

Chester CS for the Arts

Improvement Plan

07/01/2014 - 06/30/2018

School Profile

Demographics

200 Commerce Drive
Aston, PA 19014
(610)859-3010

Phase:	Improvement Revision 2017-2018
Federal Accountability Designation:	Focus
Title I Status:	Yes
Schoolwide Status:	Not Provided
CEO Name:	Akosua Watts
CEO E-mail address:	awatts@chestercharterschoolforthearts.org

Planning Committee

Name	Role
Rachel Cameron-PIMS Administrator	Administrator
Michelle Robinson	Building Principal
Akosua Watts-Head of School/CEO	Building Principal
Joe Martin	Business Representative
Michael Whisman	Business Representative
James Emrich	Community Representative
Lisa Wilson	Ed Specialist - Other
Stacey Kucera	Elementary School Teacher - Regular Education
Brian Holm	High School Teacher - Regular Education
Andrew Coonradt	Intermediate Unit Staff Member
Theresa Cummings	Middle School Teacher - Regular Education
Ramona Jones	Parent

Needs Assessment

School Accomplishments

Accomplishment #1:

The Chester Charter School for the Arts boasts of a 99% re-enrollment rate for the 2017-2018 academic school year indicating that families are satisfied with the educational program provided for their children.

Accomplishment #2:

The Chester Charter School for the Arts, successfully expanded its K-6 (2012-13) program to K-10 (present).

Accomplishment #3:

The Chester Charter School for the Arts had the third overall highest SPP improvement for the 800 schools in the Philadelphia Region for 2014.

School Concerns

Concern #1:

Improving PSSA Reading Performance for grades 3 - 8

Concern #2:

Improving PSSA Math Performance for grades 3 - 8

Concern #3:

Improving PSSA Science Performance for grades 4 & 8

Prioritized Systemic Challenges

Systemic Challenge #1 (*Guiding Question #0*) We have noticed that incoming students are at a significant disadvantage as related to reading. There are students who enter our school; one, two and sometimes three grade levels below their current grade level.

Aligned Concerns:

Improving PSSA Reading Performance for grades 3 - 8

Improving PSSA Math Performance for grades 3 - 8

Systemic Challenge #2 (*Guiding Question #0*) The formatting for the Pennsylvania Student State Assessments were restructured to align with Common Core Standards. This presented a challenge not only for CCSA but for many PA schools.

Aligned Concerns:

Improving PSSA Reading Performance for grades 3 - 8

Systemic Challenge #3 (*Guiding Question #0*) The PA Core Standards for math require a level of reading and critical thinking for problem solving that is significantly more demanding than previously required, which in turn requires a major shift in instructional approach.

Aligned Concerns:

Improving PSSA Math Performance for grades 3 - 8

Improvement Plan

Action Plans

Goal #1: Establish a system within the Charter School that fully ensures consistent implementation of standards-aligned curricula for all students.

Indicators of Effectiveness:

Type: Annual

Data Source: Curricuplan standards analysis report

Specific Targets: All PA standards will be included after an analysis of CCSA documented curriculum

Type: Annual

Data Source: PSSA Results

Specific Targets: Achievement of the identified school-wide improvement targets for PSSA performance in Math and Reading will serve as evidence that CCSA is offering a valid and rigorous curriculum.

Strategies:

Curriculum Mapping

Description: Empirical evidence of a positive statistical correlation of the use of curriculum mapping with student achievement is scarce. There was a 2001 study by the Indiana Center of Evaluation conducted for the Ohio DOE that determined curriculum alignment (defined as curriculum mapping with subsequent change in instructional practice) was the “single greatest factor in achieving improved test scores.” The following link provides a list of resources supporting the positive contributions of curriculum mapping to educational processes: <http://www.curriculummapping101.com/materials/curriculum-mapping-research> ; the following link provides an overview of curriculum

mapping: <http://webserver3.ascd.org/handbook/demo/mapping2.html>
 Resource: <http://effectivestrategies.wiki.caiu.org/Curriculum+Framework>

SAS Alignment: Standards, Materials & Resources

Implementation Steps:

Communications

Description:

- o Staff will be informed and reminded of these activities through daily staff updates and via the school calendar.

- o Parents will be informed and reminded of parent development activities via email, weekly family focus letters and via the school calendar.

Start Date: 7/1/2017 **End Date:** 6/15/2018

Program Area(s): Professional Education, Student Services

Supported Strategies:

- Curriculum Mapping

Goal #2: Establish a system within the Charter School that fully ensures consistent implementation of standards-aligned curricula for all students.

Indicators of Effectiveness:

Type: Interim

Data Source: Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System

Specific Targets: Specific Targets: At least 1 level of movement will be achieved by 85% of the eligible student population for each trimester.

Type: Annual

Data Source: PSSA Results

Specific Targets: 1. The number of students achieving proficient or advanced on the PSSA Reading assessment will increase by 32% from 34.2% (2012-2013) to 45% (2013-2014).

2. The number of students achieving proficient or advanced on the PSSA Math assessment will increase by 24% from 36.4% (2012-2013) to 45% (2013-2014).

Strategies:

Curriculum Mapping

Description: Empirical evidence of a positive statistical correlation of the use of curriculum mapping with student achievement is scarce. There was a 2001 study by the Indiana Center of Evaluation conducted for the Ohio DOE that determined curriculum alignment (defined as curriculum mapping with subsequent change in instructional practice) was the “single greatest factor in achieving improved test scores.” The following link provides a list of resources supporting the positive contributions of curriculum mapping to educational processes: <http://www.curriculummapping101.com/materials/curriculum-mapping-research> ; the following link provides an overview of curriculum mapping: <http://webserver3.ascd.org/handbook/demo/mapping2.html>
Resource: <http://effectivestrategies.wiki.caiu.org/Curriculum+Framework>

SAS Alignment: Standards, Materials & Resources

Implementation Steps:

Professional Development

Description:

- o Will take place at minimum once a month. All staff members are required to attend these meetings.
- o Upon completion of the meetings staff members will receive the appropriate Act 48 credits.
- o Staff members who do not attend these meetings will not be awarded credits.

Start Date: 8/29/2017 **End Date:** 6/30/2018

Program Area(s): Professional Education, Teacher Induction, Special Education, Educational Technology

Supported Strategies:

- Curriculum Mapping

Implementation/Monitoring

Description:

- o The Principal will develop and organize all professional developments for the school.
- o A sign-in sheet will be available at each professional development to keep a record of staff member's participation and attendance.

Start Date: 8/29/2017 **End Date:** 6/30/2018

Program Area(s): Professional Education, Teacher Induction, Special Education, Student Services, Educational Technology

Supported Strategies:

- Curriculum Mapping

Evaluation

Description:

The Principal will evaluate the effectiveness of all professional developments and will revise or continue on the current course of actions as needed annually.

Start Date: 7/1/2017 **End Date:** 8/5/2018

Program Area(s): Professional Education, Teacher Induction, Special Education, Educational Technology

Supported Strategies:

- Curriculum Mapping

Communications

Description:

- o Staff will be informed and reminded of these activities through daily staff updates and via the school calendar.
- o Parents will be informed and reminded of parent development activities via email, weekly family focus letters and via the school calendar.

Start Date: 7/1/2017 **End Date:** 6/15/2018

Program Area(s): Professional Education, Student Services

Supported Strategies:

- Curriculum Mapping

