

Sodus Central School District



Grades 5 - 8 **School Improvement Plan**

Draft – December 2004

2004 – 2007

5-8 Building Improvement Team Membership

Teachers: Kathy Byers, Michael Hayden, Lynda Faulks, Bridget Mullin, Melanie Frauel, Elizabeth Alicandro, Paula Rhodes, Roxanne Roscup; Support Staff: Sylenna Conner; Parents: Paul DeFeo, Lisa DeFeo, Laura Jonasse; Community Members: Sandy Woodard; BOE Member: Tom Miller; Student: Sarah Laurel DeFeo; Administrators: Nelson Kise, Vicki Bellis-Brouk.

Input was also received from members of the Middle and Intermediate School Leadership Teams, Department Chairpersons, Superintendent of Schools, and the Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Our Values

This plan reflects the hard work and core values of the members of the 5-8 Improvement Plan Team. This plan is driven by these values. We believe our school should:

- Establish rigorous academic expectations
- Provide a safe school environment for students and staff (structured and consistent discipline)
- Value diversity
- Provide an environment where all stakeholders work together towards achieving common goals
- Be a place where people are respectful and considerate of others
- Possess a sense of understanding/sensitivity; where students are valued as individuals
- Provide a nurturing environment which meets the needs of each individual student
- Possess a mindset that all children can learn, and that all students learn differently
- Establish pride in our community and ensure that all stakeholders accept ownership in our cause
- Establish an environment which makes learning fun; where students are intrinsically motivated

We value our children, students, and school, and have worked/will work endlessly to improve our school in the best interests of our staff, families, and most importantly, the reason we are all here, our students.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Current State:

Our Math 8 and ELA 8 scores have risen marginally over the past four years in ELA and three years in math. We are concerned about plateauing, and want to ensure continued success by establishing meaningful and achievable incremental academic goals.

Desired State:

The following goals reflect the 2004-2005 academic achievement goals for Math 8 and ELA 8.

Our 8th grade Math and ELA Performance will improve by 5%

Math 8 All 8th grade students were tested in May 2004 (129 tested).

May 2004 Summary	57% of students scored at Levels 3 & 4 (passing) 5% of students scored at Level 4 (mastery)
------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

May 2005 Achievement Goal	62% of students will score at Levels 3 & 4 10% of students will score at Level 4
---------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

ELA 8 All 8th grade students were tested in January 2004 (122 tested).

January 2004 Summary	55% of students scored at Levels 3 & 4 (passing) 9% of students scored at Level 4 (mastery)
----------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

January 2005 Achievement Goal	60% of students will score at Levels 3 & 4 14% of students will score at Level 4
-------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Academic Achievement

Strategies to Accomplish Goal

- **Focused Staff Development/In-service Opportunities**
- **Focused Student Development Opportunities**
- **Focused Data Analysis**

Communication

Desired State (Goal #1): Continue to develop more effective methods to communicate with, and inform, all Spanish speaking parents/guardians of their children's academic progress and other school matters. We will communicate with 100% of our Spanish speaking parents as documented on approved parent contact logs.

Strategies to Accomplish Goal

- **Identify families which need communications sent home in Spanish**
- **All correspondences from the office/other staff will be translated and sent home in Spanish**
- **ESL teacher will assist classroom teachers with phone call translations and attend parent conferences**

Communication

Desired State (Goal #2): Develop more effective methods to communicate with, and inform, parents/guardians of their child's academic progress and other school matters. We will communicate with 100% of our parents as documented on approved parent contact logs.

Strategies to Accomplish Goal

- Continue to inform parents of important school related information via the monthly building calendar.
- Bi-monthly Grades 4-8 Parent Newsletter.
- Implementation of the "Good News from School Postcard." All members of the school community will be able to recognize students for their accomplishments/improvements through the use of these postcards.
- Continue Homework Hotline (gr. 6-8).
- All teachers will contact parents of at-risk students (not meeting with success – grade below 65) by phone as soon as concerns arise and/or before interim and report cards are mailed home. In collaboration with parents, teachers will develop individualized "Plans for success." Teachers will utilize a variety of strategies for plans to include, but not be limited to: after-school extra help, referral to homework club, daily home/school communications via student agenda...
- Staff development specifically targeting positive home/school communications.

Academic Culture

Desired State (Goal #1): Develop and implement a mentoring program to connect and engage at-risk students in school.

Strategies to Accomplish Goal

- **Develop a proposal and resource guide to be presented at the February 2005 staff meeting**
- **Identify staff (all school employees are welcome to participate) willing to serve as mentors/identify targeted students**
- **Provide ongoing staff development as needs/gaps are identified**

Academic Culture

Desired State (Goal #2): 100% of students in grades 5-8 will participate in at least one Student Council/school sponsored social activity during the 2004-2005 school year.

Strategies to Accomplish Goal

- **Develop, administer, and analyze survey data of student interests to increase participation in school activities**
- **Choose three school-wide activities to plan and administer this school year**

Thank you to the following people for their support and guidance:

- Members of the Board of Education
- Members of the District Improvement Team
- Susan Salvaggio
- John Robbins
- Intermediate & Middle School Faculty and Staff