

GCMS Middle School School Improvement Plan 2004-2005

The middle school improvement committee for the middle school met during the spring of the 2003-04 school year. Middle school student achievement data, which was reviewed during the meetings, included state and national standardized test scores and local assessment results. The middle school improvement plan was drafted and shared with the faculty. Members of the SIP team included Mike Bleich, middle school principal; Donna Lee, director of student services; and middle school staff members Anne Johnson, 8th gr.; Jenny Meredith, 7th gr.; Paul Deters, 6th gr.; and Mary Fairfield, special areas.

2004-2005 School Improvement Goals

Goal 1 –Improve communication related to curriculum at district, building, and departmental levels.

Goal 2 – Continue to improve students’ writing skills.

Goal 3 – Develop strategies to increase students’ responsibility levels.

Goal 4 – Increase staff knowledge base of special education issues.

2003-2004 School Improvement Plan Accomplishments

Goal 1 – Increase teacher knowledge and understanding of adolescent behavior. Rhonda Cromwell, Instructional specialist from the Association of Illinois Middle Schools presented a workshop on adolescent behavior and learning styles on Dec. 12.

On Sept. 19, Christina Sanchez-Lopez, Instructional Specialist from the Illinois Resource Center, provided the staff with teaching strategies for teaching student who come from foreign language backgrounds.

Goal 2 –Strengthen teaching team cohesiveness. On October 3, the middle school staff participated in team building activities at the Heartland Spa in Gilman, IL. Mary Quinn, director of Heartland, attended a faculty meeting in Nov. and provided follow-up information.

Goal 3 – Continue to work at improving students writing skills. Each of the 3 grade levels developed and conducted writing improvement activities throughout the year. In addition, essay type answers were required as a part of the testing process in all subjects. On September 25, Don Keigher, Language Arts teacher, from Iroquois West Middle School, presented an in-service concentrating on ideas to help students improve writing skills. The in-service was attended by each of the GCMS Middle School language arts staff.

The mission of GCMS Middle School is to create an environment of mutual respect and responsibility where individuals are inspired to reach their fullest potential.