



Cochran Middle School

Board District 1 (LaMotte) | Local District 3 (Manual)

Cochran Middle School.....PROVISIONAL APPROVAL

RATIONALE

- Overall, this is a well-written proposal to continue the gains in student achievement and following an Expanded School Based Management (ESBM) governance model. In order to build upon the recent gains in scores, the school identifies several strategies that have met with prior success, including Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (S.D.A.I.E.), Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) and Culturally Relevant and Responsive Education (CRRE).
- The school has taken the initiative to begin implementing key elements of its instructional plan as well as change structures and habits prior to the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year. For instance, in January 2012, each department was slated to review their current curriculum to determine what, if any, changes were necessary. Additionally, the school referenced shifting to a four-block schedule and expanding the course to seven classes.
- New teachers in particular will receive extensive support through various programs implemented for staff at various stages of their careers. Professional development and the building of a positive professional culture is discussed at length in the plan. The plan stresses the importance of being both structured and flexible in developing programming for staff. The proposal also describes the use of STULL along with the supplemental use of peer observation.

NEXT STEPS

- Approval is contingent upon the enactment by UTLA of all waivers requested by the design team.
- The team must further clarify the instructional program by identifying which strategies currently being implemented are improving achievement, and explain how these will be expanded school-wide.
- The team must also provide a detailed action plan/implementation timeline. This plan should address the priorities in the first year of operation and steps the school will take to reach its year one goals.
- The deadline to submit all revisions is no later than **5:00 PM on April 27, 2012**. Detailed information will be provided to the design team via a letter from the PSC team. Additionally, a representative from the Intensive Support and Intervention Team or the Superintendent’s Office will be assigned to support you as you consider the additional information that must be submitted.
- Further details regarding upcoming support activities including, but not limited to scheduling follow-up parent meetings, dates of upcoming workshops, implementation support over the summer, etc., will be communicated to the team by the PSC Team in the coming weeks.