

GCPS
ANNUAL PLAN
2016 - 2017

Principal: Mr. Justin Iroler, Mr. Derrick Spence and Dr. Kristie Legg
Assistant Principal: Mr. Brian Stuart, Mrs. Sonia Truitt, and Mrs. Emily Boyles

GOALS:

- 1. To improve language skills in the specific areas of writing, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.**
 - A. Teach age and developmentally appropriate writing skills.
 - B. To provide systematic vocabulary instruction to all students.
 - C. Strengthen students' reading comprehension skills of fiction and non-fiction text.

- 2. To improve attendance by identifying students and families with a history of chronic absenteeism.**
 - A. Develop a new attendance policy for Galax City Public Schools.
 - B. Educate students and families on the importance of student attendance and punctuality and the direct link to cognitive development.

- 3. To use data to drive practices and instruction**
 - A. Utilize MAP data, benchmarks and SOL data to determine areas of concern with individual students and provide appropriate remediation.
 - B. Monitor attendance, grades, and discipline to identify at-risk students.

- 4. To develop a Homework Philosophy that is purposeful and is used for practice, reinforcement, and encourages student accountability and responsibility.**
 - A. Work with individual staff at each school to develop a homework philosophy.
 - B. Create and work with a Division committee to develop a division homework philosophy.

GOAL #1: *To improve language skills in the specific areas of writing, vocabulary, and reading comprehension.*

A. Objective/Action Plan: Teach age and developmentally appropriate writing skills.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Modeling, frequent writing samples, timely feedback, rubrics	Classroom teacher	Classroom observation, informal and formal assessment based on rubrics	On-going

B. Objective/Action Plan: To provide systematic vocabulary instruction to all students.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Organize a book study to learn best practices in vocabulary instruction.	Building Administration	Notes from meeting	
2. Develop and enhance general academic (Tier 2) and domain specific (Tier 3) vocabulary of all students.	Classroom Teachers	Formative and Summative Assessments	Ongoing

C. **Objective/Action Plan:** Strengthen students' reading comprehension skills of fiction and non-fiction text.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates

GOAL #2: *To improve attendance by identifying student and families with a history of chronic absenteeism.*

A. Objective/Action Plan: Develop a new attendance policy for Galax City Public Schools.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Form an attendance committee.	Assistant Principals and Guidance Counselors	Committee Membership List	Before August 30, 2016
2. The attendance committee will research data related to chronic absenteeism.	Committee chair and members	Research collected; meeting minutes	Ongoing
3. The attendance committee will create a new, appropriate attendance policy for the division.	Committee chair and members	New attendance policy written and approved by the school board for the 2017 - 2018 school year	February school board meeting

B. Objective/Action Plan: Educate students and families on the importance of student attendance and punctuality and the direct link to cognitive development.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Send a letter at the beginning of the year emphasizing school attendance and punctuality.	Building Administration	Copy of letter	August 11, 2016
2. Ask teachers to highlight the attendance portion of the handbook verbally and in writing.	Classroom teachers	Homework Sheets, Remind Texts, Student handbooks	August 15 - 19, 2016
3. Use Attendance Works resources to communicate the link between attendance and cognitive development.	Guidance and Building Administrators	Copies of resources used	Ongoing through out year

GOAL #3: To use data to drive practices and instruction.

A. Objective/Action Plan: Utilize MAP data, Benchmarks, and SOL data to determine areas of concern with individual students and provide appropriate remediation.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Compile testing and student performance data to identify individual and systemic weaknesses.	Building Administration and staff	Faculty meetings and department meetings	Ongoing

B. Objective/Action Plan: Monitor attendance, grades, and discipline to identify at-risk students.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Compile student performance data to identify individuals at risk.	Building Administration and staff	Faculty meetings, department meetings, attendance meetings, and SAT meetings	Ongoing

GOAL #4: To develop an homework and philosophy that is purposeful and is used for practice, reinforcement, and encourages student accountability and responsibility.

A. Objective/Action Plan: Work with individual staff at each school to develop a homework philosophy.

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. Each school will develop a committee to discuss and formulate shared beliefs on homework.	Building Level Administration Teachers Parents Students	Notes on beliefs	August 15
2. Each building level committee will discuss and formulate a list of shared beliefs on homework.	Building Level Administration Teachers Parents Students	Notes on beliefs	November 1
3. Each school committee will elect three members to represent their school on the division committee.	Committee Building Level Administration	Members of Committee	November 1

B. Objective/Action Plan: Create and work with a division level committee to develop a division homework philosophy

Strategies and/or Action Steps	Person(s) Responsible	Evidence of Implementation of the Strategy	Target Dates
1. GCPS will develop a Division committee to discuss and formulate a shared philosophy of Homework.	School Board Office	Committee Members	December 1