

Executive Summary: Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy

School Improvement Plan for 2016-17

Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy is an accredited, mid-county, alternative high school for students who wish to recover credits or accelerate academic requirements for graduation. The mission of Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy is to provide mastery-based coursework through a blended instructional model consisting of both online and teacher-directed instruction. This model allows students an opportunity to complete credits at an individualized, and often accelerated pace, as well as raise their GPA. Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy is able to serve up to 400 students in grades 09-12. The staff includes two administrators, one paraprofessional, 17 teachers, and 8 staff members. Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy offers instruction in the core curriculum as well as digital media, exceptional student education, and ESOL.

School Celebrations

A review of our most recent school achievement data has given us reason to celebrate and build upon our school. These successes include:

- Our school received the second highest passing rate for the FCAT retake examination in the district.
- A student at our school received a perfect score on the U.S. History EOC.
- We are projected to have an improved graduation rate.

Primary Goals:

To accomplish our mission, Gulf Coast has the following primary goals:

1. 5% or more of students taking the ELA FSA will obtain academic achievement growth over the 2015-2016 ELA FSA baseline data.
2. All students will make gains towards attainment of state proficiency rates in Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II using Florida Standards assessment comparisons, including gains for each subgroup.
3. 20% or more of students taking the Biology EOC will achieve a rating of proficient.
4. Sixty percent of students who take the US History EOC will earn a passing score.
5. Students will develop a working knowledge of potential college and career opportunities.

Key Strategies:

The core instructional and monitoring strategies included in our action plans are:

- Reviewing GradPoint and formative assessment data to progress monitor students and drive teacher instruction.
- Individualizing direct instruction with research-based strategies based utilizing monitoring data.
- Conducting data chats with students to support student goal-setting based on data.
- Utilizing scales and rubrics aligned to a standards based learning goal to assess instruction.
- Utilizing project-based and personalized learning when appropriate.

Professional Development

Professional Development efforts include providing new instructional staff with information on professional development opportunities on the Marzano Framework including learning goals and scales, providing mentors as well as any needed counseling to instructional staff to train and guide teachers in best practices, team meetings to review student data and discuss instructional practices, and monthly team meetings centering around project-based and personalized learning instruction.

Parent and Community Engagement

Parent engagement efforts are ongoing. Engagement efforts include: parent/student orientation, volunteering outreach, family nights, contact by teachers, and family ESOL classes. Parent engagement efforts prove challenging due to our often transient student body, all-day school scheduling, and challenges with transportation.