

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (SPARC)
2006 – 2007

School: Giunta Middle School
 Enrollment:
 Principal: Arlene Castelli
 Counselor: Henrissa Berry, Sheri Murphy and Angela Zeman

Principal's Comments

I am very proud of the efforts of our three guidance counselors to improve student achievement at Giunta Middle School. Our counselors consistently communicate with students and teachers and maintain regular communication with families of students who struggle academically, socially, and emotionally. In addition, each counselor has placed at risk students on progress reports in order to monitor their academic performance. The skills taught in the SSS program by school counselors show promise for the continuous increase of student achievement.

Results

The results indicate that 46% of the students who participated in the SSS Classroom guidance program increased their scores from 2006 to 2007. This represents a 5% increase above those students who did not participate in the program; 41% of these students improved.

School Improvement Issues

Students who lack the ability to set goals, monitor individual progress, care for and encourage others to develop cognitive and memory skills, perform under pressure and be optimistic, negatively affect our school in many ways. The absence of these skills contributes to diminished morale, decreased academic achievement and frustration. These negative products impact student performance on high stakes tests such as FCAT and reflect in school grades and district reports.

Critical Data Element(s):

Any improvement from 2006 to 2007

Systemic Changes and Interim Data Results

1. Teachers and faculty recognized the positive impact that we as counselors had on the academic achievement of the students.
2. Our department's plan for addressing academic achievement via classroom guidance involved teachers and students and made us all aware of the importance of school counseling in the schools. As a result, counselors will continue to teach learning skills, self-management skills and social skills in an attempt to contribute to the continuous improvement of our students, school, and district.

Stakeholders

Counselors: Identified and delivered SSS curriculum to selected students.
 Administration: Approved program implementation and created faculty buy-in for the program.
 Teachers: Used strategies in daily lessons that supported the themes and skills taught in the SSS lessons.
 Students: Worked with their parents, teachers and school staff to improve their achievement.
 Technology: Used audiovisual equipment as a modality to communicate information to students.
 Parents: Worked with their student and teachers to support student progress toward individual goals.
 Business Partners: Provided incentives for participation and goal attainment.

The Human Faces Behind the Data
Anecdotal Outcomes

A 6th grader enrolled at Giunta had this to say about the SSS program, "I think that SSS has helped me in that it's given me tips to help me calm down and control my anxiety before a test, and then prepare for it! If I never had these tips, I would not have been able to prepare for some major tests. All in all, SSS has helped me get through the year." Through the perseverance of all stakeholders, this student now uses SSS to get through many challenging situations. This year she scored in the 85th percentile in Reading and increased her Math by 11 percentage points, placing her in the 73rd percentile. This has given her a new found confidence that all stakeholders are proud to share.