

BFMS School Wide Action Plan

2010-2012

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Vision Statement

We envision The Bellows Falls Middle School to be a place where
ALL MEMBERS OF THE LEARNING COMMUNITY STRIVE TO:

1. Engage in and promote lifelong learning
2. Have high expectations
3. Celebrate the achievement of high standards
4. Contribute to and promote positive school climate
5. Respect and recognize one another's passions, strengths, challenges and needs
6. Lead healthy lives

We support the use of Medicaid Funds for the preschool program so that students will be ready to learn when they enter elementary school and therefore better prepared for BFMS

Bellows Falls Middle School
School-wide Action Plan
Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Principal

Narrative:

Teams were represented. Parents were invited but none were able to attend. The P.T.O. and the Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC) gave feedback on NECAP/academic needs and parent involvement at the June meetings.

The Schoolwide Plan

1. Comprehensive Needs Assessment:

The Data Warehouse and NECAP results offer multitudes of disaggregated information that has been used to determine future areas of concentration. Additional student needs were identified through initial testing, progress monitoring, attendance reports, special ed service plan calculations, staff schedules and lesson plans. Close attention to staff qualifications, skills and talents were taken into consideration when developing staffing patterns and resource allocation. Data sources include AIMSweb (read & math), math computation pre & post tests, Gates MacGinitie ready test, Scholastic Reading inventory, math audit of Dan Heller and feedback from Mahesh Sharma, math consultant.

- Not AYP Math for free & reduced lunch students
- Writing still a weakness
- Reading made AYP, but scores are below average
- Free & Reduced in reading, math & writing performing below state average
- Some cohorts stronger than others. We need to plan for data analysis and be prepared to support weaker cohorts and free & reduced lunch students
- There is a strong connection with writing success to reading testing; and reading/writing success to math testing.
- Aligned curriculum being rolled out in math and literacy for the district; which has benchmarks for student knowledge at each grade level. Common assessments still need to be developed
- Special education below state averages
- Critical Friends Group are implemented to examine teacher practice – needs to continue.
- Other sources of data is AIMSweb and Gates MacGinitie.
- Implementation of PBS
- Improve parental involvement

2. Schoolwide Reform Strategies: This requirement focuses on strategies to deal with low income, migratory and at risk students. Bellows Falls Middle School is in compliance with the McKinney Vento law for reporting and supporting homeless children. Our student population that receives free or reduced meals hovers near 61%. Our EST/RTI, 504 and SPED teams, academic teams and CFG meet on a regular basis to support all at risk students.

3. Instruction by Highly Qualified Teachers: All teachers and paraprofessionals at BFMS meet the standards of the NCLB Act for highly qualified staff. We seek candidates that meet these requirements.

4. Strategies to Attract Highly Qualified Teachers: Internal advertising for new positions and the use of School Spring is adequate to attract highly qualified candidates. See above.

5. High Quality and Ongoing Professional Development: The District level administrative team, while planning the allocations for the Federal Grant, coordinates LEA wide professional development activities. Most teachers have been trained in the Kansas writing program and some in Collins. Science, math, social studies and literacy curriculum development and grade level meetings have supported teachers in their understanding and use of the grade level expectations. At the building level, BFMS advertises professional development opportunities for teachers, establishes teams and representatives to attend specific trainings and network meetings. Student needs are always the focus. Mahesh Sharma work is on-going.

6. Strategies to Increase Parental Involvement: We work with PIRC and the PTO to increase parent community engagement. We have developed a Solid Foundation needs assessment and action plan, which will be incorporated into our school-wide Action Plan.

7. Transition Plans: We work with the four elementary schools to provide smooth transitions for incoming students. Students leaving BFMS have opportunities to learn about and visit the Bellows Falls Union High School before attending there in ninth grade. Ongoing conversations and meetings between district principals ensure that students on EST, 504 and SPED plans have the best possible transition between schools. Elementary students are invited to plays and concerts at BFMS as well as our band presenting at the schools. We also take our students to high school plays. Sports teams from high school and academic teachers visit to explain the high school programs. High School teachers meet BFMS for level selection.

Elementary students do tours and are invited for classroom visits. A tour night is offered for incoming parents and students.. Time arranged for meetings between teachers. Elementary schools fill out feedback forms for our teachers. On-going conversations on how to improve practices. Work on transition inside building Middle School awareness.

8. Teacher Participation in Assessment decisions:
Work ongoing at district level.

9. Strategies to Address Areas of Need: The Action Plan indicates how certified staff will be involved in the action steps of each part of the plan, as well as the continual analysis of new data and adjustments to the plan. CFG groups met frequently to discuss how to improve teacher practices.

10. Coordination and integration of federal, State and Local Services and programs: Where funding is necessary to support the implementation and progress of the action plan, funding sources are indicated. Coordination of resources to benefit student achievement remains the responsibility of the administrative team.

