

ASSISTANCE *plus*

Due June 5, 2006

DISTRICT: Orange County

SCHOOL: Grand Avenue Elementary

RESTRUCTURE: Describe how the school will be restructured.

We are restructuring the school into a Primary Learning Center for students in preK(3 year old) – Grade 2. The focused curriculum would have an emphasis on language and literacy development, meaningful staff development, excellent hiring and retention practices, meaningful assessment of student learning used to inform instruction, pro-social behavior supports, and a core belief that the earliest years of a child's formal school are essential for the future. The centralization of expertise, materials and energies focuses on the critical first years of school. The Center also narrows the focus for the teachers, thereby, allowing them the opportunity to intensify their teaching, more time for concentration and the ability to deliver highly effective instruction. The Grand Avenue Primary Learning Center will provide a means to intensify this focus by:

- Providing cognitive learning opportunities in high-quality language and literature rich environments
- Providing for the attainment of the fundamental knowledge and skills necessary for optimal reading development
- Focusing on early oral language development
- Improving kindergarten readiness
- Increasing cognitive and social skills
- Developing language skills
- Using efficiently all resources and materials
- Ongoing professional development for teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators and coaches to ensure that they are highly trained in early reading instruction
- Providing training for parents and families to support the development of their children's oral language and literacy skills
- Ongoing measurement of student progress to improve instruction

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RESEARCH-BASED REFORM MODEL: Describe the model and program(s) that will be implemented.

State Model: Yes No With Modifications

Modifications

- Grand Avenue restructures into a preK-2 school. The preK program is offered on-site for community students
- For the 2006-2007 school year, Grand Avenue will serve only the zoned students and will eventually add students for other areas

The Primary Learning Center will be designed to provide students with a curriculum that is (a) **fun and educational**, (b) **child-initiated**, (c) **language and literacy based** and (d) **developmentally appropriate (high scope)**. The DLM Early Childhood Express program will be the core pre-kindergarten curriculum. DLM is a comprehensive, integrated program that nurtures each child by offering carefully selected and carefully sequence learning experiences. Children will be encouraged to learn about the world around them through a balance of play, exploration, and guided activities. The activities and materials are chosen based on children's interests and designed to foster independence, cooperation, and self-esteem. For schoolagers, activities also follow the public school curriculum to enhance learning. The Continuous Improvement Model provides the framework for the successful implementation of the Sunshine State Standards, the Comprehensive Academic Achievement Plan (CAAP), and best practices. The OCPS District Assessment Plan, which includes benchmark and mini-assessment tests, will provide longitudinal data. Students will be monitored through high school graduation.

The Grand Avenue Primary Learning Center offers:

- **Activities** designed to prepare children for school success including reading, writing, and math learning programs targeted to build critical thinking skills.
- **Program enhancements** in the arts and sciences, an introduction to computer literacy, and a literature based language arts, math, and science curriculum.
- Expanded **athletic, dramatic, and creative arts programs** for preschool and school-age children.
- **Trained, caring, and experienced staff**, supported by professional supervisory and resource people.
- **Positive guidance** in conjunction with parent participation as the guiding philosophy of the centers.
- "Hands-on" **computer instruction** and activities for preschool and school-age children.
- Teacher/child **ratios** that meet or exceed state requirements.
- Consistent daily and ongoing **communication** between parents and staff regarding each child's daily activities and developmental progress.
- Respect and incorporation of **family cultural values** into each child's daily program.

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DISTRICT SUPPORT

<i>How will the following be implemented?</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person responsible & contact information</i>	<i>Monitoring process</i>
District Community Assessment Team -	June 2006	Lee Baldwin, Sr. Director for Accountability, Research and Assessment baldwinl@ocps.net	Princeton Review Assessment and the Classroom Walkthrough tools monthly
Board-approved funding for school-wide interventions -	July 2006	Henry Boekhoff, Chief Financial Officer boekhoh@ocps.net	Copy of Approved Resolution
Extended learning program with transportation -	July 2006	Resource Teacher (TBA)	Budget will reflect funding for transportation
School-wide staff development -	July 2006 – June 2007	Nora Gledich, Director of Professional Development Services gledicn@ocps.net	Year-long calendar, monitored monthly
District full-time staff assigned to each school -	July 2006	Resource Teacher (TBA)	Budget and Staff Roster

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SCHOOL STAFFING - Attach your plan that will bring your district into compliance with s. 1012.2315(2)

<i>How will the following be implemented?</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person responsible & contact information</i>	<i>Monitoring process</i>
Teacher Application/Recruitment Process -	July 2006	Mr. Lino Rodriguez Rodrigl11@ocps.net	Grace Lias, Sr. Ex. Director, Employment Services
Differentiated pay (Incentives) -	June 2006	Patricia Brown Senior Administrator HR and Labor Relations brownp@ocps.net	Contract, Resolution
Fully staffed entire school-year -	July 2006	Grace Lias, Sr. Executive Director Employment Services	Weekly Staff Report
Identification and hiring of proven education leaders-	July 2006	James Lawson, Area Superintendent lawsonj@ocps.net	Staffing Report

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School staffing continued

<i>How will the following be implemented?</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Person responsible & contact information</i>	<i>Monitoring process</i>
Performance Pay Plan	July 2006	Patricia Brown, Senior Administrator, HR and Labor Relations brownp@ocps.net	Bi-annually
District provided on-site reading and mathematics coaches	July 2006	Dr. Peggy Rivers, Director Curriculum Services riversp@ocps.net	Staff Roster
Dedicated district school safety and attendance personnel	July 2006	James H. Lawson Area Superintendent lawsonj@ocps.net	Monthly with support from Security