meaningul feedback.	Students will make one year's growth according to the Teacher's College On Demand assessment rubric.	Professional Development to interpret the data gathered by the On Demand Assessment rubric.
Students will set individualized goals based upon the performance assessment checklist.	Teachers will monitor student progress through use of the knowledge meter.		Time to collaborate with grade level team to develop individualized student writing goals
Students will utilize checklist to reflect upon their writing.	Teachers will monitor student responses through the use of the performance assessment checklist.		Time to meet with LAS.

#### GRADE LEVEL STRATEGIES- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Teachers will provide Effective Feedback through questioning and through the use of rubrics and conferencing with students. FOCUSED STRATEGY ADULT ACTIONS **EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL** SPECIFIC SUPPORT (addresses the problem (include persons responsible, the timeline **IMPLEMENTATION** NEEDED of practice and are and how actions will be monitored) (identify student achievement limited in number and measures and timeline) high leverage) Checklists (us and students) On demand pre and post Las 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Grade level CPT Rubrics (us and students) data teachers will conferencing All year (all units) Time to score and assist students in analyze writing and improve by 1 rubric level (85%) Time to review journals and our Monitoring /recording Reading journal Writing and math journals **Teachers will provide** conversations recorded conversations. Also seen in feedback appropriate and higher Reading feedback book called level feedback to Opening Minds (conversations) between students to promote Observations of colleagues teacher and student and rigor in all subjects student to student

## **GRADE LEVEL STRATEGIES- Grade 3 2014-2015**

Teacher will score written reading response questions and conference with students one-on-one and in small instructional groups to target each student's level of comprehension weakness (Within, About and Beyond) to monitor student's growth toward Benchmarks and personal reading goals. Targeted questions will be developed to support student growth.

FOCUSED STRATEGY	ADULT ACTIONS	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL	SPECIFIC SUPPORT
(addresses the problem	(include persons responsible, the timeline	IMPLEMENTATION	NEEDED
of practice and are limited in number and	and how actions will be monitored)	(identify student achievement measures and timeline)	
high leverage)		measures and timeme)	
Teacher will share     data with students     and confer with	<ol> <li>Teachers will have students assess their own work using a 1-3 rubric.</li> <li>Teachers will provide "exit slips" for</li> </ol>	1. At least 95% of students will continue to be at or above grade level (instructional) for reading or	Grade level meeting time     to organize and prepare     model lessons.
students to set personal goals.	students to show their understanding.	make one year's growth.	<ol> <li>Grade level meeting time to select appropriate leveled text for lessons.</li> </ol>
<ol> <li>Teachers will provide students with a record keeping system for their personal data.</li> </ol>	Teachers will administer bimonthly written reading response questions,     District Assessments and Benchmarks (November, February and June).		<ol> <li>Grade level meeting time time to organize and analyze the data.</li> </ol>
3. Teacher will model high quality written responses.	4. Teachers will meet to analyze students' growth and progress toward goals and share data at grade level and EIP meetings.  5. Teacher will provide goal statements (on a		<ol> <li>Grade level meeting time to create and redesign reading lessons to add rigor and higher level expectations.</li> </ol>
	5. Teacher will provide goal statements (on a ring) aligned with reading units to assist students in moving upwards through goal achievement.		<ol><li>LAS support time for creation of goal rings and rubrics.</li></ol>

# GRADE LEVEL STRATEGIES-

## Grade 4

Teacher will score written pieces (on demand prompts) and conference with students one-on-one and in small instructional groups to target the areas of elaboration and craft to monitor students' growth towards benchmarks and personal writing goals. Targeted questions will be developed to support student growth.

