

# West Villages Elementary School School Improvement Plan 2012-2013



## School Council Members

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## **West Villages Elementary Vision Statement**

The mission of the West Villages Elementary School is to teach our children in a safe and nurturing environment as monitored by our Positive School-Wide Initiatives. Students will demonstrate their academic progress as measured by standards based assessments. Implementing data driven instruction, we will track student progress to make informed decisions about teaching and learning for all.

In order to accomplish our vision...

Students will:

- ❖ Attend school everyday, on time.
- ❖ Act in a respectful, responsible, and safe manner at all times.
- ❖ Demonstrate effective effort and produce their best work.
- ❖ Demonstrate proficiency at or above grade level.

Staff will:

- ❖ Deliver high quality, standards-based instruction in an engaging and supportive manner.
- ❖ Use ongoing assessments to challenge and support students based on their individual needs.
- ❖ Provide strategies to enhance students' social, emotional, and ethical development.
- ❖ Provide a safe, respectful school environment that values communication, trust, and teamwork among staff, students, families, and the community.

## 2011 – 2012 Accomplishments

Our dedicated staff members have participated in many professional development activities this year which include but are not limited to:

- PBIS Drops in the Bucket Program
- Functional Behavior Analysis Training
- Category Trainings for Non-English Speaking Students
- Non-violent Crisis Intervention Training
- Keys to Literacy
- Mathematical Thinking with Dr. Chet Delani
- Smartboard Learning
- MCAS alternative training
- Work with James Levine on supporting student behavior
- Stan Davis Anti-bullying training
- Data training with Nancy Love
- Professional Learning Community work
- Evidence Based Positive Behavior Support work with Howard Knoff

PTO activities have included but are not limited to: Fall Social, Turkey Trot Basketball, Movie Night, Walk-A-Thon fundraiser, Book Fair, Bingo Night, Spaghetti Supper, Coat Drive, Art Show, all-school assemblies and a Read-A-Thon

**For the 2012-2013 school year we indicated 3 conditions for school effectiveness that we will address:**

- ❖ **Effective Instruction**
- ❖ **Students' social, emotional, and health needs**
- ❖ **Family-school engagement**

## **Condition #1: Effective Instruction**

**Improvement Goal: We will reduce the achievement gap from 92.0 in 2012 to 92.8 by June of 2013 as measured by the CPI from MCAS in an effort to close the achievement gap by 2017.**

### **List of Strategies to accomplish improvement goal:**

1. Implementation of new Common Core Curriculum and curriculum maps
2. Phonemic Awareness and Phonics instruction through ECRI Grant
3. ERI groups for K students as a tier 2 strategy

### **Strategy #1 Implementation of new common Core Curriculum and curriculum maps**

**Describe the specific Strategy to be implemented:** The teachers were provided with the new curriculum binders and the curriculum maps to implement beginning this year. Trainings are being provided for them and they will adjust their practice accordingly. Well designed lessons based on state standards will be delivered to our students.

**Selection criteria:** All students will be receiving this instruction and new maps will allow teachers to make the changes needed to prepare their students for the new PARCC assessment.

**Timeframe:** This will be implemented beginning the first day of school and continue on into the coming school year.

**Indicators of Success:** Indicators will include MCAS for third grade, AIMSWeb and other common assessments such as BCAS.

## **Strategy #2 Enhancing Phonics Instruction through the ECRI (Enhancing the Core Reading Instruction) grant**

**Describe the specific strategy to be implemented:** The first grade teachers were trained this summer to deliver the ECRI program of supplemental phonics instruction to complement the Reading Street program. This is a specific way to deliver the instruction which will be closely monitored by people overseen and trained through the University of Oregon. The grant is in its last year in Barnstable and this is the year that West Villages will be the treatment school. Prior to this, it was the comparison school for research purposes.

**Selection Criteria:** After administering the DIBELS, this treatment will be applied to all children in Tier II.

**Timeframe:** The school year 2012-2013. Each teacher will utilize a 90 minute block of instructional time for this additional instruction provided to children identified as tier II after the testing of all the first graders with the DIBELS.

**Indicators of Success:** Monitors from the University of Oregon will administer on-going testing and the collection of evidence toward student success as measured by the DIBELS.

## **Strategy #3 ERI groups for Kindergarten**

**Describe the specific strategy to be implemented:** Instructional Assistants will offer additional instruction as a Tier II intervention for children struggling in reading until the children are reading with fluency.

**Selection Criteria:** Students identified on AIMSWeb screening in the fall.

**Timeframe:** Ongoing beginning in September through June.

**Indicators of Success:** Student fluency will improve based on bi-monthly AIMSWeb assessment.

## **Condition #1: Effective Instruction**

**Improvement Goal:** Each grade level has created an additional block of instructional math time to be used as a safety net. As a result the math CPI data on the MCAS will increase from 91.4 in 2012 to 92.2 in 2013 in an effort to close the achievement gap by 2017.

### **List of strategies to accomplish the goal:**

1. Create a schedule with additional math instructional times
2. Best way to use this time to be determined at each grade level

### **Strategy #1- Create a new schedule**

**Describe the specific strategy to be implemented:** As a school we took a look at our current schedule last spring. In order to create a new block of instructional time we looked at times during the school day that were uninterrupted by specials for each grade level. Each grade level was assigned an additional 30 minute time block that was shared by the same grade level so that staff could group students to better meet their needs.

**Selection Criteria:** This will be applied to all students in every grade.

**Time frame:** We will begin this process in September and continue all year.

**Indicators of Success:** We will be looking at students' scores on the AIMSWeb math assessments and measuring growth from the fall scores against the spring.

