

Literacy Council Minutes
Monday, January 23, 2012
Media Center Workroom

1) FCAT 2.0 : New cut off grades

- a) Students now need to earn a 3 in order to graduate.
- b) Level 1 and 2 students will still be in Intensive Reading
- c) The charts from DOE are attached, including math and algebra

2) Lowest Quartile (30% Data Warehouse)

- a) These scores are not available to teachers, as access is limited to administrators. This is why the scores are distributed at the beginning of the year to all teachers. Each member was given another copy of our lowest 30% and asked to make copies for members in their department.

3) School Score Analysis:

- a) Paul Nehrig visited PLC's last week to discuss our school grade. Ronnie reviewed the grade with Literacy Council members, answering several questions that had arisen during the PLC visits. Thanks to Melanie for researching the answers. ☺
 - i) We did not earn the 10 point bonus for 50% of our 11th and 12th grade students passing the FCAT retake in Reading. In order to count, students must be enrolled at AHS for two consecutive years. When we get transferring students from out of state that have not taken the FCAT, and they pass on the first try, they do not count. We are currently at 29% for this year.
 - ii) We lost five points on reading and seven points on writing. Math scores earned us three points while science earned us six. We also lost points in both math and reading for learning gains and adequate yearly progress. All in all we finished with minus twenty-three points for total FCAT points earned.
 - iii) Regarding Graduation Rate, Acceleration and Postsecondary Readiness, we lost a total of 110 points. Several questions have been cleared up since our PLC visits. We are not penalized for our Multi VE students;

they do not count towards our graduation rate. Our at risk graduation rate is calculated by identifying our 12th grade students who earned a level one or two on both the math and reading FCAT in 8th grade. Students must graduate within four years or we lose points. Under Acceleration, this is the number of students taking Dual Enrollment and AP classes. The Postsecondary Readiness score is calculated by the number of on-time high school graduates who scored level 3 or higher on grade 10 FCAT. ACT, SAT, and CPT tests are also included. For students taking multiple tests, the highest score prevails.

4) Targeted Areas of Focus:

a) After careful analysis we identified key areas that need to be addressed.

They are as follows:

- i) Everyone was given a copy of our current at risk 12th graders. There are a total of 39 students on the list. There are 6 multi-VE students who don't count. There are 4 students in their 5th year, so they count against us, and there are 10 others that still need to pass FCAT Reading. These students will also count against us if they do not pass the re-take. Members were asked to share this list with their department members in an effort to increase awareness of who must pass the FCAT reading and who must graduate this year.
- ii) The second area of concern is students enrolled in AP and Dual Enrollment. The plan is to meet with administration and develop a plan to do an AP blitz.
- iii) Next, attention was focused on the number of our students who take the ACT, SAT, and CPT. Students who qualify for free or reduced lunch receive two free ACT and SAT test administrations and two free college applications. Once again, we will go into classrooms to encourage students to sign up for free and reduced lunch. This is extremely important as our Title 1 funds are based on this number.
- iv) And finally, members were shown the number of 9th grade failures for first and second nine weeks. There are 19 pages for the first nine weeks and 20 pages of student names for the 2nd nine weeks. Dawn commented

that we need to determine how many of these students actually come to school. If the kids aren't here—which is a huge problem—they can't learn. There is also concern with the number of failures in the math department. Using standards based grading and the math department's adherence to ticket to test, we have an exorbitant amount of failures. Administration is working with the math department regarding this.

5) Announcements:

- a) The Literacy Fair in our Media Center will run through January 31st. This month's literacy contest is a Graphic Depiction of a Literary Work. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive B&N gift cards and will have their entrees exhibited at the Mainland Literacy Fair in May.
- b) The Media Center is once again featuring its literacy calendar for January. Many of our Intensive Reading students are working to complete the calendar for prizes.
- c) An finally, congratulations to:

**Jimi Johnson in the English Department,
this month's QUINT award winner.**

**Sandy Curtis nominated Jimi for his ability to
instill in his students a love of
reading and writing.**

CONGRATULATIONS JIMI!

For all those newcomers to Atlantic (Welcome, Ms. Marcks) our QUINT award was named after the captain in the movie, *Jaws*, for his relentless determination. QUINT stands for Quintessential, Unparallel, Innovative, Noteworthy, Teaching.