

On March 1st, Gateway and Summit will be holding the Annual Literacy Night for parents to better understand how to support their children's education. Parents can attend specific workshops that explain reading and math curricula so parents can see and touch what their children are being taught.

If a child does not show growth in two years or is two years behind in academic achievement for their grade level, they are entered into MTSS which is a Multi-Tiered System of Support. At this point, Gateway seeks specialists to assist with interventions and provide intensive specialized instruction e.g., HillRAP and SPED (Special Education)

The Hill Reading Achievement Program, or HillRAP, is an individualized, small group reading intervention delivered by teachers and supported by technology and quality professional development. HillRAP guides teachers through direct, explicit, mastery-based instruction in phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. The program's sequence and emphasis on multi-sensory instruction is influenced by Orton-Gillingham. HillRAP is intended as an intervention for students with persistent reading difficulties and is ideally delivered in 45-minute blocks, 4-5 days per week, with a 4:1 student to teacher ratio. HillRAP can be delivered in-person or remotely, and seamlessly move between the two if needed.

Gateway also provides communications and materials in other languages and uses translators to enhance understanding with non-English speaking parents and families. Staff refers parents to Community Partnership and other local agencies for parenting training and services requested or needed by interested parents. The district holds meetings with these agencies to review available programs and discuss unmet needs.

There is also a .5 FTE working with children who fall mid or above grade level. These children work with a Gifted and Talented trained teacher, so they are challenged and continue to exceed.

Finally, wherever possible, Gateway encourages families to read. Through teacher newsletters, Gateway has communicated the following benefits of reading 15 minutes per day:

- Improved memory
- Stronger focus and concentration
- Enhanced analytical thinking skills
- Better writing skills
- Increases vocabulary
- Increases intelligence and imagination
- Provides mental stimulation
- Relaxes and reduces stress

Areas for Growth and Opportunities

The SAC identified the following opportunities for growth and improvement:

- Create a Parent Advisory Council made up of three parents from each Title 1 School, a Title 1 teacher, and the building principal. The following are the listed purpose and responsibilities of the council from the policy:
 - Meet three times per year during the school year
 - Provide input on matters related to parent involvement programs supported by Title 1 Funding
 - Conduct an annual needs assessment
 - Research best practices for parent involvement
 - Make recommendations for adoption of effective approaches for parent involvement in schools
 - Provide input on staff development plan for instructional and student-related personnel
- Offer staff development for all instructional and student-related personnel that
 - Increases understanding of the value and utility of parent contributions
 - Provides strategies for communication and collaboration with parents as partners
 - Recruits and supports parents as partners in their child's education
 - Implements and coordinates parent programs
- Send personal invitations to parents to volunteer, attend Title I programs i.e. Literacy Night, and participate on the School Accountability Committee or the Parent Advisory Council
- Implement a training program for volunteers
- Continue to explore techniques and strategies for promoting and supporting education at home as well at school
- Evaluate the content and effectiveness of this policy measured in part by improvements in student achievement and in school performance

Agenda item: Performance Update

Presenter: Samantha Bissue

Samantha Bissue reviewed a comparison of Beginning of the Year (BOY) and Middle of the Year (MOY) i-Ready and DIBELS reading and math data. i-Ready testing is done via the computer. DIBELS testing is done 1:1 with a DIBELS team staff member and individual student.

i-Ready Data Students Assessed for Reading 188/203 Students Assessed for Math 184/204	Reading		Math	
	BOY	MOY	BOY	MOY
Mid or Above Grade Level	7%	22%	4%	15%
Early On Grade Level	17%	24%	9%	19%
One Grade Level Below	53%	41%	61%	53%
Two Grade Levels Below	16%	10%	20%	10%
Three or More Grade Levels Below	6%	3%	6%	3%

Reading domains that showed the most improvement were Phonological Awareness, Phonics, High-Frequency Words, and Literature. Areas of focus for the rest of the year will be vocabulary and comprehension.

Math domains showed improvement in all areas: Number and Operations, Algebra and Algebraic Thinking, Measurement and Data, and Geometry.

DIBELS All Students	Reading	
	BOY	MOY
Blue: Negligible risk to achieving reading goals Core Support	77 (38%)	71 (35%)
Green: Minimal risk to achieving reading goals Core Support	45 (22%)	49 (25%)
Yellow: Some risk to achieving reading goals Strategic Support	32 (16%)	33 (17%)
Red: Unlikely to achieve reading goals Intensive Support	49 (24%)	45 (23%)

While the i-Ready data looks very positive, Ashley and Samantha reported a little concern that the DIBELS data did not completely support the i-Ready findings and will investigate the differences in results further with the staff.

Agenda item: Safety Updates

Presenter: Ashley Lawson

Ashley was happy to report a new safety officer has been hired. Tim Patruna has 24 years of experience in the military. He was the former head of emergency operations at Fort Carson and has experience in keeping facilities safe. The Woodland Park Police Department has also hired two new officers. All three of these new hires have visited and became familiar with the Gateway Facility.

Agenda item: Budget Update

Presenter: Heather Scholz

Due to time constraints, the budget update and discussion will be postponed to the April meeting.

Agenda item: Principal's Update

Presenter: Ashley Lawson

Leadership Day

Ashley reported Leadership Day held on December 21st was a huge success. She estimates over 70% of parents took part in activities at some time during the day.

Leader In Me

The seven habits continue to be reinforced every day through morning announcements and focused activities every month. Some examples include the Grinch Kindness Hearts, Shining Bright, and currently "Synergizing." Gateway also is focusing on growing leaders through Student Council, K-Kids, inviting students to do morning announcements, leading Discovery sessions and being part of a Leader in Me Lighthouse team. Ashley shared a story about a 3rd grader who successfully led a Rubik's Cube Discovery session and received extremely positive feedback, even from older students who attended the session.

Discovery Showcase

Recently, parents and students had the opportunity to experience some of the Discovery sessions being held throughout the year. Discovery has been received extremely well by all students and the evolution from Think Tank to Discovery is considered successful.

The next Discovery Sessions are scheduled for the first week in March and April. Students are providing suggestions for topics and so far, Discovery has covered sixty-one different topics. These sessions are held from 2:30 to 3:15 every day for one week. As the program continues to grow, parents will be approached to deliver topics for which they have expertise.

Culture and Climate

Ashley reported the teachers were relieved to hear the elementary charter school pulled their application. They were very appreciative of the brunch provided by the Parent Group and support from the high school and middle school teachers.

Agenda item: Next Meeting Agenda and Adjournment

Presenter: Heather Scholz

Heather requested topics for the next SAC meeting agenda April 4, 2023, beginning at 5:30 PM in the Gateway Library.

The February SAC Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.