



SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

2019-2021

Developed by the DSFC School Council
Spring, 2018

Greenfield Public Schools
The Discovery School at Four Corners
School Improvement Plan 2019 – 2021

Discovery School at Four Corners Instructional Focus

At the Discovery School at Four Corners (DSFC), we work with each child as a member of the school community and as an individual to develop her/his strengths. We expand each child’s vocabulary by opening up the world through high interest themes, hands-on opportunities, and real life experiences. We use teacher observation, parent/guardian input, and formative and summative assessments including classroom and standardized tests to measure each child’s progress. Working as a team: parent/guardian, child, and educators, we endeavor to motivate each child toward continued growth. Together we develop learners who are kind, resilient, and engaged members of the community.

Introduction

DSFC is an Innovation School with a theme-based curriculum emphasizing the local environment and community while making connections to the broader world. The theme approach is not only used to increase a child’s content knowledge, but to increase the depth of engagement and foster school-wide learning. The focus on environmental studies utilizes the nine acre school site. The children have hands-on science opportunities through planting, gardening, harvesting, recycling, composting, forest study and related research. Mathematical concepts are applied through gardening activities, such as measuring the area and perimeter of beds and using fractions to divide beds into appropriate areas for planting. Additional annual themes such as Continents, Flight, Bridges, and Water create opportunities for cross-curricula and multi-grade level learning. In addition to the core program of language arts and math, the school offers Art, Music, Technology, Library, and Physical Education. Through the Innovation School designation, Discovery School at Four Corners has autonomy and flexibility in the areas of curriculum, scheduling and professional development.

DSFC utilizes an interactive math program and a leveled literacy model to address the needs of all students. All students are provided with online accounts for programs to practice and master math and reading skills. Academic progress monitoring is utilized to optimize student achievement; progress is reviewed at weekly grade level meetings to ensure acceleration in both math and reading. Expectations for DSFC students are high and include excellent attendance, effort, achievement and citizenship. The Discovery School at Four Corners is a school-wide Title I school and this School Improvement Plan serves as the school’s Title I school-wide plan. All DSFC teachers and instructional assistants are highly qualified.

DSFC practices Responsive Classroom, an approach to elementary teaching that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong and safe school community. The Responsive Classroom approach is based on the premise that children learn best when they have opportunities to practice both academic and social-emotional skills. The school actively builds connections and partnerships with organizations within Franklin County such as Greening Greenfield, Just Roots Farm, Franklin County Waste Management, and Franklin First Credit Union . Parental involvement is exceptional and there is an active PTO that generously supports the school programs.

School Improvement Plan Goals 2019-2021

Goal I - Improve Academic Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners will continue to accelerate student learning in core academic subjects by making meaningful improvements to the quality of instruction in response to student achievement data.

Goal II - Maintain a Professional Collaborative Culture to Improve Student Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners will utilize a professional culture of teacher leadership and collaboration, focused on strengthening instructional practice and meeting school-wide achievement goals and objectives.

Goal III - Continue to Provide Enrichment Activities to Improve Academic Engagement: Discovery School at Four Corners will offer opportunities throughout the school day, building students' skills and interests and deepening student engagement in learning in support of school-wide achievement goals.

Goal IV - Increase School/Home Communication to Support Student Learning and Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners sees parents as partners in their children's academic achievement and social development and will continue to encourage parental involvement.

Goal V: Utilize Technology to Improve Student Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners will use technology to enhance learning, engage students, and improve student achievement.

Goal I - Improve Academic Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners will continue to accelerate student learning in core academic subjects by making meaningful improvements to the quality of instruction in response to student achievement data.

Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success	Timeline
<p>Objective 1: All students will make continual progress toward proficiency and excellence in reading and writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English Language Arts is taught in an uninterrupted morning block and specials are scheduled only in the afternoon at least four days per week. ● Leveled reading groups are incorporated in ELA instruction in grades K-4. ● The DIBELS assessments are administered with all students in kindergarten and grade one and for Intervention students in grades 2-4. ● Scott Foresman benchmark assessments are given quarterly and at the end of the year. ● NWEA MAP assessment is administered three times per year and is used to monitor student progress and plan instruction in grades K-4. ● Tier II instruction is provided by Title I and support staff. 	<p>By Spring 2021, 80% of all students (K-1) will reach grade level benchmarks on DIBELS subtests.</p> <p>By Spring 2021, the average score on Scott Foresman Reading Street End of Year testing at each grade level, K-4, will be 80%.</p> <p>By Spring 2021, 80% of students will meet or exceed the expected grade level growth goal on NWEA MAP tests in Reading.</p> <p>By Spring 2021, 80% of students in grades 3 and 4 will meet or exceed the state average score on the ELA portion of the MCAS.</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p> <p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p> <p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p> <p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>
<p>Objective 2: All students will make continual progress toward proficiency and excellence in mathematics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Math is taught in an uninterrupted block and specials are scheduled only in 	<p>By Spring 2021, the average score on Pearson EnVision End of Year testing at each grade level, K-4, will be 80%.</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>

