

*James Clark School
School Improvement Plan
2011 ~ 2012*



*School Improvement
Council Members*

Principal: Shelley Russell

Teachers:

Donna Carter
Karen Stanton

Parents:

Karen Carrier
Laura Fallon
Anna Johnson
Teresa Smith (Recording Secretary)

Community Representatives:

Kerry Conway
Laura Lapierre

Contents

Introduction

School Philosophy / School Vision Statement

Student Achievement

Letter to Parents & Community

Demographic Information

MCAS Results

Action Plan, Monitoring & Evaluation for 2010-2011

School Improvement Plan for 2011 - 2012

Introduction

The James Clark School – School Improvement Plan has been formulated in conjunction with the Agawam Mission Statement and the district goals. Our plan has been carefully devised to specifically meet the needs of Clark School and to implement actions to improve student achievement. Our nine-member team works cooperatively with the staff to provide comprehensive solutions to the goals we have laid out. We are open to suggestions from staff, as well as parents, to assist us in providing the most optimal learning environment as well as instilling citizenship in all our students. The school improvement team meets on the second Thursday of every month at 4:30p.m. Our meeting schedule for the 2011-2012 school year is as follows:

September 8th	February 9th
October 13th	March 8th
November 10th	April 12th
December 8th	May 10th
January 12th	June Dinner Meeting TBA

School Philosophy

The staff and parents of James Clark Elementary School feel that we should provide experiences and activities in a safe environment that successfully prepare our students to become valuable community members.

We encourage our students to be respectful, caring citizens who strive to reach their potential, both academically and socially.

School Vision Statement

The James Clark Elementary School intends to provide an educational setting that offers a strong support system to ensure that all students will gain the skills to make them responsible, self-sufficient learners in an ever-changing society. Our role as educators is to guarantee that all of our students gain academic and social skills that will be vital to their success in their future endeavors.

The school will provide a standard based curriculum that will be implemented with a set of teaching strategies including:

- **Fluency**
- **Phonemic awareness**
- **Guided reading**
- **Comprehension**
- **Open ended questions/critical thinking skills**

Additionally, James Clark School will provide a bully free environment where students will learn to work hard and smart to become good citizens who value community service by using programs such as

- **Second Step**
- **Steps to Respect**
- **PBIS**
- **Participation in Student Council**
- **Respectful behavior at all times**

Student Achievement

Student achievement is very important to us as a staff. All teachers have been trained to administer the BAS (Benchmark Assessment System) which determines reading strengths and weaknesses for each student. We try very hard to provide for individual differences in the English Language Arts area.

Reading Recovery is successfully utilized for Grades 1 & 2 and small guided reading groups are used for remedial services for Grades 1 - 4. Children can qualify for Title One services based on Stanford-Binet math scores or GRADE reading scores. The Primary Preventionist works with children who are “at risk,” but are not yet on an IEP.

Assessments are based on a variety of methods, such as portfolios and work samples. Math and ELA are formally assessed for grades K-4 at the beginning, middle and end of the school year.

Our MCAS scores continue to be note-worthy. We continue to strive for AYP every year. We have to make certain that our math scores continue to improve. School Improvement Council will be addressing both Math and ELA with goals that reflect areas of improvement on MCAS.

Community Involvement

To the James Clark Elementary School Parents and Community:

There are many goals and activities in our School Improvement Plan that welcome help from family members and the James Clark School community. Below is a list of these goals and suggestions that any family or community member may assist the principal and staff of James Clark School in achieving our school improvement goals. As always, we encourage family and friends to participate in activities at the school. If you have any questions, or would like to help out, please contact principal, at the school (821-0571). Thank you for your continued support.

The James Clark School Improvement Council

- Math Madness Night (twice a year)
- Culture Night (cooking and activities)
- PTO family nights (throughout the school year)
- Clark Connection (monthly)
- Student/Parent Luncheons (once a year)
- Scholastic Book Fair (twice a year)
- Talent Show (once a year)
- Field Day (once a year)
- Teachers Appreciation Luncheon (once a year)

**JAMES CLARK SCHOOL
ACTION PLAN 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR**

GOAL I: Our goal is to foster literacy, to improve the ELA curriculum and to improve student learning through technology and enrichment activities both inside and outside of the classroom.

