

A Blueprint for Turning Around Middle Schools

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Who is Winsor Learning?

- Educational Consulting Company and Intervention Solutions Specialists
- Worked with over 6,550 educators in over 250 districts around the country.
- Staff of 22 Intervention Experts
- We partner with school districts to facilitate intervention programs that help schools meet their performance goals.

Characteristics of High Performing Schools:

- Clear and Shared Focus
- Culture of High Expectations for Students and Staff
- Effective School Leadership Focused on Instruction
- High Levels of Collaboration and Communication
- Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Aligned with State Standards
- Curriculum Focused on Academic Achievement (with emphasis on basic skills in mathematics and literacy)
- Frequent Monitoring of Teaching and Learning
- Focused Professional Development
- Safe, Disciplined, Supportive and Caring Learning Environment

OSPI, Olympia, WA, 2003; Cawelti (2000)

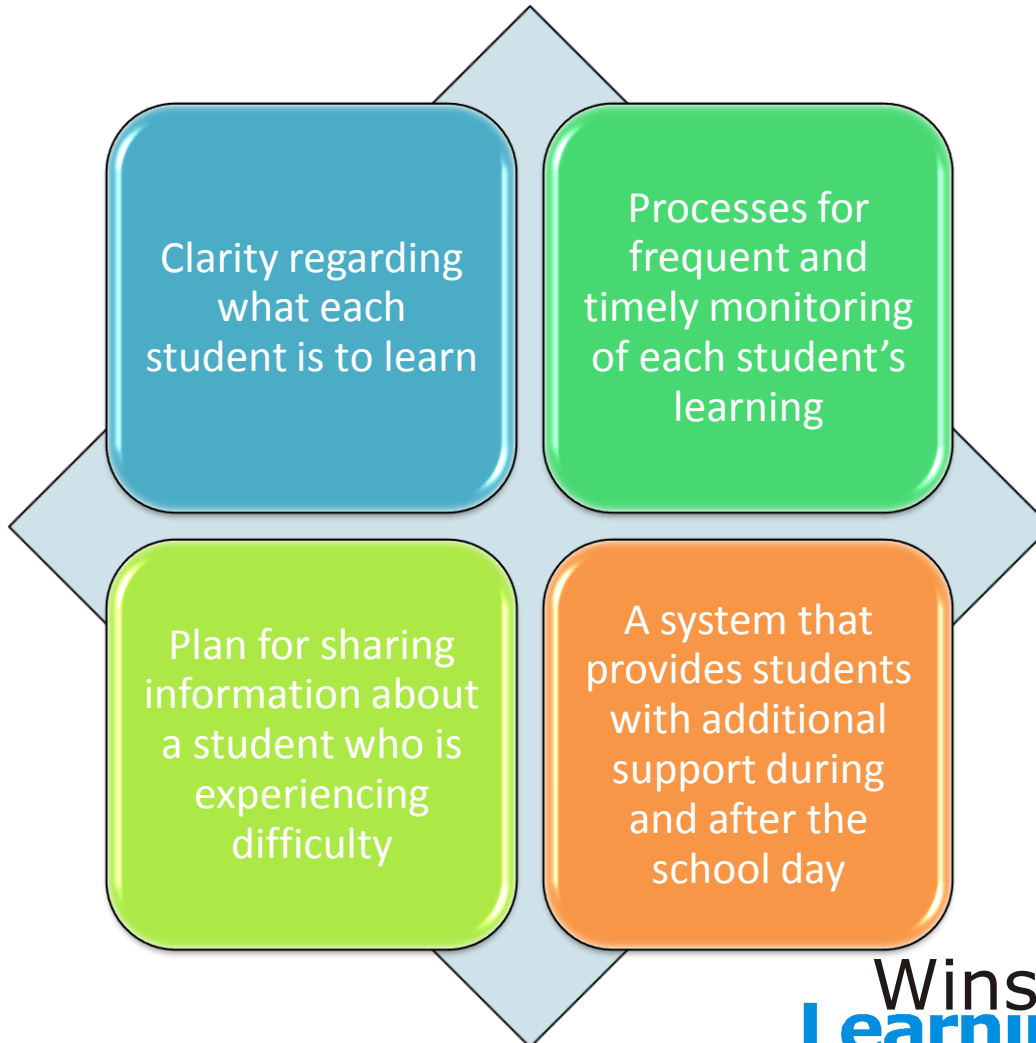
But what if...We have students
who are NOT achieving?

What could we do?

What should we do?

What will we do?

