

Polk County Public Schools TOP Implementation

Jacqueline Byrd, Superintendent

Tony Bellamy, Regional Assistant Superintendent for Turnaround Schools/DA

Patricia Barnes, Executive Principal for Turnaround/TOP Schools

Aaron Smith, Senior Director for the Office of School Improvement

TOP SCHOOLS

(Boone, Denison, Kathleen, Lake Alfred-Addair and Westwood Middle Schools)

What's New:

- District-Based Leadership Team (DBLT) consisting of representatives from all departments who have all been assigned roles and responsibilities specific to their areas of expertise which a commitment to a new way of work for supporting these schools. This will include but is not limited to reviewing data and providing timely additional support and next steps strategies for schools monthly.
- All of the TOP Schools' Principals and/or coaches will meet Bi-Monthly or Monthly as deemed necessary by the Executive Principal and Regional Assistant Superintendent for Turnaround/DA to review progress of student achievement.
- Design of new modified Master Schedule to focus on common planning for core areas; accurate placement of students; providing more math and reading instruction during the school day
- Additional staff added to include the placement of academic coaches with proven records of improving student achievement sustained through data and a dedicated personnel assistant to fill vacancies at TOP schools.
- Ongoing progress monitoring; eliminate lag in data; data will be the driving force to support change.

Lake Alfred-Addair Middle School

- Begin transformation toward a Polk Polytech Academy offering STEM in a technology and engineering themed environment
- School will begin the transition from a 6-8 grade configuration to a 5-8 and will eventually build a 9 - 12 configuration
- Grades 9 and 10 will be located on the Polk Polytechnic campus, while grades 11 and 12 will be located on the campus of the Florida Polytechnic University.
- Critical Thinking classes will be taught to 6th and 7th grade students to help them transition and learn the skills necessary to excel academically during their middle school years.
- Course offerings will also be extended through a joint district and local college partnership to create a partner High School.
- Professional Development for teachers serving Lake Alfred-Addair has been established to support the change starting 2016 - 2019

External Operator (AMO)

- The priority and focus of the External Operator (AMO) is to establish a collaborative working system with the district, school and state. (***Team Concepts***)
- Provide professional development training for school based administrators, leadership teams and teachers in collaboration with the district's Teaching and Learning Department.
- The External Operator (AMO) will provide support to TOP schools through the following positions: Lead Principal Coach, Academic Coach, Data Coach, Project Management, Reporter, Training Team, Individual for Executive Briefing.
- Provide 115 days of service but not limited to additional time through out the school year for academic instruction and professional development within each of the schools.
- Will deliver researched based strategies with measurable outcomes that align with the state's 5E model.