ACTION	TIME BEGUN	TIME COMPLETED	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	COMPLETE
Objective 1 Our goal is to enhance reading and writing both inside and outside of the classroom using technology and enrichment.	Fall 2010	Ongoing	Principal & Staff	
Monitoring:	1. LIFE (2 programs) 2. Use of BAS (Benchmark Assessment System) 3. Tracking progress of students released from Reading Recovery Program 4. Title One Reading Night 5. Expand and Reorganize the book closet 6. Mini enrichment courses after school provided by Inspireworks. 7. District Wide Professional Development writing Lucy Calkins, grades K-4 8. Gr K-4 evaluated Writing Samples with new rubric 9. GRADE assessment for all students K-4 (Spring)		10. Reader of the Month awards 11. Writing workshops for grades K-4 12. Reading recovery program with guided reading services and primary preventionist services, grades K-2 13. Accelerated Reader used in grades 2-4 14. Guided Reading Groups, grades K-4 15. Portfolios created with writing samples K-4 16. Response to Intervention 4 days a week / 45 min sessions, Grades K-4 17. Professional Development for Microsoft Excel 18. Literacy Coaches , grades K-4 19. Wordly Wise Vocabulary, grades 1-4 20. Purchased quizzes to enhance Accelerated Reader programs.	
Evaluation:	The staff developed and fostered student literacy.			

JAMES CLARK SCHOOL
ACTION PLAN 2010 - 2011 SCHOOL YEAR

GOAL II: Our goal is to improve assessment results for Math and improve the Math curriculum for all students grades K-4

ACTION	TIME BEGUN	TIME COMPLETED	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	COMPLETE
Objectives 1				
Our goal is to enhance the Math and implement the most beneficial assessment practices.	Fall 2010	Ongoing	Principal Staff	
Monitoring:	1. K-4 students evaluated for "high risk" (AIMS Web) 2. Random fourth graders worked at School Store 3. District wide assessments for Math (AIMS Web) 4. Grade Level Meetings 5. Math Day for grades K-4 6. Accommodation plans for students receiving "warnings" on previous Grade 3 MCAS test.		7. Math coaches visited each building and each grade level 8. Inspireworks after school activities 9. Title I Math Night 10. Portfolios created with Math Assessments 11. Response to Intervention K-4 12. Two Math Nights held for families 13. Improve MCAS AYP Scores from Spring 2009 in Math, Grades 3-4	
Evaluation:	We improved assessments for grades K-4 in Math.			

JAMES CLARK SCHOOL
ACTION PLAN 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR

GOALIII: Our goal is to promote a healthy, family friendly environment and to develop and foster responsibility and mutual respect within the school.

ACTION	TIME BEGUN	TIME COMPLETED	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	COMPLETE
Objective 1				
Our goal is to provide a safe learning environment.	Fall 2010	Ongoing	Principal & Staff	
Monitoring:	1. PBIS program continued (Clark Keys to Success) 2. Lockdown procedures given & drills practiced. 3. African Explosion program (cultural diversity) 4. Annual Culture Night held October 2010 5. "Like Yourself" Fundraiser - ACES (All Children Exercise Simultaneously) 6. PTO Family Nights (Harvest Festival & Winter Carnival) 7. PTO, Staff and Family newsletters 8. Parent/Student Luncheons 9. Survey for Parents about safety issues 10. Second Step Program, grades K-4 11. Professional Development - Agawam Public Schools Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan			
Evaluation:	The staff promoted a family friendly and healthy environment while developing mutual respect for all.			

**AGAWAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SITE-BASED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
JAMES CLARK SCHOOL
2011-2012**

GOAL 1: Our goal is to foster literacy, to improve the English Language Arts MCAS scores and to improve student learning through technology and enrichment activities both inside and outside of the classroom.

Objective 1: We will enhance reading and writing in and out of the classroom using technology & enrichment.

ACTION	BEGIN DATE	ESTIMATED DATE COMPLETED	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	COMPLETE DATE
1. We will continue our Reading Recovery program with guided reading services and primary preventionist services.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Reading Recovery Teachers 1st Grade Teachers Primary Preventionist	
2. We will offer ancillary reading activities such as Read-Aloud weeks, children's authors & speakers.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal All Staff Parents	
3. We will continue annual reading incentive programs running from September to June (Reader of the Month)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Staff	
4. The volunteer staff will present LIFE (Literacy is Family Entertainment) programs 2 times throughout the year.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Volunteer Staff Principal	
5. We will continue using the BAS (Benchmark Assessment System)	Spring 2012	Ongoing	Central Office Administration Principal/Staff	
6. We will offer writing workshops in classrooms for all K - 4 students	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Staff	
7. Family-Student Title One Reading programs will be offered by the Title One Teacher.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Title One Staff Principal Parents	
8. We will continue to expand the Book Closet to include all genre for grades K - 4.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal All Staff	
9. We will continue with the National Social Studies League competition.	Spring 2012	Ongoing	Principal Staff	

