

Fairfax County Public Schools School Innovation and Improvement Plan At-a-Glance

2016-17 Thomas Jefferson High School for Science & Technology Region II Dr. Evan Glazer, Principal

End of Year SMARTR Outcome

Grow our school-wide culture of high academic integrity among students and staff, including guidelines for progressive consequences associated with all facets of student life. A desired outcome by the end of the school year is to increase by at least 10% over the course of the year in academic integrity survey responses from different stakeholder groups including teachers, students and parents.

Strategy 1

We should ask students to identify their grade level on a survey so we can understand growth as students increase in age and maturity.

Strategy 2

We should articulate a few cases for teachers where there might be gray area with the homework policy.

Strategy 3

Teachers should include in their syllabi how integrity violations should be reported in their classes.

Strategy 4

Teachers should include in their syllabi the language students can use on how to advocate in their classrooms.

Strategy 5

There should be a policy surrounding cell phone use in classrooms.

Strategy 6

Teachers should describe advocacy at Back to School Night.

Strategy 7

Involve the TJ Honor Council in conversations with freshmen about integrity and the honor council process during homeroom.

Strategy 8

Visible student-led statements, ads, videos about the culture of integrity around the school.

Strategy 9

Continue to hold discussion groups and presentations surrounding strategies, challenges, progress, and feedback of this goal.

Strategy 10

Revise the disciplinary procedures so that the first time offenders of the honor code may be offered Restorative Justice with the TJ Honor Council.

Strategy 12

The administration will deliver presentations to students that describe due process when Honor Code violations are submitted and consequences for various infractions.



Strategy 13

Division Managers to hold academic integrity discussions with teachers within their divisions about due process, and then take back questions/concerns to the administration.

Strategy 14

Increase visibility of the honor council, such as bulletin boards, so that students can have a peer resource for advice.

Strategy 15

Expand the role of the honor council to serve as advocates of integrity standards and processes.

Strategy 16

Teachers should require students to write the honor code on an assessment prior to taking the assessment.

Strategy 17

Teachers should include in their syllabi policies and stances regarding collaboration on homework and the use of past tests as study guides.

Strategy 18

Rather than remove a student falling below a cumulative unweighted B- average, a conversation will be held with families and school staff on whether remaining at TJ is a good decision, and if so, placing the student on academic probation. Academic probation involves an individual improvement plan with the system of support advisor. In addition, in order to remain at TJ, schedule restrictions determined by the administration will be placed on the student's schedule in order to reduce workload. Examples include, but are not limited to, a schedule with six rather than seven classes or a schedule without AP or post-AP classes.

End of Year SMARTR Outcome

The Communicator Goal aligns with FCPS's vision in the Portrait of a Graduate: To improve student engagement in the lifelong pursuit of academic knowledge and interdisciplinary learning by being a communicator, as evidenced by:

1) Applying effective reading skills to acquire knowledge and broaden perspectives

2) Employing active listening strategies to advance understanding

3) Speaking in a structured, purposeful manner to inform, influence, motivate or entertain listeners

4) Incorporating competent writing skills to convey understanding and concepts

5) Using contemporary digital tools to explore and exchange ideas

A desired outcome by the end of the school year is to obtain 90% achievement of teacher collaborative team goals associated with one of the above communication standards

Strategy 1

Teachers should make their SMARTR goal more apparent at the start of the year in order to get students more involved. Teachers should follow up and discuss student improvement/trends regarding the SMARTR goal (ie. improved scores) at the end of the year to help students understand skills gained.

Strategy 2

Teach students how to break down information in math and science textbooks so that it can be a resource for their learning.

Strategy 3

Help students understand there are different strategies for reading text, depending on the purpose.



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Build an internal voice when reading. In essence, promote metacognition among students so they are aware of their strengths and limitations when they are reading a difficult text, and then taking advantage of different tools and resources to tackle the text.

Strategy 5

Teach staff differences in linguistic style among students from different heritages. Raise awareness of academic language supports from the ESOL specialist.

Strategy 6

Prepare students to deliver high quality presentations based on common standards, whether it's a tjSTAR presentation or a presentation on a project.

Strategy 7

Create venues for students to receive feedback on presentations before their delivery.