



District Plan for Student Achievement Improvements

At its peak, the Defiance City Schools had 30% of the student population on IEPs. These students were “pulled out” of the regular classroom and received a “watered down” curriculum from a Special Education teacher (and not the regular classroom teacher).

We have made a concerted effort for the past several years to reduce the number of IEP students (now down to 18%). A vast number of our students are now served in the regular classroom and not via “pull out” programs. Our Response to Intervention (RTI) process was recreated to assist with this process.

With the 2013-14 Report Card, the State changed the format. The multi-page document went to the website and we mailed to the parents the individual reports (as did all districts).

Our District Calendar issued to all residents refers residents to the ODE web page.

District Initiatives

Initiative 1

K-12 trained in Formative Instructional Practices (2013).

Initiative 2

K-12 Reading and Math Universal Screener (STAR) given three times a year (2014).

Initiative 2

Grades 4 through 12 Science Social Studies Universal Screener (Pro-Core) given three times a year (2015).

Initiative 3

District-wide Formative Assessment team created and will attend on-going training with State Support Team (2015).

Initiative 4

State Professional Development Grant. Required weekly teacher based team meetings for curriculum alignment and formative assessment data analysis (2015).

Initiatives By Building

Defiance Elementary School

Initiative 1

Self Contained Title I Classrooms were added in grades 1 and 2 for smaller class sizes and a concentrated curriculum on reading and math (2014). A similar classroom design was created using Classroom Reduction Funds for grade 3 (2015).

Initiative 2

Grade 4 moved to a different way of structuring reading classes called Reading Workshop (2013). The following school year grade 3 and 5 implemented the structure (2014).

Initiative 3

Wilson Phonics Instruction was created for students in grades 3 and 4 that struggled with grade level decoding and comprehension (2014).

Initiative 4

Four man teaching teams in grades 4 and 5 were created for easier inclusion of all students (2014).

Initiative 5

After School Program (Dawg Pound) created through 21st Century Grant (2014).

Initiative 6

K-2 use flex grouping and rotate based on skill deficits for the week (2015).

Defiance Middle School

Initiative 1

Added one additional math teacher to reduce class sizes - went from four math teachers to five math teachers (2014).

Initiative 2

Incorporated math intervention during PASS class based on Star testing/classroom performance (2014).

Initiative 3

Restructured our language arts schedules so that each student receives two periods of language arts each day - went from four language arts teachers to six language arts teachers (2014).

Initiative 4

Restructured our special education delivery so that each student that qualifies for math or language arts intervention receives one period of instruction from a regular education teacher and one period from an intervention teacher (2014).

Initiative 5

Established a failure is not an option model. Success, Nothing Less (SNL), which provide opportunities for students to receive instruction and support from certified teachers before and after school. The goal of this program is that every assignment is completed to a quality level (2015).

Initiative 6

An additional guidance counselor position was created to help track, identify, and coordinate services for at-risk students (2015).

Defiance High School

Initiative 1

Intervention Assistance Teams meet twice a month (2013).

Initiative 2

Students are able to take advantage of free Math and/or English tutoring four times a week (2013).

Initiative 3

Mandatory Saturday School assignment given to students failing to complete assignments (2013).

Initiative 4

Faculty member was added to serve at-risk freshman in Algebra and English (2014).

Initiative 5

Partnered with Rhodes State Community College to develop Senior Math – Hands on Algebra II equivalent for at risk seniors (2014).

Initiative 6

Physical Education Waiver – requires additional academic course to meet graduation requirements (2015).