Superintendent’s Areas of Focus for SY17-18

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Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, Superintendent of Schools
Superintendent’s Areas of Focus for SY17-18

1. Academically Challenging and Safe Environments grounded in the instructional priorities of Literacy, Numeracy, Critical Thinking, and Technology Integration.

2. Academic and Wrap-Around Support for students to achieve grade-level and above grade-level content mastery.

3. Professional Development to improve content knowledge, pedagogy, and Leadership Capacity.

4. Family and Community Engagement, Governmental Relations, and Partnerships grounded in responsiveness, excellent customer service, and collaboration.

5. Communication, Public Relations, and Marketing to improve community support and image.
Instructional Areas of Focus for SY17-18

Curriculum
1. Ensure all curriculum documents and resources are updated, shared, and used in the instructional planning process in all schools by all instructors.

2. Provide and consistently utilize curriculum documents that embed the appropriate evidence-based resources and practices for all content areas.

3. Implement STEM practices as a normal and expected part of the instructional process in all schools and classrooms, with a strategic, concerted, and organized effort in the designated STEM Pathways.
Instructional Areas of Focus for SY17-18

**Instruction**

1. Provide research- and evidence-supported instruction to students using the grade-level content so that all students achieve content-mastery in all schools and classrooms.

2. Utilize a variety of research- and evidence-based instructional strategies to engage students in critical thinking (use of critical thinking standards and elements toward the development of intellectual traits or dispositions) in all subjects and classrooms.

3. Identify, inform, observe, monitor, and collect data on the High Impact Practices that are expected to be consistently utilized and observed in all classrooms along with the specific subject-related Look-fors.

4. Develop and widely share the Pre-K word list for parents and community to use to ensure students have the appropriate vocabulary and word use by the time they enter kindergarten.
Instructional Areas of Focus for SY17-18

**Instruction (Con’t)**

5. Teach reading systematically in grades K-3 toward ensuring all students are reading on or above grade-level on the 3rd Grade Georgia Milestones Reading Assessment using both fluency and comprehension formative data to monitor progress, inform instructional decisions, and provide additional support to students.

6. Train interested schools toward the utilization of a K-2 core content integrated approach.

7. Daily reading and writing in all content areas and classrooms.

**Assessment**

1. Assess learning during and after the instructional process with a variety of both formative and summative assessments.
Instructional Areas of Focus for SY17-18

Assessment (Con’t)
2. Utilize the school-level assessment bank for teacher-made assessments and for common assessments (Both formatively and summatively).

3. Utilize the district-level assessment bank for district level unit assessments and Benchmarks to ascertain and monitor student performance on the grade-level content (Both formatively and summatively).

Additional Support to Students
1. Provide Increased Learning Time (ILT) with additional support to students using the various structures such as Early Intervention Program (EIP), Remedial Education Program (REP), Before-During-After School Tutorials, and Saturday Tutorials.

2. Ensure English Learners and Students with Disabilities have access to grade-level content and that they receive scaffolding during instruction to demonstrate understanding and mastery of the grade-level standards.
Instructional Areas of Focus for SY17-18

**Additional Support to Students**
3. Utilize online platforms to leverage opportunities to learn grade-level content and to accelerate or enrich when appropriate.

**Professional Learning**
1. Offer professional development aligned to TKES and LKES that will result in improved instructional and formative assessment practices in all classrooms.

2. Offer professional development in the four pathways of a) Content and Pedagogy; b) Compliance; c) Self-Improvement; and d) Leadership Development.

3. Observe all classrooms and collect data on instructional practices and outcomes to continuously inform professional development planning and courses.
Resources to Support Students and Schools for SY17-18

**Student Support Services to Schools:**
- Counselors; Social Workers; Nurses; Psychologists
- Behavior Specialists
- Hospital Homebound Services
- System of Care (SOC)
- Response To Intervention (RTI)
- Student Support Team (SST)
- Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports (BPIS)
- Communities In Schools (CIS) at 4 High Schools

**Additional Resources to Schools:**
- Class Size Reduction (CSR) for elementary schools in grades K-3
- Additional Paras for elementary schools in grades 4-5
- Additional Assistant Principal for select schools based upon enrollment data
- Instructional Site Facilitators restructured to provide support in the four core content areas to all schools
- Reviewing Counseling positions to eliminate Itinerant Counselors by mid-year
- Leadership and Teacher Coaches
Committed to High Performance

It’s a Process and Not an Event.

Have A Successful School Year!!!