

Orange Unified School District
Strategic Plan 2009-2012
Year 1 Priorities – Action Progress Report
March 25, 2010



Student Achievement

Target A: Essential Learnings—Instructional staff will identify, understand, and use common K-12 curriculum in core content areas for all students.

- Progress
 - *Elementary, middle and high school committees have been formed to review K-12 Essential Learnings.*
 - *Essential Learnings will be published for English Language Arts and Math by the end of the 2009-10 school year.*
 - *Professional development includes:*
 - *Checking for Understanding*
 - *Tier I RtI – A Deeper Understanding*
 - *Universal Screening*
 - *District Curriculum Council is being developed by the Educational Services Division for implementation in the 2010-11 school year.*

Target C: Assessment— Instructional staff will use data to improve student achievement.

- Progress
 - *A committee has been created to research data analysis protocols.*
 - *The key elements for data analysis protocols have been identified.*
 - *Remedial and advanced trainings for Data Director are in progress.*
 - *A plan is being developed to add additional scanners at school sites.*
 - *Response to Intervention (RtI) staff development has been provided in these Tier I areas:*
 - *Core curriculum*
 - *Universal Screening*
 - *Program monitoring and student identification process*

Student Engagement

Target B: Strategies will be developed to increase the variety of program personalization and student educational options to maximize student engagement.

- Progress
 - *K-12 parent and student surveys are being developed to measure student engagement/voice.*

Safe, Welcoming Schools

TARGET A: All school sites will engage in activities designed to build school pride and morale.

- Progress
 - *Principals and teachers have increased positive messages at staff meetings, in school newsletters, through email, listserv, and automated phone messages.*

TARGET C: School staff and students will receive training to facilitate the creation of safe, welcoming schools.

- Progress
 - *A refresher course was held in February for school site and District office personnel on customer service.*
 - *More detailed trainings will begin in the summer of 2010.*

TARGET D: All school sites will collaborate with Child Welfare & Attendance (CWA) to improve OUSD safety procedures and policy enforcement.

- Progress
 - *In February, students in grades 5, 7, 9, and 11 took the California Healthy Kids Survey – All teachers surveyed students for school climate. Results will be given to schools in the Fall.*
 - *The office of CWA, in conjunction with the Orange Police Department, Anaheim Police Department, Orange County Sheriff's Department, and the Orange County District Attorney's Office has initiated a gang prevention program at California and Handy Elementary Schools. The program, Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP), is facilitated by the Orange County District Attorney's Office. The program is the result of research indicating that gang prevention is most effective when focused on students in elementary school. The programs goals are to:*
 - *Bring grant funding for gang prevention programs in Orange County*
 - *Create community awareness*
 - *Initiate/support law enforcement programs*
 - *Promote education*
 - *GRIP is a community collaborative aimed at preventing children from joining gangs. Program components include:*
 - *Lessons for 4th, 5th and 6th grade students (four one-hour lessons taught by a deputy district attorney and a police officer)*

- Parent education
- Educator education (teaching teachers and administrators to recognize the warning signs of gang involvement)
- Curfew sweeps (children out after curfew are escorted home and parents are contacted)
- Truancy sweeps
- Intervention (resource services for children identified as at-risk for joining gangs)
- Encouraging school attendance
- Incentives for students (tickets to sporting events, public safety demonstrations at school, individual recognition for attendance, etc.)
- **Truancy Response Project (TRP)**
The District has participated in the TRP for several years. The TRP is collaboration between OUSD, the Probation Department, the District Attorney’s Office, local law enforcement, and the juvenile court. The goal is to return students to and/or keep them in school.
- **Drug, Alcohol, & Tobacco Education (DATE)**
The Orange Police Department coordinates with high schools to bring together the Students and Teachers Against Narcotics and Drinking (S.T.A.N.D.) program. A week-long alcohol and drug prevention event, S.T.A.N.D. is presented in March at three high schools in the District – El Modena, Orange, and Villa Park.
- **Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS)**
The program addresses behavioral and discipline systems needed for successful learning and social development of students. To implement PBIS, each school developed a team of stakeholders which included administration, teachers, District support, students and parents. Team members attend county trainings, create a bimonthly meeting schedule, select 3-5 behavioral goals, and train all school personnel who work in different areas of the school e.g., lunch area, walkways, library, playground, classroom, restrooms, etc.
 - 19 Schools participate in PBIS
 - Positive reward system established for schools
 - Portola uses PRIDE tickets for positive rewards
 - Yorba uses TORO tokens for positive rewards
 - Both Portola and Yorba use the “SWIS” software program to track behavior problems and problem locations on campus

Parent & Community Partnerships

Target A: Parent/School Partnerships

Examine current parent involvement practices.

