

Action Plan Development for Teaching is the Core Grant

Falconer Central School District

June 1, 2015

Assessment Review Recommendations

In efforts to be more transparent, Falconer Central School District will communicate to the stakeholders that assessment audits have taken place in the spring of 2015 and will continue during the Fall of 2015. The audits that have taken place thus far are on the Grades K-3 English Language Arts and Mathematics Benchmark Assessments. Based on the assessment audit data, Falconer Central School will eliminate mid-year benchmark assessments in Grades K-3 for English Language Arts and Mathematics. The reduction will eliminate redundancy and the overall number of assessments which students must take. This will reduce time spent testing and give teachers more time for instruction. The audits on the K-3 English Language Arts and the Mathematics benchmarks have been conducted by each corresponding grade level team, the building principal, and the Director of Instruction and Staff Development.

i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction will remain as benchmark indicators for grades K-8 for AIS/Rtl as it supports increased achievement towards the NYS 3-8 assessments. The data and the reports available will be used by teachers to inform instruction and to provide data for the home/school connection. The audit on the *i-Ready Diagnostic & Instruction* was completed by the district administrators.

Action Plan for Recommendations

Action 1:

Based on the assessment audit data, Falconer Central School District will focus professional development efforts on building interim assessments that are strongly aligned to the criteria of the Teaching is the Core grant rubric and checklist. This will be ongoing throughout the 2015-2016 school year.

Action 2:

Based on the data, Falconer Central School District's leaders will concentrate professional development efforts for years 2 & 3 of the Data Driven Instruction initiative to focus on the following defined goals: alignment, impact on instruction, diversity & balance, and reliability. This will be ongoing throughout the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 school years.

Action 3:

To assist staff in clarifying their role and responsibilities in supporting a district-wide measure, the Director of Instruction and Staff Development will arrange to provide training that will be collaborative for grades PK-12 and will address ELA and Math strategies, shifts and protocols that can be used by teachers of all content areas. This will be ongoing throughout the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 school years.

Action 4:

The Falconer Central School District will continue to look at assessments and what assessments can be eliminated from our repertoire, which assessments need to be revised, and where we need to create a new assessments. We will emphasis the importance of assessment blueprints, alignment and validity, and providing quality feedback to students into practice. This will be ongoing throughout the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 school years.

Parent Engagement on the use of assessment

Information will be shared at open houses, parent nights, and parent/teacher conferences across the district. Information will also be included in newsletters, on teacher web pages, and on the Falconer Central School District website. Teachers will also be encouraged to include assessment conversations during parent/teacher conferences.

Professional Development

Superintendent's Conference Days, in-house grade level/department work days, faculty meetings, grade level meetings, team meetings, department meetings, and other in-house in-service opportunities will be available to assist teachers in identifying high-quality assessment practices and provide resources/training to support the use of assessment to inform instruction. Teachers will also have the opportunities to review current assessments, discuss the role of assessments within the district and to revise and to open and sustain dialogue revolving around the purpose of classroom assessments. These opportunities will be available throughout the 2015-2016 and the 2016-2017 school years.

Anticipated changes to the District's APPR

The Board of Regents is currently reviewing APPR regulations submitted by SED to be utilized by all school districts in New York State. The deadline for establishment of such

regulations is June 30, 2015. No changes to the Falconer Central School Districts APPR plan will be made until the Board of Regents finalizes the APPR regulations.