

Clayton County Public Schools

SWSS Update for 3-22-17

Schools submitted SWSS Innovation Requests by December 2, 2016. The SWSS Team reviewed all requests. There were many ideas submitted. A few of the ideas or requests submitted included additional staff, extended day, lower class size, and scheduling flexibility. The SWSS Team carefully reviewed all requests. However, while the SWSS Team considered all requests, even those with funding, safety, or legal implications, the team decided to provide further consideration for requests perceived as not predicated upon funding and that did not have legal or safety considerations. The requests that were given further consideration include the following:

1. Year-Round School
2. Extending ELA and Math instruction for K-2 with integration of Science and Social Studies
3. 4-day instructional/1-day for professional learning work week
4. Scheduling flexibility relative to instructional time for core and non-core subjects (e.g., Zero Periods, Reallocating instructional minutes, etc.)

The following ideas were submitted as innovation requests. However, they will not be provided further consideration since they do not require approval beyond the local school to implement.

- Use of Looping
- Implementation of Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)
- Expanded Tutorial Programs

The following ideas were submitted as innovation requests. However, they will not be provided further consideration since they may reflect current practices already in use, only require reallocation of budgeted funds, or reflect the use of current structures or processes:

- Offering additional courses (Approval needed using the course request process)
- Use of Departmentalization in 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade (With supporting efficacy data)
- Expanded Use of Remediation

After review and discussion by the Cabinet, the following innovations will be considered for implementation in SY2017-2018:

1. Extending ELA and Math instruction for K-2 with integration of Science and Social Studies
2. Scheduling flexibility relative to instructional time for core and non-core subjects (e.g., Zero Periods, Reallocating instructional minutes, etc.)

The Divisions of School Improvement and Teaching and Learning met with all principals interested in using the K-2 integrated approach on March 21, 2017. The meeting focused on robust discussions about approaches to integrated curriculum, necessary training, and possible implementation timelines and

options. The schools interested in moving forward with the K-2 curriculum integration will continue to plan after GMAS testing as they work toward a 2017-2018 implementation.

It should be noted that schools may continue to submit SWSS Innovation Requests at any time throughout the school year.

You are invited to email the Chief School Improvement Officer, Dr. Morcease J. Beasley, at morcease.beasley@clayton.k12.ga.us if you have questions or concerns.