10. We will provide mini-enrichment courses after school, including academic subjects, with the assistance of volunteers (Inspireworks)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Inspireworks Principal Parents Staff	
11. The Accelerated Reader program will be enhanced at each grade level.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	All Staff Library/Media Specialist	
12. We will give the GRADE standardized test to all students in the Spring (K-4). This test will be used to drive instruction.	Spring 2012	Ongoing	Literacy Team Principal Staff	
13. Monitor progress for released Reading Recovery students. Form small reading support groups, grades 2-4. Remedial Reading to follow Reading Recovery Model.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Staff Literacy Team Principal	
14. Grade level data teams will determine students "at risk" (RTI) Grade levels K-4.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Data Teams Staff	
15. Guided Reading will be part of literacy grades K-4	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Staff	
16. There will be ELA Writing Challenges provided for grades 1-4 in conjunction with PBIS Like Yourself	Fall 2011	Ongoing	School Imp Council Staff	

**AGAWAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SITE-BASED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
JAMES CLARK SCHOOL
2011-2012**

GOAL 2: Our goal is to improve assessment results for MCAS Math and to improve the Math curriculum for all students grades K-4

Objective 1: We will enhance the Math Curriculum and implement the most beneficial assessment practices.

ACTION	BEGIN DATE	ESTIMATED DATE COMPLETED	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	COMPLETE DATE
1. K - 4 students be given a variety of assessments to determine "at risk" students for RTI (Response to Intervention)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal All Staff	
2. The teachers will put together portfolio collections for all students to include 2 formal Math Assessments district wide (AIMS Web)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	District Wide All Staff	
3. There will be MCAS Math Challenges provided for grades 1-4, monthly.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Staff	
4. Grade level meetings will determine their math needs (ie. Assessments benchmarks), etc., grades K-4	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal All Staff	
5. All day Math Day for all grade levels	Fall 2011	Ongoing	School Imp. Council Principal All Staff	
6. After school enrichment activities that are Math related. (Inspireworks)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Inspireworks Principal All Staff	
7. Continue with Response to Intervention to include grades 1-4	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal All Staff	
8. Improve MCAS AYP scores from Spring 2010 in both Math - Grades 3 & 4	Fall 2011	Ongoing	All Staff	

9. Math Game Night will be held 2 times during the year	Fall 2011	Ongoing	School Imp Council Staff Principal	
10. Title One Math Night	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Title I Staff Principal	
11. District Wide Assessments - AIMS Web	Fall 2011	Ongoing	All Staff Principal	
12. Accommodation plans written for Grade 3 MCAS warnings	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Title I Staff Principal	
13. Integrate new common core state standards for Math	Fall 2011	Ongoing	All Staff	

**AGAWAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SITE-BASED SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN
JAMES CLARK SCHOOL
2011 - 2012**

GOAL 3: Our goal is to promote a healthy, family friendly environment and to develop and foster responsibility and mutual respect within the school community.

Objective 1: We will provide a safe learning environment.

ACTION	BEGIN DATE	ESTIMATED DATE COMPLETED	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	COMPLETE DATE
1. PBIS behavior program will be continued "Clarks Keys to Success"	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Staff Principal	
2. All staff will continue to practice Lock Down drills and review rules regularly concerning lockdown/security concerns regarding intruders in the school.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Staff	
3. We will survey the parents to get input about our school.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	School Imp. Council Parents Principal	
4. The Principal will continue to work with the Maintenance department regarding cameras for the rear doors, as an extension of our Safety/Security Plan.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Maintenance	
5. We will emphasize acceptance of individual differences among the student population by continuing the Second Step Program	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Staff	
6. We will provide various programs to promote awareness of various cultures. (African Explosion / Culture Night)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal School Imp. Council Staff	
7. Student/Parent Lunches will be offered to encourage a "family friendly" environment.	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal Students Student Council	

8. We will continue the Clark newsletter including information about PBIS and RTI (Clark Connection).	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal PTO	
9. The PTO will continue to provide Family Night activities that will allow children and family to participate together	Fall 2011	Ongoing	PTO	
10. The staff will continue to encourage parental involvement in Read-Aloud Weeks, Career Days (as requested by specific classrooms)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	PTO All Staff	
11. EpiPens will be renewed	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal	
12. ACES Walk (All Children Exercise Simultaneously)	Fall 2011	Ongoing	PTO Staff	
13. Reinforce APS Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan	Fall 2011	Ongoing	Principal All Staff	