

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATTERS

INSTITUTE



Strategic Action Plan

School: Cypress Academies Middle School

Year: 2015-2016

Content Dimension and Related Principle:	Mathematics, Principle 6: Instruction should include strategies for solving word and algebra problems that are based on common underlying structures.
Implementation Goal:	By November 1, 2016, all math teachers will regularly implement a common “attack strategy” designed for systematically solving word problems.
Desired Student Impact:	By providing students with strategies to solve math word problems (principle 6), and our focus on Principle 5 (see separate Action Plan), we expect mean RIT scores of each grade level to increase by 5 points on the NWEA MAP Test.
Baseline Data:	May 2015, NWEA MAP 2011 Norms: Grade 6: 220.5 • Grade 7: 222.6 • Grade 8: 229.3

Implementation Stage	Specific Action Step	Due Date	Manager <i>Who is in charge?</i>	Measurement <i>What evidence will determine whether this step has been completed?</i>	Needs <i>What resources do we need to be successful?</i>	Notes and Comments
Plan <i>What needs to happen before we implement new practices?</i>	Teachers will receive initial PD on problem solving strategies.	9-23-15	E. Smith (instructional coach)	PD Calendar	Contact MSMI for PD materials and/or researchers to deliver PD	COMPLETED. Teachers were very receptive to PD and are anxious to implement.
	Teachers will collaboratively develop a logic puzzle/activity to introduce UPS Check graphic organizer to students.	10-2-15	B. Jones (6th grade math) M. Davis (Math chair)	Teacher schedules and lesson plans Completed student work	UPS Check posters in each classroom (Smith)	COMPLETED Lesson plan submitted prior to use with students.

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Implement <i>How and when do we expect to roll out new practices?</i>	Teachers will explicitly introduce (model and think aloud) the use of UPS Check for teaching students the problem solving strategy.	Week of 10-5-15	Math teachers E. Smith (coach)	Lesson plan review Classroom walk-throughs	Walk-through form	COMPLETED
	Teachers will conduct guided practice with UPS Check.	Week of 10-12-15 and beyond	Math teachers E. Smith (coach)	Lesson plan review Classroom walk-throughs		COMPLETED. Included in all teachers' lesson plans and observed during walk-throughs.
	Teachers will model the use of UPS Check while solving word problems and will guide students to use UPS Check (if needed) throughout the school year.	Ongoing	Math teachers E. Smith (coach)	Lesson plan review Classroom walk-throughs		ONGOING

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Monitor and Reflect <i>Have we accomplished what we intended? How well have we done what we intended?</i>	Instructional leaders will conduct classroom walk-throughs to check for fidelity of implementation (of UPS Check).	Every 2 weeks	E. Smith (coach) T. Dunn (principal)	Completed observation/walk-through form	MSMI will provide an observation form	COMPLETED and ONGOING
	Math teachers will observe each other and provide feedback or reflect on their observation.	Monthly beginning 10-19-15	M. Davis (math chair)	Observation schedule Notes from observations (what teachers noticed, feedback for teachers, etc.)	Release time for each teacher Reflection form for use during observations	COMPLETED and ONGOING. Teachers love this! Consider using this same approach in other content areas.
	Discuss teacher self-observations and walk-throughs done by instructional leaders during PLCs.	Monthly during PLC time	T. Dunn (principal) E. Smith (Coach)	Agenda/notes from PLC meetings	Put this on the PLC calendars now so we don't forget!	COMPLETED and ONGOING

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Refine <i>How can we improve our implementation?</i>	Implement student data notebooks. Discuss student progress during data/dept. meetings. MAP scores will indicate progress or lack of progress.	Ongoing (every 4 weeks)	M. Davis (math chair)	Monthly collection of one UPS Check graphic organizer from each student to monitor progress and understanding.		COMPLETED and ONGOING. Student work and data indicate that students can use UPS Check independently and are more confident and accurate at solving word problems.
	Provide individual feedback and coaching sessions to teachers after conducting walk-throughs.	Monthly	T. Dunn (principal) E. Smith (coach)	Notes from coaching meetings	Coaching form (provided by MSMI)	COMPLETED and ONGOING. Several teachers have requested extra assistance. Smith will develop support calendar.
	Teachers will meet weekly with district math coach for feedback concerning implementation of word problem instruction.	30th of each month	E. Smith (coach)	District support calendar		COMPLETED. Teachers are comfortable using UPS Check as an overall attack strategy. Ready to embed problem-type strategies.
	Conduct follow-up/refinement PD on schema-based instruction (word problem types).	Feb. 2016	MSMI	TBD	MSMI will plan this PD and site visit. **Develop action steps for SBI implementation.	Could conduct pre-PD videoconference with MSMI researcher.