

Summary of Workshop ~ October 25, 2016

The GO Team members present for the October 25, 2016 GO Team workshop at B.E. Mays HS were Arle Wilson-Dixon, Marcia Jackson, Alexis Morris, Gina Rogers, Garnetta Penn, Richard Fowler, Richard Fuqua and Hershel Robinson. The GO Team members absent were Christy Muckle and John Eaves.

The workshop was call to order by Dr. Alexis Morris at 6:08 p.m.

Agenda Items and Actions

Data Presentation

Principal Fowler presented academic data which included the Milestones EOC test scores for Mays students from spring 2015 and 2016 with comparison to APS 2016 spring scores. The courses included Algebra, Analytic Geometry, 9th Grade Lit, American Lit, US History, Economics, Biology and Physical Science. The school receives the following points for each students' score on the EOC tests: Beginning = 0, Developing = ½, Proficient = 1 and Distinguished = 1 ½.

Principal Fowler then presented the school wide professional development plan that is already in place for the strategic plan. Twice/weekly content meetings for EOC test classes, twice/month for non EOC test classes. District and regional workshops. Teachers and instructional coaches interact through observation and feedback using E-Walk.

Principal Fowler explained the strategies and resources for helping Mays students. Double blocking in math and lit for 9th and 10th graders. Using skill building warm-ups during class. Providing after school and Saturday tutoring. Increased usage of manipulatives for 9th graders. Improving the vertical teaming with Young MS to make sure rising 9th graders are prepared for Mays HS.

Dr. Morris asked how will the students be held accountable for their part in their education with all of the resources available. The GO Team discussed ways to make tutoring more effective. Requiring students to participate in tutoring, having peer to peer tutoring where students can receive volunteer hours for tutoring and consistent tutoring for athletes with in and out of season tutoring were suggested ideas. Principal Fowler would like to see Mays become the Tutoring Hub for the cluster. There were concerns about after school/Saturday transportation for the students.

Principal Fowler explained how problem solving and conceptual understand in math and science is being improved using the SOLVE method. Study, Organize, Line up a plan, Verify plan with action, Examine results. Increase literacy in science by increasing reading, improving vocabulary and engaging in argument through Claim-Evidence-Reasoning protocol.

Principal Fowler highlighted the instructional practices at Mays. The subject is linked to content, a higher-order thinking skill, and a worthwhile content task. Vocabulary is taught according to subject. The teacher then teaches the lessons according to the students' abilities and moves the student toward subject mastery. Manipulatives are used in math, additional reading in other subjects. Students demonstrate subject proficiency through discussion in all subjects.

Ms. Rogers asked how well the SEL program was working. When the students are in homeroom their teacher leads them through a discussion on a topic determined by the SEL program. It is the same topic for all students during this

Initial phase. Ms. Penn said that some teachers are really good at reaching the students, and some students are better able to relate and open up. Dr. Morris told how she related racism and stereotypes and got some of her more disengaged students to become more engaged in the conversation and the thought process. When asked if the time during homeroom could be used for other activities Principal Fowler gave an emphatic “NO!” for an answer.

The GO team decide to begin work on the other parts of the strategic plan at the next workshop. Principal Fowler will get the additional data to GO Team members by Friday, October 27, 2016 to give the team the opportunity to look at the data prior to the workshop.

Adjournment

Dr. Robinson moved that the workshop be adjourned at 7:46 p.m. Ms. Penn seconded.
