

End of Year 2 Report: 9/30/14

Replication Grant for Low-Performing Schools

Dissemination District: Saratoga Springs CSD  
Replication District: Olean CSD (OCSD)

Dissemination School: Lake Avenue Elementary School  
Replication School: Olean Intermediate MS

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

<b>Best Practice to be disseminated/replicated:</b> <b>Interim assessments will begin to be administered four times per year in ELA and Math in grades 4-7.</b>
<b>Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives</b> Teachers were awarded time during the summer to develop or revise interim assessments in the areas of ELA and math. The OIMS Assessment Framework was then developed in order to document the schedule of assessments taking place in the building for the 2014-15 School Year. The OCSD is also participating in a “Teaching is the Core” grant being conducted by the Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. As part of this initiative, we will be auditing our current assessments across the district and then trained on quality test design with the goal of creating high-quality assessments while decreasing the amount of testing for our students.
<b>Any specific concerns or issues encountered during implementation</b> Teachers compared the interims administered last year to the released questions from the 2014 NYS ELA and math Assessments. Items on the interims were revised, deleted or added based on this analysis. Questions and concerns from teachers revolved around building quality assessments.
<b>Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any necessary documentation)</b> In Grade 4, teachers recognized a trend in each administration of their ELA Interim Assessment. Students showed steady progress from Interim 1 to Interim 4 in the area of reading comprehension. It is believed that the revised parts have built additional rigor to the assessments. OIMS Assessment Framework Document Attached (Attachment #1)
<b>Continued partnership next steps (if any)</b> Olean Intermediate-Middle School will continue assessment development with the Audit/Review and Design Teams as components of the “Teaching is the Core” grant.

<b>Best Practice to be disseminated/replicated: Data analysis meetings will be held following each assessment period.</b>
<b>Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives</b>
<p>End of year data meetings were conducted in June. STAR Assessment data was reviewed and used along with classroom data in order to determine student placements for the 2014-15 School Year.</p> <p>Half-day data meetings will be scheduled 3-4 times during the 2014-15 School Year. Grades 6-7 will participate in their BOY Data Meeting on 10/1/14. Grades 4-5 will participate in their BOY Data Meeting on 10/9/14. The agenda for each meeting is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NYS ELA and Math Assessment Data Analysis, including analysis of released questions</li> <li>• STAR Reading and Math Beginning of Year (BOY) Data</li> <li>• Language! BOY Data</li> <li>• Action Planning based on data analysis</li> <li>• Data Binder Implementation</li> <li>• Scheduling data meetings for the remainder of the year, based around interim assessments, STAR Assessments, and Language! Assessments (Attachment #2)</li> </ul>
<b>Any specific concerns or issues encountered during implementation</b>
<p>Timing of data meetings is crucial. There must be quick turnaround from the time the assessments are administered to the time teachers are analyzing the data and adjusting instruction in order to meet student needs. Coordinating schedules of teachers, principals, and other District priorities is challenging.</p>
<b>Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any necessary documentation)</b>
<p>We are excited to be able to schedule half-day data meetings for our 6-7 teachers. The extended time to review and analyze data is necessary for data-driven instruction. The morning will focus on ELA instruction and the afternoon will focus on math instruction. See tentative data meeting schedule (Attachment #3)</p>
<b>Continued partnership next steps (if any)</b>

<b>Best Practice to be disseminated/replicated: Olean teachers in grades 4 &amp; 5 will develop data tracking forms and protocols to guide the collection, analysis, and presentation of student work for student led conferences.</b>
<b>Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives</b>
Four 5 <sup>th</sup> grade teachers were awarded time during the summer to develop data tracking forms and protocols to guide the collection, analysis and presentation of student work for student led conferences. A binder of forms and research was developed and shared with the 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade teachers. The four 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade teachers are now implementing their data tracking forms and protocols in order to conduct student led conferences in November 2014. They will then report to the 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade teachers about the process with the goal of having all 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> grade teachers implementing student-led conferences in March 2015.
<b>Any specific concerns or issues encountered during implementation</b>
Communicating to parents/guardians about the shift from teacher-driven to student-driven conferences will be necessary in order to prepare them for this change. Overall, there is much excitement about the implementation of student led conferences.
<b>Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any necessary documentation)</b>
See Summer Curriculum proposal ( <a href="#">Attachment #4</a> ) and binder contents attached ( <a href="#">Attachment #5</a> ).
<b>Continued partnership next steps (if any)</b>
We would like to connect again with Marcus Whitman School District so that additional elementary teachers can hear about student-led conferences to encourage and support additional implementation in Spring 2015.