### **Strategy #2 Make a decision at every grade level on how best to use this time**

**Describe the specific strategy to be used:** At the September staff meeting, each grade level was given the opportunity to discuss how best to utilize this instructional time. Most grades will use this as remedial or enrichment time.

**Selection Criteria:** All children will benefit from this additional instructional time.

**Time Frame:** On-going throughout the school year.

**Indicators of Success:** Improved mathematical understanding and increased AIMSWeb and MCAS scores in an effort to close the achievement gap by 2017.

## **Condition # 2: Students' Social, Emotional and Health Needs**

**Improvement Goal:** We will continue our efforts to promote a positive, respectful, responsible and safe school environment.

**List of Strategies to accomplish this goal:**

1. Continue the Drops in the Bucket Program
2. Create a project for the entire school to reinforce this concept
3. Continue with anti-bullying messages to students and families

### **Strategy #1: Continue the Drops in the Bucket Program**

**Describe the specific strategy to be used:** Beginning the first week of school, teachers will read the book Have You Filled A Bucket Today by Carol McCloud. This sets the premise for the entire year. Follow up will include the school psychologist and the prevention specialist visiting classrooms for individual classroom discussions.

**Selection Criteria:** All students in our school will participate.

**Time Frame:** With school beginning on September 4<sup>th</sup>, our expectation is that the book will be read to the class before Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Indicators of Success:** We will continue to monitor our office referrals through the SWISS program to look for trends showing fewer referrals as compared to previous years' data.

### **Strategy #2: Create a Project for the entire school**

**Describe the specific strategy to be used:** Beginning the first week of school every teacher will read the book The Kindness Quilt. A quilt square has been prepared and will be given to each child to take home. This square has the pre-printed phrase "I show kindness when I .... The children will work with their families to complete the sentence and draw a picture of it on their quilt square. The returned squares will then be hung in the hallways to create a school quilt of kindness. Their sentiments will be read daily during the morning announcements to reinforce with the children that showing kindness is also a way to be respectful.

**Selection Criteria:** All families will be asked to participate.

**Time Frame:** The squares and the accompanying letter will go home to families by Friday, September 7<sup>th</sup> with the hope that they will be returned to school and the quilt can begin to be created by Curriculum Night on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Indicator of Success:** The atmosphere of kindness created in our school will permeate all we do and reduce any behaviors that might lead to unkind actions or words.

### **Strategy #3: Continue with anti-bullying messages to students and families**

**Describe the specific strategy to be implemented:** The Second Step Program is the anti-bullying curriculum at the elementary level.

**Selection Criteria:** This is taught at all grade levels.

**Time Frame:** Part of the half year of Health for grades 1-3 and a full half year devoted to only Second Step at the Kindergarten level.

**Indicator of Success:** An indicator will be a decrease in the number of office referrals especially bullying type behaviors. Actual bullying behaviors would be fully investigated by the principal.



### **Condition #3: Family-school Engagement**

**Improvement Goal:** To attain a 97% monthly attendance rate and to decrease the number of students with 10 or more absences by 50%.

#### **List of Strategies to accomplish improvement goal:**

1. Hire a new Dean of Students for two Elementary Schools, West Villages and Hyannis West to oversee the program.
2. Develop the Barnstable version of the Dennis -Yarmouth “Keep Them Coming” Program
3. Hold a Kick- Off to introduce this program

#### **Strategy # 1 Hire a Dean of Students**

**Describe the specific strategy to be used:** A new position has been created for the elementary level called Dean of Students. One of the duties of this role will include the monitoring of student attendance. It will also be the responsibility of the Dean to communicate with DSS, the office of the District Attorney and the courts if necessary. The position will be split between Hyannis West and West Villages.

**Selection Criteria:** As the school year progresses, families of children with multiple absences will be contacted and discussions held on how to assist these families to get their children to attend school.

**Time Frame:** Once the program has been introduced to families, daily attendance will be monitored all year.

**Indicators of Success:** Daily Attendance will be reviewed and will show an increase over previous years.

#### **Strategy # 2 Keep Them Coming Program**

**Describe the specific strategy to be implemented:** The 5 step program is designed to provide a continuum of intervention and support services to keep children in school. This continuum of intervention services begins with strong service-oriented efforts at the school and community level and involving the court’s authority only when necessary.

**Selection Criteria:** We plan to review our data of absences looking for patterns of absences over trimesters. Chronically absent students typically do not perform as well in school. We are looking to catch these absences early enough to make their parents aware and to assist parents where we can to prevent this from getting to be a larger and more chronic problem.

**Timeframe:** Attendance will be monitored weekly using X2. Depending on the number of absences, specific actions will be taken. Actions may include a parent meeting, a letter home, or in extreme cases, a CHINS may be filed.

**Indicators of Success:** The percentage of students absent 10 or more times during the school year will decrease by 50%.

### **Strategy #2 Kick-Off for the attendance program**

**Describe the specific strategy to be implemented:** This attendance program will be introduced at a Kick Off event held at the Barnstable High School. We will have a pizza supper and free childcare available. The district attorney, the superintendent of schools, the Dean of Students and the principals of the participating schools will all attend. Raffles will be available as an incentive for families to attend as well.

**Selection Criteria:** All the families from Hyannis West Elementary and West Villages Elementary will be invited and encouraged to attend.

**Time Frame:** This event will kick off on October 24, 2012 and run throughout the school year.

**Indicators of Success:** As a result of having someone to follow up on absences in our schools, we hope to reduce the number of absences in one school year by 50%. We will be looking at our student records from previous years and doing a comparison.

