

District Administrator Report July 2009

End of Year Goal Update

Included in this month's board packet is the update on the high school's goal related to the impact of their Academic Advisory period during it's first year. Their goal was: **During the 2008-09 school year, the number of term grades of D and F will decrease by 15% from the 2007-08 school year.**

As the attached spreadsheet shows, overall they succeeded beyond expectations! F's decreased for Freshmen by 48.9%, for all students 9.84%. D's decreased by 30.3 % for Freshmen and 10.7% for all students. The staff, planning team, high school administration and students deserve a standing ovation for these efforts!

High School Principal Selection Process Update

A team of staff representing all departments at the high school and members of the administrative team reviewed the 29 applications the week following the 4th of July. Seven of the top ten were invited to submit written responses to three questions involving key traits and issues identified as important to the high school staff. One candidate chose to withdraw at this point. The written responses were reviewed by 11 staff members. We met on Tuesday, July 14 to review those results and selected four candidates to interview based on their application and written responses. Those interviews are scheduled for Thursday, July 16 from 11:45 -2:45. Candidates will start with a half hour tour of the building. We have added students to the interview committee. If we have clear consensus we will bring one candidate to the Board and full administrative team prior to the start of the regular meeting on July 20. If there are two candidates, we will need to hold those interviews on Monday, July 27 unless we can find a common date later next week.

Update

Evansville High School
Report to the Board of Education
June 2009
Submitted by Jamie Gillespie, Principal

Goals Update

Goal #1: During the 2008-09 school year, the number of term grades of D and F will decrease by 15% from the 2007-08 school year.

Update

As the table below shows, the total number of Ds and Fs earned by our students in term 3 of this school year is less than last year. Even more impressive, the total number of Ds and Fs earned by our freshmen this year is significantly less than last year. It's also interesting to note that the number of Ds and Fs earned by this year's sophomores during term 3 was significantly less than the number of Ds and Fs they earned last year as freshmen. This year's sophomores earned 38 Ds and 22 Fs during the third term.

Evansville High School	2007-08	2008-09
Term 1 Fs	80	66
Term 1 Ds	172	117
Term 1 Fs to freshmen	42	24
Term 1 Ds to freshmen	62	36
Term 2 Fs	84	87
Term 2 Ds	204	206
Term 2 Fs to freshmen	51	25
Term 2 Ds to freshmen	79	65
Term 3 Fs	78	59
Term 3 Ds	133	117
Term 3 Fs to freshmen	45	13
Term 3 Ds to freshmen	55	27
Term 4 Fs	73	72
Term 4 Ds	164	161
Term 4 Fs to freshmen	40	29
Term 4 Ds to freshmen	55	47

Goal #2: During the month of September, we will collect baseline data on the freshmen's perceptions of the first day of school. We will also collect baseline data on the freshmen's perceptions at the end of the school year.

Update

We surveyed the freshmen in September regarding the first day of school and that data was shared in my report to the board in January. As that data showed, 63% of the freshmen said going to classes with just freshmen on the first day made them feel comfortable; 64% said they had a good first day of school; 79% said their upperclassmen mentors were helpful; 67% said the study time in the advisory period helps them keep up with assignments. The freshmen will be surveyed again on June 8 during the advisory period.

Goal #3: During the 2008-09 school year, we will collect baseline data of our students' performances on the EXPLORE and the PLAN.

Update

We administered these tests in October and I reported our scores in February. They will be administered again in the fall.

Term 1	2007-08	2008-09	Change	Change %	Term 2	2007-08	2008-09	Change	Change %	Term 3	2007-08	2008-09	Change	Change %
Fs	80	66	-14	-17.50%		84	87	3	3.6%		78	59	-19	-24.4%
Ds	172	117	-55	-31.98%		204	206	2	1.0%		133	117	-16	-12.0%
Fs to freshmen	42	24	-18	-42.86%		51	25	-26	-51.0%		45	13	-32	-71.1%
Ds to freshmen	62	36	-26	-41.94%		79	65	-14	-17.7%		55	27	-28	-50.9%
Term 4					Year Totals	2007-08	2008-09	Change	Change %					
	73	72	-73	-1.37%		315	284	-31	-9.84%					
	164	161	-164	-1.83%		673	601	-72	-10.70%					
	40	29	-40	-27.50%		178	91	-87	-48.88%					
	55	47	-55	-14.55%		251	175	-76	-30.28%					

