



BLACKFOOT CHARTER SCHOOL

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Corrective Action Plan

Blackfoot Charter Community Learning Center was issued a notice of defect in two core areas: reading fluency as measured by the Idaho Reading Indicator (IRI) and language arts as measured by the Idaho Standard Achievement Test (ISAT). While these are separate defects, they target similar curriculum and instructional issues as they are manifesting in different grades. Thus, many of the corrective actions are applicable to both defects.

Defect 1

BCCLC charter mandates that 90% of K-3 students demonstrate proficiency in reading fluency as measured by the IRI. The school reached a proficiency level of 86.5%, below the specified measurable education standard.

Discussion

BCCLC's proficiency in reading fluency as measured by the IRI is showing positive trends in two specific areas: the overall total percentage of K-3 students reaching proficiency has risen steadily over the last four years and percentage of students in each individual grade reaching proficiency has made positive gains. However, the upper grades, especially grade 3, continue to be BCCLC's weakest area, as measured by the IRI. Faculty members have observed a strong correlation between high proficiency levels and high numbers of students who begin their education at BCCLC.

Actions

BCCLC has implemented the following corrective actions:

1. BCCLC has increased its kindergarten capacity. During the 2010-2011 academic year, the school increased its kindergarten program from 23 students to 46 students.
2. BCCLC has implemented a teacher mentoring program, assigning teachers with demonstrated success in reading programs to new or struggling teachers. Mentors actually team teach with their teaching partners. Students from both classes have sustained core curriculum contact with both teachers every day.
3. BCCLC has implemented tiered core reading instruction in addition to regular reading instruction. During tiered instruction, students are assigned to small group settings, taught by certified teachers, with curriculum materials specifically designed to increase student proficiency.
4. BCCLC will complete vertical alignment of its language arts curriculum with common core standards.

Time Frame

BCCLC has already implemented corrective actions 1-3. The school anticipates seeing gains as a result of those actions during the current academic year.

Corrective action 4 is currently in process; however, the school is transitioning from Idaho State Standards to Core Standards. As a result of this transition, the process will not be completed until January, 2012.

IRI test results in Spring, 2011 will show an increased percentage in student proficiency; however, full compliance with BCCLC's charter mandate to demonstrate 90% proficiency will be fully realized in Spring, 2012.

Defect 2

BCCLC's charter mandates that 85% of 3-5 students demonstrate proficiency in core academic areas as measured by the ISAT. The school reached the following proficiency levels: mathematics, 89.6%; reading, 91.7%; and language arts, 80.2%. The language arts score is lower than the school's mandated proficiency level.

Discussion

BCCLC's proficiency in all core areas, including language arts, as measured by the ISAT, is showing positive trends. Over the last four years, the school has averaged approximately 10% growth each year, rising from an average of 60% proficiency to near 90% proficiency. The trend extends to language arts. However, while language arts scores are trending up, they are still below the school's mandated goal.

Actions

BCCLC has implemented the following corrective actions:

1. BCCLC has introduced additional language arts curriculum by Michael Thomson. This curriculum specifically targets the language arts areas of sentence structure, parts of speech, and vocabulary.
2. BCCLC has implemented a teacher mentoring program, assigning teachers with demonstrated success in reading and language arts programs to new or struggling teachers. Mentors actually team teach with their teaching partners. Students from both classes have sustained core curriculum contact with both teachers every day.
3. BCCLC has implemented tiered core reading and language arts instruction in addition to regular reading instruction. During tiered instruction, students are assigned to small group settings, taught by certified teachers, with curriculum materials specifically designed to increase student proficiency.
4. BCCLC will complete vertical alignment of its language arts curriculum with common core standards.

Time Frame

BCCLC has already implemented corrective actions 1-3. The school anticipates seeing gains as a result of those actions during the current academic year.

Corrective action 4 is currently in process; however, the school is transitioning from Idaho State Standards to Core Standards. As a result of this transition, the process will not be completed until January, 2012.

BCCLC test results in Spring, 2011 will show an increased percentage in student proficiency; however, full compliance with BCCLC's charter mandate to demonstrate 85% proficiency will be fully realized in Spring, 2012.