

Franklin School - School Improvement Plan 2001-2006

Science & Social Studies

District Goals: Success for All, Curriculum and Instruction, Assessment, Professional Development, Technology

School Council Subcommittee Members: Sue Murgo (3) Chair, Donna Armstrong (4), Abby Gilbert, Mona Manzi (5), Sue O'Brien (P), Laurie Pappas-Kirk (P), Elena Nicolaisen (1), Cynthia Sousa (Sped), Tanya Tacelli (2), Mary Ann Lodde (2).

School Goal #1 : All Franklin students will develop proficiency in earth and space science, life science, and physical science.

Actions

Objectives	Action Steps	Assessment	Professional Development	Time Frame	Progress to Date
1. Teachers will align units of study by grade level with science curriculum frameworks.	1. Teachers will identify resources available and necessary to meet frameworks. 2. Teachers will involve community in acquiring necessary resources. 3. Teachers will sequence units of instruction at each grade level.	1. Evidence of units taught in classrooms. 2. Grade level team meetings and faculty meeting discussion. 3. Budget reflects support of various units. 4. District-wide grade level team meetings re; Science	1. Provide opportunities for conversations among teachers at the same and different grade levels. 2. Identify those areas where teachers feel they need professional development to acquire proficiency in new areas of study. 1. Museum of Science Training to coincide with units. 2. Science kits with training provided for each unit. 3. Training with use of appropriate texts, videos, etc.		
2. Students will identify and analyze life cycles of plants and animals.	1. Teachers will utilize strategies such as KWL charts. (Used in any above action steps). 2. Teachers will integrate science topics across the curriculum. 3. Teachers will provide opportunities for hands-on experiences and observation of cycles in classroom. 4. Appropriate field trips will be planned.	1. Determined by teachers at each grade level.			

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<p>3. Students will identify the interacting nature of earth's four major systems, the complexity of weather, and the composition of the solar system.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students and teachers will focus on characteristics related to earth science. 2. Students will develop appropriate grade level projects and/or reports to demonstrate and reflect their understanding. 3. Encourage students to observe the world around them. 4. Students will use appropriate tools to obtain data. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reports/Projects will be assessed based on a rubric. 2. Observation journals kept by each student using scope table. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide opportunities for conversations among teachers at the same and different grade levels. 2. Teachers will learn about available tools to support objective. 		
<p>4. Students will identify and recognize properties of states of matter, objects and energy.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Students will identify and sort objects according to their properties. 2. Students will investigate various ways objects can move. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Teachers will observe hands-on activities in classroom. 2. Students and teachers will conduct experiments (using scientific method where appropriate) to demonstrate understanding of physical sciences. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide opportunities for conversations among teachers at the same and different grade levels. 2. Identify those areas where teachers feel they need professional development to acquire proficiency in new areas of study. 		