YEAR-END
UPDATE ON ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL	>4<10	>10	FAMILY TRIPS	MEDICAL	>4 UNEXCUSED	ATTENDANCE INTERVENTIONS				BIT	ACADEMIC INTERVENTIONS			AT-RISK PROGRAMMING			SOCIAL SERVICES
						EMAIL	LETTER	PHONE CALL	ATTENDANCE PLAN		HOMEWORK CLUB	GIT	TUTORING	MATH	READING	AT-RISK	
LEVI	60	75	112	89	1	70	16	1	9		1			29			
TRIS	89	21	42	77	1	39	3	0	3		2		4	7			
JC MCKENNA	98	18	46	208	0	82	37	16	42		8		2				
HIGH	158	198	35	58	34	55	216	11	196		N/A	19/41	N/A		40/64		0
TOTALS	405	312	235	432	36	246	272	28	250		10	4	0	4	36	0	0

Attendance at Levi Leonard Elementary

6/11/09

A few observations on the data:

- Students who have had more than 4, but less than 10 absences decreased between first and fourth quarters, from 53 to 30.
- This also held true for those with over 10 absences. In first quarter there were 6, in the last quarter there were none. Overall however, there were 75 students with 10 or more absences.
- The number of students who went on vacations during the school year, though, increased dramatically from 12 to 112.
- We had several students who had tonsils removed, broken bones, or succumbed to various illnesses. We also have several students with chronic health conditions that result in more medical absences for doctor appointments. This resulted in 89 students with medically excused absences.
- Seventy letters were written to parents to advise them of the excessive absences of their child. Most parents respond well to this and will call our office, get a medical excuse or re-evaluate whether or not to keep their child home. However, 16 follow-up phone calls were needed when the issue continued.
- 9 of the students with absences were referred to the Building Intervention Team.
- Only one child needed an attendance plan. This was clearly explained at a parent conference including the student, principal, teacher and counselor. The parent made many excuses, but the child did not have any absences in the fourth quarter. We hope this positive trend will continue into third grade.

Next steps:

We are especially concerned that 29.6% of our kindergarten students had ten or more absences this year. This class has also not done as well academically as we expected.

We hope to proactively address this by:

- Giving parents information in the registration folder and the school newsletter citing research to support the link between good attendance and student achievement.
- Follow up with more of this information in the letters sent to parents.
- Continue to systematically contact parents when a pattern of absences occurs.
- Offer attendance incentives and rewards to students.
- Hold a counseling group for those students who are absent a great deal and seem to influence their parents decision to allow them to stay home.

Theodore Robinson Intermediate School
Attendance Report
June 12, 2009

Additional Information

The attendance spreadsheet reflects end of year attendance numbers. Students who missed between 5 and 10 days for the year totaled 89. Those students missing more than 10 days totaled 21. Most of these included medical excuses. Three of these were family trips; one was educational and the other two were family emergencies. The one unexcused absence that was greater than four days was a student who was going to be homeschooled and then ended up changing his mind.

WKCE (Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam) and MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) results were analyzed of those students who missed more than 10 days of school. Almost all have received specialized programming.

Attendance at JC McKenna Middle School

6/6/09

Analysis and Explanations:

- During the course of the year we work hard to keep students with minor symptoms in school. We stopped this practice during the H1N1 scare. Any student with any flu symptoms were urged to stay home.
- Meetings were held on a weekly basis. As students reached pre-determined absence thresholds, phone calls were made. Mr. Czerwonka averaged a phone call per week to parents.
- Many of the targeted students from last year (over 20 absences) had significant improvement in attendance.
- Our plan increased the number of medical excuses from parents.
- The principal received six phone calls from parents after receiving letters regarding attendance. These were positive calls and the parents had reasonable explanations for the increased absences. Mr. Flaherty communicated the information to the grade level teams. .
- Mr. Czerwonka discussed a number of our students with attendance issues at our Building Intervention Team.

Next Year:

- Mr. Czerwonka and Mr. Flaherty will review data and determine a list of parents/students to meet with before school starts.
- Continue to offer incentives and awards for good attendance.
- Tighten up our record keeping procedures to document student absences.
- Meet on a weekly basis with social worker and attendance clerk to determine interventions for our students on a weekly basis.

Evansville High School
Attendance Report
June 12, 2009

Data Observations:

Students who missed more than 10 days of school excused totaled 198 and 93 of them missed school excused for medical reasons or family trips. 34 students were absent 4 or more days unexcused (habitual truants) in either the first semester or second semester. Four habitual students either homeschooled, withdrew from EHS and transferred to another high school or attended Blackhawk to start their HSED. Twelve of the habitual truants were 18 year old students (seniors). Eleven students were filed as habitual truants with the EPD and the remaining 7 students were unexcused because their parents did not have health insurance and could not obtain a medical excuse. Therefore, these 7 students were not filed as habitual truants as parents were in the process or just completed the process of acquiring Badger Care. Finally, 19 of 41 G/T students and 40 of 64 At-Risk students were absent 4 or more days.