	questions will be de	eveloped to support student growth.	·	
	FOCUSED STRATEGY	ADULT ACTIONS	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL	SPECIFIC SUPPORT
- 1	(addresses the problem	(include persons responsible, the timeline	IMPLEMENTATION	NEEDED
	of practice and are	and how actions will be monitored)	(identify student achievement	
	limited in number and	·	measures and timeline)	
-	high leverage)			
	Teacher will score written pieces (on demand prompts) and conference with students one-onone and in small instructional groups to target the areas of elaboration and craft to monitor students' growth towards benchmarks and personal writing	<ol> <li>Teacher will model writing pieces with little elaboration. Students will identify weak areas and work to revise the model piece by utilizing elaboration and craft techniques taught in the mini lessons.</li> <li>Teacher will model how to utilize unit checklist &amp; rubric prior to, and after completion of, a writing piece.</li> <li>Small group instruction with students, in order to set goals for writing and monitor progress will take place and feedback will be given to students on their progress towards their goals through use of</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>53 percentage point gain (22%-75%) in number of students who meet or exceed goal on the spring (May 2015) on demand writing prompt.</li> <li>11 EIP/SPED 4<sup>th</sup> grade students will increase at least one level on the spring (May 2015) on demand writing prompt.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Time to organize/analyze data collected to target areas of weakness.</li> <li>Time to plan and utilize Lucy Caulkins units of study</li> </ol>
	goals.	rubrics/checklists.  4. Classroom teachers will confer  with students at least once a		
		month to review goals and		
		monitor progress towards goals.		
		monitor progress towards godis.		

	Small group/One-on-One	
	conference notes will identify the	
	goal for the students and the	
İ	evidence that demonstrates	
	progress towards that goal.	

## GRADE LEVEL STRATEGIES-Grade 5

Teacher will score written pieces (on demand prompts) and conference with students one-on-one and in small instructional groups to target the areas of elaboration and craft to monitor students' growth towards benchmarks and personal writing goals.

FOCUSED STRATEGY (addresses the problem of practice and are limited in number and high leverage)	ADULT ACTIONS (include persons responsible, the timeline and how actions will be monitored)	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION (identify student achievement measures and timeline)	SPECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDED
Teacher will score written pieces (on demand prompts) and conference with students one-onone and in small instructional groups to target the areas of elaboration and craft to monitor students' growth towards benchmarks and personal writing goals.	<ol> <li>Teacher will model writing pieces with little elaboration. Students will identify weak areas and work to revise the model piece by utilizing elaboration and craft techniques taught in the mini lessons.</li> <li>Teacher will model how to utilize unit checklist &amp; rubric prior to, and after completion of, a writing piece.</li> <li>Small group instruction with students, in order to set goals for writing and monitor progress will take place and feedback will be given to students on their progress towards their goals through use of rubrics/checklists.</li> <li>Classroom teachers will confer with students at least once a</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>25 percentage point gain (61%-86%) in number of students who meet or exceed goal on the spring (May 2015) on demand writing prompt.</li> <li>9 EIP/SPED 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will increase at least one level on the spring (May 2015) on demand writing prompt.</li> </ol>	<ol> <li>Time to organize/analyze data collected to target areas of weakness.</li> <li>Time to plan and utilize Lucy Caulkins units of study</li> </ol>
	month to review goals and monitor progress towards goals.		

GRA	DF	I FVFI	STRA	TEGIES

Specialists - Improve School Climate using CARES

FOCUSED	ADULT ACTIONS	EVIDENCE OF SUCCESSFUL	SPECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDED
STRATEGY (addresses the problem of practice and are limited in number and high leverage)	(include persons responsible, the timeline and how actions will be monitored)	IMPLEMENTATION (identify student achievement measures and timeline)	OF LOW TO GOT TOTAL NEEDER
Teacher will facilitate having students create a set of rules/expectations	Teacher will have each class brainstorm a list of behaviors needed to be successful. The teacher will then create a poster for the room.  The teacher will use the stop and think chair/spot from Responsive Classroom when students are not meeting the behavior expectations and need to make better choices.	The number of times students need to be reminded of behavior expectations will go down, resulting in more time on task.	Time to meet with other specialists to use common language for behavior expectations that go across all areas. Each special area may also have expectations specific to their area.  Meet with support staff to discuss special needs of specific students
Teacher will support the implementation of the CARES Initiative	Teacher will display the CARES poster in their room.  Teacher will discuss and model one word each month and model behaviors for the students.  Teacher questioning on how the school rules apply in all areas of the school and in all subject areas. How does this look in Art, in PE, in Music, in the hallway, in the classroom?	The teacher will acknowledge/remind students when they are exhibiting/not exhibiting those behaviors. The number of positive acknowledgements should go up, while the number of reminders goes down.  Students can verbalize their understanding of how the school rules apply in all areas of the school.	Poster needed for each teaching space.
Teacher will use their subject area to support positive behaviors	Choosing lessons/activities in Music, Art and PE that can model and reinforce the CARES Initiative	Teacher observation of student interactions.	Working with colleagues to find/plan activities