

LaFayette Jr./Sr. High School

English 7-12

Instructional Improvement Plan 2006—2007

Department Members:

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Goals: 90% of 7th and 8th grade students taking the NYS ELA exams will achieve 3 or 4 on the assessment and 95% of 11th grade students will pass with a 65% or higher on the NYS Comprehensive English Regents exam.

Objective #1: Formally and informally assess current reading comprehension levels of each student and group accordingly. Create both individual and homogeneous group instruction geared to promote grade-level appropriate reading levels.

Targeted Audience: 7th - 12th grades

Building Milestone: Practice NYS ELA exams in grades 7 and 8, practice NYS Comprehensive English Regents exam in grade 11, and standardized reading tests in grades 7-11.

Evaluation: teacher generated tests (midterms and final exams in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, & 12), writing portfolios (all grade levels), anecdotal records, student presentations, NYS ELA exams in grades 7 and 8, and NYS Comprehensive English Regents exam in grade 11, STAR Reading Tests in grades 7 and 8, Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests in grades 9-11

Strategies/Activities	Time	Participants (Students)	Lead Person	Budget	Results of Strategy/Activity	✓ If Professional Development or indicate request
<p>- Administer bi-annual STAR reading test (or Gates-MacGinitie) to all 7th and 8th grade students to determine reading levels. Administer Gates-MacGinitie reading comprehension and vocabulary tests to all 9th-11th grade students.</p> <hr/> <p>Technology: Student computers in the ELA 7, ELA 8, and AIS classrooms for student STAR testing</p>	<p>October May</p>	<p>Junior High Senior High</p>	<p>Rutter- 9-11 Derbyshire - 7 Radus- 8</p>		<p>- ELA teachers will be more aware of reading levels and build instruction based on these assessments. - All teachers in building will be informed of scores. - All parents will also be informed of scores.</p>	<p>- Staff requests time for training in the administration of the STAR reading tests in order to further explore what the software has to offer</p>
<p>- Analyze STAR, GM, Grades 7 & 8 NYS ELA exams, and Regents exams for students who are not at mastery level. - Create individualized folders which chart student progress in comprehension. Utilize AIS profiles in this process.</p>	<p>Ongoing: September to June</p>	<p>Junior High Senior High</p>	<p>Entire Department</p>		<p>- ELA teachers will modify teaching strategies to increase students' grade-level appropriate test scores.</p>	<p>✓</p>

Strategies/Activities	Time	Participants (Students)	Lead Person	Budget	Results of Strategy/Activities	✓ If Professional Development or indicate request
<p>- Junior High: Accelerated Reader, School Island, Syracuse Newspapers, summer reading projects, DEAR, and book talks - Senior High: <i>Time magazine, Teen Newsweek, Post Standard, New York Times</i></p> <hr/> <p>Technology: Student computers in the ELA classrooms for AR, as well as printers for student-produced newspaper/magazine</p>	Ongoing: September to June	Junior High Senior High	D. Derbyshire for Accelerated Reader Entire Department		<p>- Enrichment offering a variety of reading experiences - Genre exposure - Reading for enjoyment</p>	<p>- Staff requests time for professional development in AR and other programs indicated in the strategies column - Staff requests professional development in journalism/media and ways to incorporate non-fiction in the classroom (conferences)</p>
- Academic Intervention Services (AIS)	Ongoing: September to June	7 th grade 9 th grade 10 th grade	L. Rutter L. Morgan-Phelan K. Caron		- Increased vocabulary, reading comprehension, writing skills, and study skills	✓
<p>- Familiarize students with the format of the NYS ELA 7 and 8 exams - Develop the skills necessary for successful test taking</p>	Ongoing: September to January	8 th grade	M. Radus D. Derbyshire		- Improve test taking skills	- Staff requests professional development to implement these strategies into the new Concept-Progress schedule for 06-07

Strategies/Activities	Time	Participants (Students)	Lead Person	Budget	Results of Strategy/Activities	✓ If Professional Development or Indicate Request
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase opportunity for practice with critical analysis: direct instruction, critical lens, model papers, study guides, graphic organizers, extended response questions, and reader response journals. - Articulation of writing skills per grade level will be monitored by use of student portfolios and benchmarks. 	Ongoing: September to June	Junior High Senior High	Entire Department		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved written literary response - Improve critical evaluation of non-fiction works - Identify Purpose, Audience, Subject, Self (P.A.S.S.) - Identify thesis statement and organization skills necessary for critical analysis for all genre - Improve essay organizational and paragraph development skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Many opportunities for professional development requests for these strategies, for example, NYSEC conference, CNYTC workshops, BOCES workshops, AP conferences, Jensen Learning, etc. - Staff requests training in computer software that supports writing objectives (for example, organizing, editing, and publishing papers)

Objective #2: Formally and informally assess vocabulary development of each student in the following areas: word attack skills, root/prefix/suffix, literary elements, and vocabulary specific to other content areas.

