

DORCHESTER COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

INSTRUCTIONAL MISSION STATEMENT

2008-2009

MISSION:

To implement immediate and evident measures to address achievement for all, achievement gaps, and minority achievement.

PRIMARY STRATEGY:

- Examine and realign PD to address expectations, attitudes, and climate – along with content matters.

Objective of realigned PD program:

Communicate to ALL students their worth and potential so clearly that they come to see it in themselves.

ADDITIONAL STRATEGIES:

Instruction and Professional Development

- Develop teacher capacity to deliver effective instruction to every student.
- Provide training for staff in diversity issues to promote understanding of different groups.
- Align curriculum, instruction, and assessment at every level and vertically.
- Develop professional skills in an unusually large number of new teachers.
- Provide focused PD for principals to develop teacher capacity - e.g. appraisal process.
- Initiate succession planning strategies to develop and enhance our own leadership capacity.
- Develop proficiency in technology standards for administrators, teachers, and students.

Instructional Programs

- Examine proactive alternatives for non-traditional students at all levels.
- Establish a more aligned preschool experience for children not enrolled in DCPS programs.
- Implement new Gifted/Talented initiatives.
- Conduct a follow-up discussion of summer school issues (e.g. course offerings) for next year.
- Form a High School Program Task Force to examine the high school experience.

Pupil Services

- Examine the impact of the attendance and discipline policies/practices on student success.
- Examine role of guidance counselor as it relates to attendance, discipline, and student achievement.

Processes

- Establish a greater synergy among the Administrative “Shop”, DIS, and school-based administrators through effective and regular communication.
- Develop, monitor, and revise the new Benchmarking initiatives, including an appropriate supporting technological framework.
- Make the Master Plan meaningful.
- Communicate and establish partnerships with family and community members.

Budget

- Understand, communicate, and spend grant funds and funds of all types efficiently and effectively.

Technology

- Provide reliable internet connections to support Power School, Performance Matters, and the full range of instructional applications.
- Integrate technology into daily instruction via direct instruction and student-centered learning activities.