

Final Report: 6/29/15

Commissioner's Schools Dissemination Grant

Dissemination District: Saratoga Springs CSD
Replication District: Monroe-Woodbury

Dissemination School: Lake Avenue Elementary
Replication School: Monroe-Woodbury MS

Please refer to the best practices and strategies/activities mentioned in your joint work plan when completing this report.

1. Best Practice disseminated/replicated: Enhance Rtl
Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives related to this specific Best Practice
Lake Avenue shared our Rtl process with the handbook and supporting documents disseminated to replications schools. We demonstrated best practices in research-based interventions and screenings. This was done during visitations to Lake Ave and to Monroe Woodbury MS, and through electronic means. Grant Summit in October 2014 in Central Square (C Square) enabled all schools to share data collection & reporting. Guided Reading training from F& P and learning walk observation of "grow time" at C.Square as different models of delivering instruction and intervention. Spreadsheet with bars/percentiles used in C. Square was a hit with all dissemination and replication schools.
Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any supporting documentation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of universal screener with all students to monitor reading level• Peer Coach hired to support teachers to differentiate instruction, analyze data, and support students• Read 180 as an intervention tool for at risk students
Narrative summary of effectiveness of enhancement of Commissioner's Dissemination School's best practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• District Committee reconvened and conducted an assessment audit, data audit, and revamped Rtl, including improved flowcharts, directions, and use of norm-referenced universal screener.• "Learning Walks" protocol was introduced by Maria Boller, peer coach. Saratoga used this successfully to gather data at Lake and shared the practice with the other replication school.
Continued partnership next steps (if any)
No continued partnership after June 2015

2. Best Practice disseminated/replicated: Establish an Assessment Framework/DDI
Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives related to this specific Best Practice
<p>Lake Avenue shared information about interval assessment probes and use of assessments as part of a research-based intervention program for diagnosis and progress monitoring during visits and through video conferencing, email communication, and videos posted to YouTube. This included assessments such as DIBELS, Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System, and the Words their Way Inventory.</p> <p>Lake Avenue also arranged for visitations at Maple Avenue Middle School in order to support Monroe-Woodbury.</p> <p>Grant Summit in Central Square - a highlight of the two days was seeing another replication school's use of data to inform instruction, set goals, and schedule students for interventions.</p>
Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any supporting documentation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monroe-Woodbury uses STAR as universal screener. • Created and/or refined common assessments across content areas. • Monroe-Woodbury is seeking assessment/best practice to address writing assessment and intervention. • Improved DDI through the use of protocols led by peer coach and/or administration. • Cross-curricular connections and DDI as reported by M. Boller (specifically SS)
Narrative summary of effectiveness of enhancement of Commissioner's Dissemination School's best practices
<p>Saratoga conducted an assessment audit and revised testing protocols to ensure that the universal screening tool is a norm-referenced, predictive assessment. Additional assessments have been identified to inform instruction and diagnose student gaps. We are now collecting consistent data across the district to identify the percentages of students at risk, somewhat at risk, and with little/no risk. We are also compiling data for comparison, program review, and allocation of resources such as the percentage of students receiving pull-out interventions, the percentage of economically disadvantaged students at benchmark, below, etc, SWD data, and more to form a more complete picture.</p>
Continued partnership next steps (if any)
None after June 2015

3. Best Practice disseminated/replicated: Improve Parent Involvement
Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives related to this specific Best Practice
Saratoga shared best practices for parent engagement during visitations and through the Rtl handbook appendix materials. This included visitation at Maple Avenue for sharing of middle school information. Grant Summit - another highlight was the ability for replication schools to share ideas around parent involvement. All schools learned about innovations at Rochester 29 including home visits by teachers.
Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any supporting documentation)
Parent Involvement has not been a focus of the dissemination or replication activities for Monroe-Woodbury, though plans for the extension indicate some focus on improving parent involvement.
Narrative summary of effectiveness of enhancement of Commissioner's Dissemination School's best practices
This grant has helped focus some of our efforts on overlooked populations at Saratoga. While our percent of economically disadvantaged is low, it has been a good reminder that families of at risk students or those living in poverty need to be invited to participate in different ways than the majority of our families. We have spent time at the district and building levels investigating the work of Ruby Payne and Eric Jensen and are in the process of hiring "at risk" counselors at middle and high school and looking at our "wrap around" services across the district.
Continued partnership next steps (if any)
None after June 2015