- **Progress**

- Attendance Area Collaboration:*

- Principals in the high school attendance areas have met to share what was going on at their school sites.*

- *Canyon High School Cohort –*
 - *Topics of meetings with feeder schools include similar school and other performance rankings, ListServ enrollment, and registration procedures.*
 - *Successes are shared through newsletters. Information from other schools is published in CHS newsletters, as well as shared during parent meetings, i.e., monthly PTSA meeting.*
- *El Modena High School Cohort -*
 - *El Modena facilitated a meeting. Discussion was held regarding collaboration between the middle school classes and their transition.*
 - *Middle school students will visit El Modena.*
 - *El Modena sends information regarding parent information nights to middle schools to publish in their newsletters.*
- *Orange High School Cohort -*
 - *Feeder middle school principals met separately to share plans for the year including visiting the schools, 8th grade parents nights, visits from special programs such as ROTC, AVID, Agriculture, Choir, Athletics, etc.*
 - *Have discussed hosting high school PTSA meetings at the middle school sites so that the middle school parents can attend and participate/observe the high school PTSA group and meet the “players” so when they come to the high school, they feel more at home.*
 - *School newsletters are sent to each school.*
- *Villa Park High School Cohort –*
 - *Monthly meetings of the Villa Park principals are held. They share successes and information about parent education evenings, discuss student visits to both the high school and middle school campuses, API data.*
 - *Villa Park High newspaper is sent to feeder schools.*
 - *Students participate at feeder sites through senior projects, and careers in education program.*
 - *Share information through websites and Twitter.*

- *Parent Information and Education Nights*

Schools have held a variety of parent information and education nights which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- *ADHD/ADD/LD: Your Child in High School and Beyond*
- *Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)*
- *College Night*
- *Career Pathways*
- *Character Education Parent*
- *CHP Smart Driver Safety Education*
- *Cyberbullying*
- *Disaster Preparedness*
- *Drug & Alcohol Awareness*
- *Facebook and Social Networking*
- *Family Literacy*
- *Family Math*
- *Family Reading*
- *Family Science*
- *Financial Aid for College*
- *Freshman Academy Parent Orientation*
- *Gang Affiliations*
- *Getting Ready for High School*
- *Internet Safety*
- *Kinder Camp – Parent Information*
- *Parent Portal Training*
- *Parent Project – 10-week series: never argue again with your child, improve student attendance and performance, prevent or intervene in alcohol and other drug use, find resources to help*
- *PSAT Testing Information*
- *STAR Testing Information*
- *The District webpage has a language conversion option utilizing **Google Translate**.*
- *GATE Community Advisory Committee meets five times per year*
- *Site-based GATE parent orientations at magnet elementary, middle and high schools*
- *District English Language Advisory Committee*

Target B. Business/Community Partnerships

Collaborate with external community to create opportunities for partnerships.

- Progress
 - *OUSD College Night*
 - *A list of business has been provided to elementary school sites.*
 - *The Community Resources link on the website continues to be expanded.*
 - *The Principal for a Day program has been reinstated and was held on March 24, 2010.*
 - *CWA began involving community based organizations that provide services to students and parents. The first meeting of the year included representatives from the Friendly Center and the Orange Public Library. The Friendly Center offers tutoring provided by students from local universities departments of education. All tutors go through fingerprinting and a background check. In addition, they are able to provide tutoring specifically for the high school exit exam. The Friendly Center also offers counseling services, a food bank, utilities assistance and a new mobile outreach worker. All services are available to students in the District and their families.*

Communication

Target A: The District will re-evaluate its Communication Plan.

- Progress
 - *The Blackboard Connect-Ed notification system has been renewed for three years at a reduced rate. Principals were surveyed for their preference in communication systems. Overwhelmingly, the Blackboard Connect-Ed system was chosen.*
 - *The District website was redesigned and launched on December 1, 2009. The prominent feature of the website is current news and events. In addition, information is more easily accessible.*
 - *The Community Resources webpage continues to be expanded and includes access to community based organizations including city, county, and state information.*
 - *The issuance of press releases has increased significantly and includes distribution to all employees, the OUSD Listserv, parent group presidents, local media, twitter, and posting to the website.*
 - *Site principals were encouraged to provide information regarding subscribing to the OUSD Listserv through their various means of communicating to their school community. Through their efforts, subscriptions to the Listserv have increased.*

- *The District has launched Twitter as another source of communication. Through social networking, community members, staff, and students have subscribed to “follow” the District and get the latest up-to-the-minute news and information. Information can be accessed through the internet or mobile devices. There are currently 86 followers.*
- *The superintendent has recorded and posted quarterly Podcasts. The first message was a “Welcome Back” message at the beginning of the school year, followed by two “State of the District” budget updates. Podcasts are sent via email to all employees, posted on the OUSD website, and on iTunes – free of charge.*
- *The District continues to utilize the services of School News Roll Call. This year, each issue has centered around a particular theme. The theme for the May issue is “Successful Traits and Qualities of Students.”*

Effective Use of Resources

Target A: Establish priority budgeting that focuses financial resources on District goals.

- Progress
 - *The budget development process now includes input from administrators, certificated staff, classified staff, and parents.*
 - *Decisions regarding the budget are made through the following lens:*
 - *What is **mission critical**?*
 - *What is important, but can be suspended?*
 - *What is not **mission critical**?*

Target B: Maximize revenue and minimize expenditures.

- Progress
 - *Continue to study surplus properties*
 - *A letter to parents has been developed which presents the opportunity for parents to reimburse the District for their student's absence.*
 - *OUSD received positive certification for both the first and second interim reporting periods from the Orange County Department of Education.*