

# Middle School MEASURE

2006 – 2007 School Year

<p><b>School Name:</b> Sims Middle School</p> <p><b>Prepared by:</b> Cheryl Eggart and Linda Barrow</p> <p><b>Title:</b> Increase academic success in "high risk" student population</p>
<p><b>Description:</b></p> <p>Shareholders work together to lower core course failure rate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Administration: provides necessary training and focus for school efforts</li><li>• Teachers: start implementing a "no zeros allowed" policy by creating more opportunities for at risk students to complete required work in course.</li><li>• Counselors: flex at risk student day to create opportunities for student to complete required assignments; find ways to increase academic support for student to successfully complete assignments; work with teachers, parents, students to increase accountability for assignments; teach and help students practice good study and organization skills.</li></ul>
<p><b>What were you trying to change?</b></p> <p>"At risk" student population is referring to students likely to fail a core class. These students were identified from the previous year's retained list and students who were in academic trouble in a class after the 1<sup>st</sup> progress reports. Additional students were added/deleted as each grading session occurred. After the 1<sup>st</sup> semester grades came out, we had 8-6<sup>th</sup> graders, 7-7<sup>th</sup> graders, and 27-8<sup>th</sup> graders failing one or more core classes.</p>
<p><b>What were the results?</b></p> <p>Final retention results were 1-6<sup>th</sup> grader and 4-8<sup>th</sup> graders</p>
<p><b>What were the systemic changes?</b></p> <p>We are intervening earlier as a school team with non performing/weak academic students to make them more accountable for their schoolwork by keeping them current in their assignments, not letting them get hopelessly behind, and fostering positive changes in the student's mindset, work, and study habits about school.</p>