	<p>the afternoon at least four days per week.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pearson enVision topic and end of the year assessments are given in grades K-4. ● Math facts are practiced regularly and assessed quarterly in grades 1-4. ● NWEA MAP assessment is used to monitor student progress and plan instruction in grades K-4. ● Symphony Math and other computer programs are used in grades K-4. 	<p>By Spring 2021, each student will show personal growth on grade level math fact assessments.</p> <p>By Spring 2021, 80% of students will meet or exceed the expected grade level growth goal on NWEA MAP tests in Mathematics.</p> <p>By Spring 2021, 80% of students in grades 3 and 4, will meet or exceed the state average score on the Math portion of the MCAS.</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p> <p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p> <p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>
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Goal II - Maintain a Professional Collaborative Culture to Improve Student Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners will utilize a professional culture of teacher leadership and collaboration, focused on strengthening instructional practice and meeting school-wide achievement goals and objectives.

Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success	Timeline
<p>Objective 1: Student work and assessment data will be reviewed regularly for the purpose of setting high standards, assessing student learning, determining interventions, and strengthening the use of school-wide instructional practices.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom, Special Education and Title I teachers meet for 20 minutes monthly to assess student work, analyze student data, and plan instruction/intervention ● Faculty meetings are held 2 times a month after school to identify common goals and implementation of common instructional strategies ● Instructional staff meets for a total of three additional days beyond the school year, to review and discuss implementation of the Innovation Plan and common themes. 	<p>Grade level team time minutes and assessment data binder</p> <p>Faculty meeting agendas and minutes</p> <p>Innovation planning meeting minutes</p> <p>Work products such as thematic lesson plans, planning templates and school-wide presentation programs</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>
<p>Objective 2: Faculty, staff, and administrators regularly engage in professional development, data-driven analysis, and planning for all school themes, to enhance and improve student learning with the support of the building and district administration.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DSFC faculty and support staff will participate in district PD offerings ● DSFC faculty and support staff will participate in school specific PD offerings ● Faculty will review student data mid-year. ● Teachers will present theme-related PD topics during Innovation planning times. 	<p>PD agendas, sign-in sheets, certificates</p> <p>Data analysis sheets and Individual Student Success Plans</p> <p>Innovation Meetings minutes</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teachers will facilitate Innovation themed meetings.• Instructional Assistants will participate in 6 hours of meetings per year for PD and planning.		
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Goal III - Continue to Provide Enrichment Activities to Improve Academic Engagement: Discovery School at Four Corners will offer opportunities throughout the school day, building students’ skills and interests and deepening student engagement in learning in support of school-wide achievement goals.

Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success	Timeline
<p>Objective 1: Enriching educational opportunities will be provided within the school day to develop students’ skills and talents, explore special interests, and allow students to perform/demonstrate/exhibit the products of their work.</p>	<p>Enrichment activities include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● All students participate in the outdoor education including nature trail exploration, outdoor classrooms, and gardening. ● All students participate in lessons based on the school-wide theme. ● All students, K-4 participate in Art, Library, Music, Physical Education, and Technology classes once a week. ● All third and fourth graders are given the opportunity participate in Chorus, Band and free string instrument lessons. ● Staff and students produce monthly All School Meetings where the children have the opportunity to develop confidence, presentation skills and audience skills. All School Meeting also provides a venue for community building. 	<p>Student participation in a Harvest Sampler family event and thematic Showcase Night, demonstrating content knowledge, confidence and communication skills</p> <p>Teacher lesson plans and principal observation notes</p> <p>Chorus, Band and Strings for Kids rosters</p> <p>All School Meeting participation documentation/spreadsheet of components of meetings and classrooms taking responsibility.</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>

Objective 2: Enriching activities will be enhanced through connections with individuals and community groups beyond the school walls

- Student Council will be an instructional block available to some students to develop leadership and citizenship skills.
- Each classroom is assigned a buddy classroom for enrichment and mentoring.
- Students will participate in an Artist-in-Residence Program, pending STARS grant funding.
- All classes will participate in field trips to expand learning beyond the school campus.
- Students will participate in the Just Roots Snack Market, if available, and second grade field trips will include working visits to Just Roots.
- Students will participate in outside enrichment presentations provided by the PTO.
- Franklin County Waste Management will provide education and oversight of schoolwide composting program.

Artist-in-Residence Culminating Event sign-in and photos/press releases.

Listing of field trips taken by class/grade, destination and content area addressed.

Goal IV - Increase School/Home Communication to Support Student Learning and Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners sees parents as partners in their children’s academic achievement and social development and will continue to encourage parental involvement.

Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success	Timeline
<p>Objective 1: Four Corners administration, teachers, and staff will continue to provide parents and community members with information on school activities, student achievement and accomplishments, the school calendar, and ways to be involved in the Four Corners school community, with increased use of technology as a communication tool.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Information is posted on the district website including: calendar, principal notes, announcements, school newsletters, PTO information, etc. ● Parent email lists/cell phone numbers are collected and set up in appropriate platforms. ● Monthly PTO meetings and School Council meetings are held. ● School Messenger is used to communicate announcements to families. ● All School Meetings dates are sent home to families and attendance is encouraged. ● Parent conferences are regularly scheduled twice a year and as needed or when requested. These are in addition to any mandated IEP meetings. ● Parents and community members are welcomed as volunteers in classrooms, at events, and on field trips. ● School community events are established and families are encouraged to attend (Field Day, Meet & Greet, Open House, Showcase Night, Harvest Sampler, Concerts, Film Festival). 	<p>District website, Four Corners page</p> <p>Teacher and administrator communication logs showing response to parent questions and concerns within 24 hours via email, text, phone, and face-to-face conversation.</p> <p>Agendas, minutes, and sign-in sheets from PTO and School Council Meetings</p> <p>Parent sign-in lists for events</p> <p>Connect Ed scripts/recordings</p> <p>Letters, lists of meeting dates, and calendars sent to families and community members</p> <p>Parent-Teacher conference schedules</p> <p>Volunteer forms and sign-in sheets</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>

<p>Objective 2: Four Corners administration, teachers, and staff will continue to reach out to students and their families to ensure access to technology and educational resources.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Make log-ins and passwords for online academic programs available to families for use at home. ● Provide strategies for families to work with children at home through school and classroom newsletters, flyers, and packets. ● Establish a DSFC relationship with the Greenfield Public Library and Greenfield Community College, as potential computer/wifi access points, making their resources known and available to parents. ● Wifi spots in community will be determined and listed and shared with parents. ● Scholastic book orders will be made available for families. ● A book fair will be provided for parent teacher conferences twice a year. 	<p>Documented use of First in Math, Accelerated Reader, Lexia, FASTT Math and Study Island</p> <p>School and classroom newsletters, lists of instructional strategies, Lexia, Symphony Math, etc.</p> <p>Records and communications that demonstrate parent outreach</p> <p>Field trip forms for trips to the Public Library</p> <p>List of wifi spots</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>
<p>Objective 3: Parents/guardians will be provided opportunities and resources to support their children’s academic achievement and social development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School adjustment counselor will provide ongoing support to students and their families. ● DSFC personnel will work with outside social agencies to provide support to students and their families. ● Continue use of Responsive Classroom practices school-wide (An approach to elementary teaching that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong and safe school community to enable optimal student learning). 	<p>Descriptions of the ways that the school school adjustment counselor has worked with children and families</p> <p>Lists/descriptions of the outside agencies that have worked with Four Corners School administration and staff</p> <p>Participation lists of professional development on the Responsive Classroom Model</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DSFC will hold an informational meeting for families on mindfulness in the classrooms. 	Lesson plans including RC practices (ie-Morning Meeting)	
<p>Objective 4: Parents and families of new students will have supported opportunities to transition their children into the school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Incoming Kindergarten families will be invited to visit the school in the spring at an Open House event. ● Information packets, explaining procedures at Four Corners will be shared with Kindergarten families and move-ins at other grade levels. ● Buddy families will be recruited to guide new families of DSFC. 	<p>Sign-in sheets and feedback forms from Open House events</p> <p>Copy of the Four Corners information packet</p>	

Goal V: Utilize Technology to Improve Student Achievement: Discovery School at Four Corners will use technology to enhance learning, engage students, and improve student achievement.

Objectives	Key Actions	Measures of Success	Timeline
<p>Objective 1: Four Corners teachers and staff will use computer based programs to support learning, engage students, and improve student achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Symphony Math, Lexia, Accelerated Reader are used with students K-4. ● NWEA MAP assessment is administered 3 times a year in grades 1-4 and 2 times a year in Kindergarten, to monitor student progress and focus instruction and intervention. 	<p>Usage and progress reports for online programs</p> <p>MAP scores</p> <p>Teachers will analyze student data regularly to monitor student progress and classroom instruction.</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>
<p>Objective 2: Four Corners teachers and staff will use web-based interactive tools to support learning, engage students, and improve student learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Teachers utilize SMART Board technology for instruction. ● Computers are setup or Chromebooks are available for each classroom. ● Computer programs support student learning in English Language Arts and math. 	<p>Teacher lesson plans</p> <p>Student progress monitoring</p> <p>Classroom observations and analysis of student data (engagement, discipline referrals, health office visits, absenteeism)</p>	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>
<p>Objective 3: Four Corners teachers and staff will participate in professional development on technology and web based tools for to use in the classroom.</p>	<p>Provide in-district professional development and staff attendance at conferences and online trainings on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SmartBoard applications ● Use of web-based programs ● NWEA MAP assessment implementation and instructional resources ● Technology will be integrated into the 	<p>Technology professional development documented by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Professional Development Calendars/Schedules ● In-district Professional Development Certificates ● Conference Participation Certificates ● Agendas from Grade Level and Faculty Meetings 	<p>Sept 2018-June 2021</p>

	<p>curriculum when possible and appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Assistive technology will be used to support student learning as appropriate.		
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Our vision is that *all members*
of our school community collaborate to create
a positive, caring, innovative learning environment.

Our Mission Statement

Every day we engage in meaningful learning
using our hearts, our heads and our hands.

Our Values

Community

Safety

Resilience

Kindness