Targeted Audience: 7th - 12th grades

Building Milestone: NYS ELA exams and STAR testing in grade 7 and 8; standardized vocabulary tests (Gates-MacGinitie) in grades 9-11

Evaluation: NYS ELA exams in grade 7 and 8, NYS Comprehensive English Regents exam in grade 11, teacher generated tests (final exams in grades 7, 8, 9, 10, and 12)

Strategies/Activities	Time	Participants (Students)	Lead Person	Budget	Results of Strategy/Activity	✓ If Professional Development or indicate request
<p>- Administer bi-annual vocabulary tests (STAR and GM) to all students in grades 7-11 to determine vocabulary acquisition levels</p> <hr/> <p>Technology: Student computers in the ELA classrooms to facilitate vocabulary study including software designed for this purpose</p>	October May	Junior High Senior High	Entire Department		- Teachers will be aware of students' vocabulary levels and monitor and adjust instructional procedures accordingly	
- Analyze individualized data from the Milestones and incorporate data into reading comprehension folders	Ongoing: October to June	Junior High Senior High	L. Rutter		- Vocabulary data is recorded and disseminated to teachers on grade-level teams and in other departments	✓ Use CASL Study Groups
- Determine cross curricular connections in literature, reinforcing vocabulary across the content areas (e.g., <i>Anne Frank</i> unit/8 th grade social studies curriculum, senior high interdisciplinary research projects)	Ongoing: September to June	Junior High Senior High	Entire Department		- Provide relevant and meaningful interdisciplinary units that stimulate vocabulary growth in all content areas	✓ Use CASL Study Groups

Objective #3: Incorporate study skills into daily lesson plans in grades 7-12, with emphasis on English 7, English 8, ELA Prep, and AIS.

Targeted Audience: 7th – 12th grades

Building Milestone: Study Skills Across the Curriculum® assessments (grades 7 & 8)

Evaluation: NYS ELA exams in grades 7 and 8, NYS Comprehensive English Regents exam, anecdotal records, and teacher generated tests

Strategies/Activities	Time	Participants (Students)	Lead Person	Budget	Results of Strategy/Activity	✓ If Professional Development or indicate request
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporate activities from Study Skills Across the Curriculum® (KWL chart, SQ3R, Cornell note taking, time management, test prep, listening skills, library skills) - Provide planners for each student - Create and update teacher websites, posting agendas, files, and homework 	Ongoing: September to June	English 7 and 8	D. Derbyshire M. Radus		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Close reading of test questions and following directions will improve test scores - Improved organizational skills will yield successful completion of homework assignments - Better parent-teacher-student communication 	- Staff requests professional development in study skills program
- Direct instruction in study skills techniques	Ongoing: September to June	7 th and 9 th grade students in AIS	L. Rutter		- Test taking success in all content areas	- Staff requests for professional development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Require use of mind maps and graphic organizers, refined note taking strategies (e.g., district wide graphic organizers, <i>Inspiration 6</i>®, and Venn diagrams) <p>Technology: Student computers in the ELA classrooms to facilitate use of study skills enhancement software</p>	Ongoing: September to June	7-12	Entire Department		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More effective use of the recursive writing process - Address multiple learning styles, especially the visual learner - Improved organization and coherence of all written work 	- Staff requests professional development in software that supports study skill/pre-writing strategies

Strategies/Activities	Time	Participants (Students)	Lead Person	Budget	Results of Strategy/Activity	✓ If Professional Development or indicate request
- Employ oral reading for listening skill enhancement (e.g., books on tape and sample listening questions from the NYS ELA exams and NYS Comprehensive English Regents exam)	Ongoing: September to June	Junior High Senior High	Entire Department		- Enhanced listening skills - Strengthened note taking skills	- Request cross-curricular professional development in oral reading, possibly with the special education or the social studies department - A possible activity for use on Progress Days