Bellows Falls Middle School Action Plan 2010 - 2012

Target Area: Reading

Goal: Increase % of students performing at proficient or better from 2009 results of 50% in reading to the state average of 70

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Assessment	Done	Funding Source:
Analyze and respond to NECAP reading scores to improve student performance.	--Compile annual data on test results --Use data to alter instructional practices -Provide stipend for lead teacher to oversee reading initiatives	--Data facilitator, --All reading, CFG/SPED Teachers, paraprof	--By winter, 2010 --Ongoing	--Updated data charts --Improved NECAP scores --Group assess. determined by teacher		CFG SIG L
Use Lexia/ AIMSweb to track student performance in fluency.	--Give both benchmarks/progress monitoring --Train staff in Lexia use --Provide clerical support to staff for data entry --Compile data and share with reading teachers --Use data to alter instruction annually	-- CFG teachers --Data facilitator, data teams --Reading teachers,	-3 bench marks - Sept., Jan., June, ongoing monitor	--Student records -Gates -SRI --Fluency charts in classrooms -Improve AIMSweb -Improve Lexia		CFG L SIG
Analyze and respond to Gates scores to improve student performance	--Admin. pre/post tests, compile results --Use data to alter instruction	--Classroom teachers, data fac. --Reading teacher, data teams	-June admin.	--Indiv. student record sheets --Increased NECAP reading scores		CFG L
-Provide extra reading support to low SES students, SPED students & students not proficient	--21C Homework club --CFG Summer school --Extra Reading block	--Certified teacher -- volunteers --Certified teachers -- All reading, CFG, SPED teacher; paras	-ongoing	--Record of attendance -AIMSweb improvement NECAP improvement --Teacher made group assess.		CFG L 21C ARRA
Provide professional development in reading -Provide teachers time to examine data & their practice & develop interventions.	--Use trainer to work with staff on reading practices --Apply new strategies in classrooms --Align practices with SU literacy com. benchmarks/ recommendations	--Reading teachers, data teams --Reading teachers, Lit. com. rep., data teams		--Teacher plans, NECAP, Gates, AIMSweb, --Data team meeting notes		CFG L

-Provide teachers time to examine data & their practice & develop interventions	-D1 -TRI -CFG/Protocols Provide profess. Dev. & coaching in reading instruction & BEST practice.	-CFG & Core teachers -CFG facilitator	-Ongoing	-Meeting notes – document change in work product -Improve scores		CFG L SIG ARRA

CFG = Consolidated Federal Grant SIG = School Improvement Grant ARRA = American Recovery & Reinvestment Act
L = Local Budget 21C = 21st Century Grant SES = Social Economic Status OG = Other Grant Opportunities
ILT = Instructional Leadership Team will be responsible for Action Plan or will designate responsible parties WB – WNESU Budget
PIRC = Parent Information Resource Center IDEA ARRA = Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
ARRA = American Recovery & Reinvestment Act BEST = Building Effective Supports For Teaching

Bellows Falls Middle School Action Plan

Target Area: Math

GOAL: Increase % of students performing at proficient or better from 2009 results of 33% in math to the state average of 65%

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Assessment	Done	Funding Source:
Analyze and respond to the NECAP & AYP scores over 2 years and track student performance.	--Tabulate data on test results --Discuss in data teams, alter math instructional practices as a result. -Math night -Provide stipend for lead teacher to oversee math initiatives	-- Data facilitator -- Data teams	-Winter, 2010 --Ongoing	--Revised data charts --Increased NECAP scores, samples of work that demonstrate changes in instructional practices		C.F.G.
Review and respond to formative assess.	--Unit end tests, teacher made, assessments, AIMSweb, other assess. to see if altered instruct needed -Provide clerical support to teach for data entry	--All math teachers, CFG Teachers, Data Facilitator	--Ongoing	AIMSweb graphs, class/stud record sheets, --Portfolio scores and rubrics – pass on to next grade --Program assess and teacher input		C.F.G L SIG.
Align BFMS math practices with SU math committee outcomes	--New benchmarks to assess student progress – Compute Fluency Assessment and AIMSweb	--All math teachers, CFG Teachers, Data Facilitator	-June 2010	--Benchmarks, data team meeting notes on altered practices, + NECAP scores, assess. results --Staff and data team meeting notes		CFG L SIG
Provide extra math support to low SES, special education and students not proficient	--21C school homework club -- Summer school -Extra math blocks -Purchase math books	--Certified teacher -Volunteers -SPED teachers	-Ongoing	--Attendance, + NECAP scores records/increased assess. scores AIMSweb increase		CFG L SIG ARRA IDEA ARRA