<b>Best Practice to be disseminated/replicated: Implementation of the Fountas &amp; Pinnell Intervention System by Title I Reading Teachers.</b>
<b>Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives</b>
The Title I Teachers are in the process of completing the Fountas & Pinnell (F & P) Assessments on all Title I students. This data will be used to create groups for instructional purposes. The Title I teachers have also spent time preparing materials in order to start the intervention program with students once the F & P assessments are complete.
<b>Any specific concerns or issues encountered during implementation</b>
Learning a new intervention program takes time and support from others who know the program. Title I teachers have been diligent in learning the program and look forward to connecting with the teachers at Lake Avenue for continued support throughout the school year.
<b>Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any necessary documentation)</b>
Although students are showing growth in ELA in grades 4-7, the growth has not accelerated enough to close large gaps in learning that exist in the students who are not rated proficient by the NYS ELA CC Assessments. The Fountas & Pinnell System provides a structure for our Title I teachers to group students based on reading ability and instructional strategies and techniques to accelerate student learning in order to close gaps. (See F&P Benchmark Assessment Schedule Attachment #6.)
<b>Continued partnership next steps (if any)</b>
Plans are being set to attend the Grant Summit on October 29-30 <sup>th</sup> in order to receive additional training in the F & P Intervention Program. Saratoga Springs will also be providing mentoring in their visit and calls throughout the fall.

<b>Best Practice to be disseminated/replicated: OIMS will introduce and implement 1000 Book Club concept as OIMS Reads.</b>
<b>Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives</b>
A team of teachers is working together to implement a family engagement opportunity called OIMS Reads Book Club. Families will have the opportunity to sign-out bags of books and other periodicals to read at home. The bags will include books, college brochures, student writing pieces about different types of jobs, and pamphlets about area organizations and places to visit. Completion date has been set to introduce the program to parents at our November parent conferences.
<b>Any specific concerns or issues encountered during implementation</b>
It is vital to keep this project moving in order to be completed by November Parent Conferences. A work plan ( <b>Attachment #7</b> ) has been created to stay on course. Parent volunteers have been recruited to assist with organizing the bags and finalizing the sign-in and check out procedures in order to ensure that they are family friendly.
<b>Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any necessary documentation)</b>
The team of teachers met on 9/29 to divide jobs between team members. We are meeting again on 10/27 to review sign-out procedures, return procedures, and PR for introducing the program. Updates will be given on book and bag arrival and shelf construction. Plans will then be made to get the bags ready to be signed out at Parent Conferences on November 24-25, 2014.
<b>Continued partnership next steps (if any)</b>
Share our progress with the Saratoga Team when we meet at the end of October.

<b>Best Practice to be disseminated/replicated: Olean team will develop presentations and communication plans for 2014-15 Family Forum events. Olean Team will conduct Family Forum events during the 2014-15 School Year.</b>
<b>Narrative summary of completion of goals and objectives</b>
The Olean City School District is proud to introduce the Family And Community Engagement Series (FACES) which expand the parent forums that began last year. Dates have been set and tentative topics have been planned. We have also requested families to communicate with us possible topics that they would like to learn about. Tables were set up at building for Open House to share information with families on the dates for the forums.
<b>Any specific concerns or issues encountered during implementation</b>
Ensuring that families have enough notice in order to attend the forums in a must. School Messenger, social media and the school website will be utilized for this purpose in addition to the paper announcements. We are also planning to post our information to the school website for parents/guardians that are not able to attend the forums.
<b>Narrative summary of evidence of impact/effectiveness of Best Practice (attach any necessary documentation)</b>
Two parent forums were held last school year. There were 10 attendees for each forum. Feedback from others led us to get dates set early this school year and out to families so that schedules could be set to attend the forums (See Attachment #8.) Overall, feedback from attendees was positive, and we were encouraged to continue the next school year.
<b>Continued partnership next steps (if any)</b>
We will continue to share our plans and experiences with Saratoga Springs during our communications this fall and gain ideas from strategies/topics they have implemented.