-Provide teachers time to examine data & their practice & develop interventions	-D1 -RTI -CFG/Protocols Provide profess. dev. & coaching in math instruction & BEST practice.	-CFG & Core teachers -CFG facilitator	-Ongoing	Meeting notes - document change in work product -Imprvoed scores		CFG L SIG ARRA
-Use Symphony & Study Island/AIMSweb to track student performance in fluency	-Give both benchmarks/progress monitoring -Train staff in Symphony & Study Island use -Provide clerical support to staff for data entry -Compile data and share with reading teachers -Use data to alter instruction annually	-CFG -Data facilitator, data teams -Reading teachers	-3 benchmarks – Sept. Jan., June -Ongoing monitor	-Student records -Gates -SRI -Fluency charts in classrooms -Improve AIMSweb -Improve Symphony & Study Island		

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Bellows Falls Middle School Action Plan

Target Area: Writing

Goal: Increase % of students performing at proficient or better from 2008 results of 40% to the state average of 48%

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Assessment	Done	Funding Source:
Analyze and respond to the 8 th grade NECAP scores.	--Use data teams to look at data and create new strategies, monitor progress with formative assess. in classrooms	--Data teams and CFG data facilitator	--Ongoing	--Meeting notes		L CFG
Coordinate writing efforts and grading system between grade levels and align them with the NECAP rubrics	--Align writing portfolio efforts between grades --Look at student work across grade levels and discuss standards of assessment --Use various systematic writing approaches in the classrooms (CFG funded prof. dev.): *Collins *Kansas (4-5) Winona Coaching -Provide teachers with professional development for writing language across curriculum	Data Facilitator All Teachers	--Ongoing	--Meeting notes, increased NECAP scores, writing portfolios to next grade --Meeting notes, increased NECAP scores --Teacher lesson plans, increased NECAP scores		L CFG SIG
Provide extra writing support to low SES, special education and students not proficient	--21C school homework club -- Summer school -Extra writing blocks /	--Certified teacher -Volunteers -SPED teachers	-Ongoing	--Attendance, + NECAP scores records/increased assess. scores AIMSweb increase		CFG L SIG ARRA IDEA ARRA

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Bellows Falls Middle School Action Plan

Target Area: School Culture

Goal: To Raise achievement through increased student and family engagement and system support.

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Assessment	Done	Funding Source
-Provide opportunities for student leadership & recognition	-Student Leadership -Institute National Junior Honor Society -Peer Mediation -Continue No Bystander Crew	ILT	-Ongoing	-Meeting minutes		BEST L 21C Youth Services
-Consistent Transitions between & within school	-Work with WNESU principals to continue improvement efforts	-SU admin -ILT	-Fall 2010	-Meeting minutes		L
-Increase parental involvement & communications	-Curriculum nights -Annual school report - newsletter -PR stipend -Home school liason -Continue work with PIRC -Volunteer co-ordinator -Website improvements -Connect Ed -Make the school a more welcome place -Electronic sign -PowerSchool Portal -Develop parent involvement procedure	ILT	-Ongoing	-Parent Survey		SIG CFG
-Raise student standards	-Skill Acquisition -Investigate school uniforms -Develop Learning standards -Homework Procedure -ID cards	-ILT	-Summer & Fall 2010	-Meeting minutes		L CFG

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Assessment	Done	Funding Source
-Create a new school wide behavior plan	-Meet as a staff/discuss practices/needs -Create a new behavior plan, implement -Monitor effectiveness of new plan -Create team to track implementation	-Staff	-By Sept. 2010	-Staff meeting notes _Reduction in behavior incidences		L BEST SIG
-Gather staff and parent input on school climate	-Give parent survey in Jan., compile data -Discuss new behavior plan/implications on climate	-ILT	-By Jan. 2011	--Parent survey showing improvement		L
-Educate staff, students, parents about bullying, teasing and harassment	-District, staff and student training, CFG funded prof. dev. For staff	-WNESU -ILT	-By June, 2011	-Professional development records, guidance record		CFG L SIG
-Increase Technology in classrooms to support 21 st Century learning objectives	-Provide training to teachers -Purchase class sets of netbooks -Increase interactive technology, such as Elmos, smart boards, clickers, brightlinks, doc. cameras	-ILT	-by Jan. 2011	-Inventory & PD participation		SIG CFG
-Increase frequency and quality of formative teacher feedback	-Purchase training software, hardware of TESA	-Principal	-By Jan. 2011	-Documentation of teacher feedback		SIG L
-Encourage students to post secondary education work with VSAC (VT Student Assistant Corporation) to do same	-Work with College For Every Student (CFES) to encourage college awareness	-Guidance & teacher	-Ongoing	-Student Participation		SIG L

-Provide opportunity for teachers to met as teams	-Critical Friends Coaching -Provide opportunities to be in each others classroom -Adapt schedule to accommodate	-ILT	-Fall 2010	-Meeting notes		SIG CFG L
-Technology use & profess. development coaching & software	-Formative assessment on instructional practices (TESA) -clerical support	-Principal	-Fall 2010	-Increased formative feedback to teachers		SIG

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