Key Elements of a Culture Focused on Student Learning



J.V. Martin Junior High School—built 1896

Dillon, SC



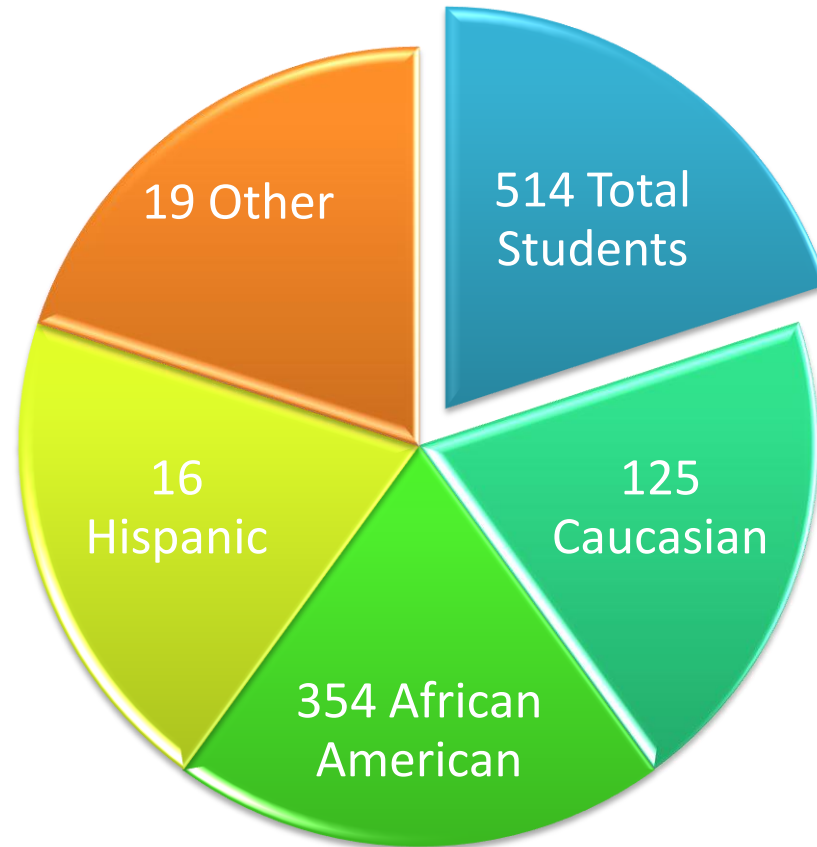
JV Martin Junior High School— The Problem

- 2/3 of students reading below grade level
- School on lowest performing SC schools for more than a decade
- High occurrence of discipline problems
- Frustration and low morale of staff



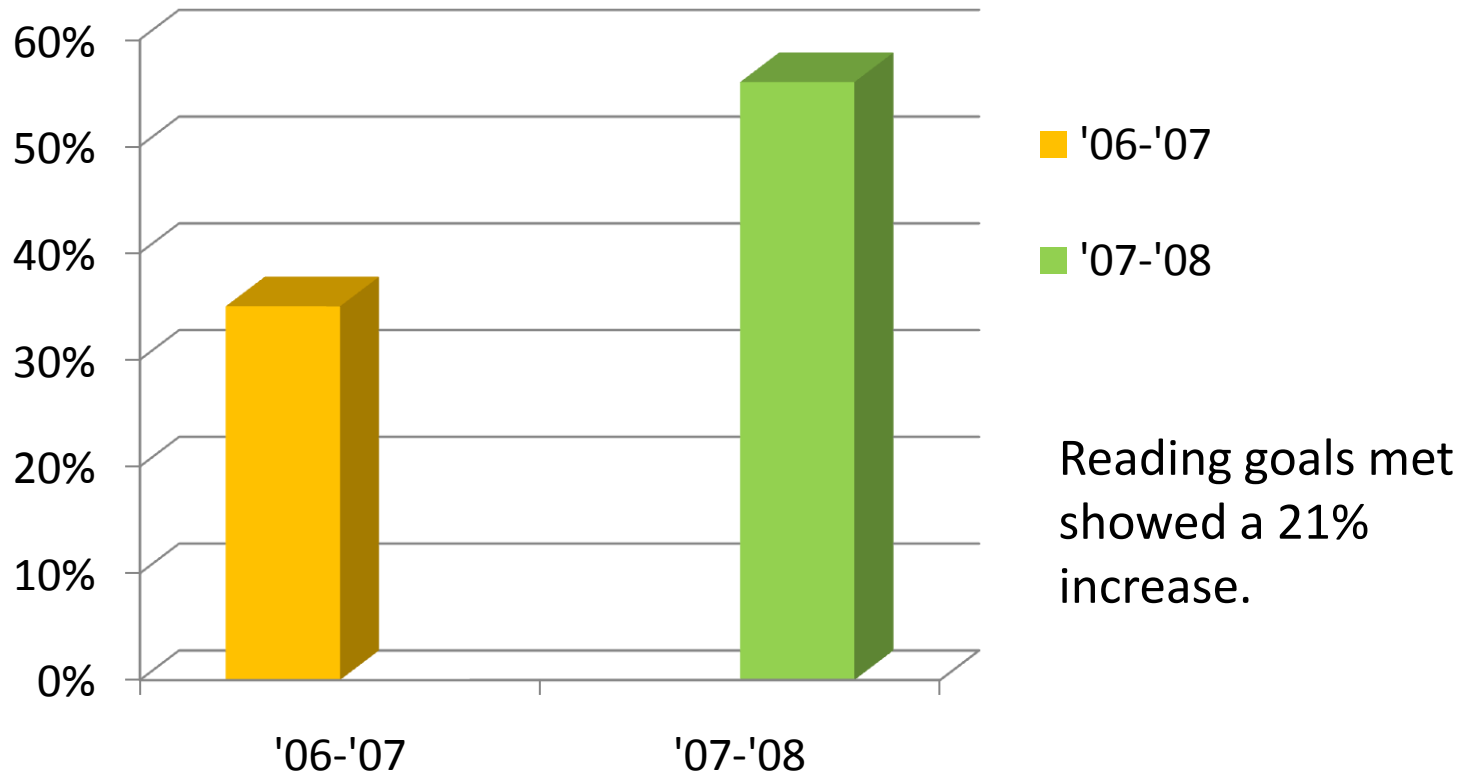
JV Martin Junior High School Dillon, SC

90% Subsidized Lunch



Percentage of Students Meeting Target Growth in Reading

JV Martin Junior High School Dillon, SC



Students Who Increased Reading Levels 2007-2008

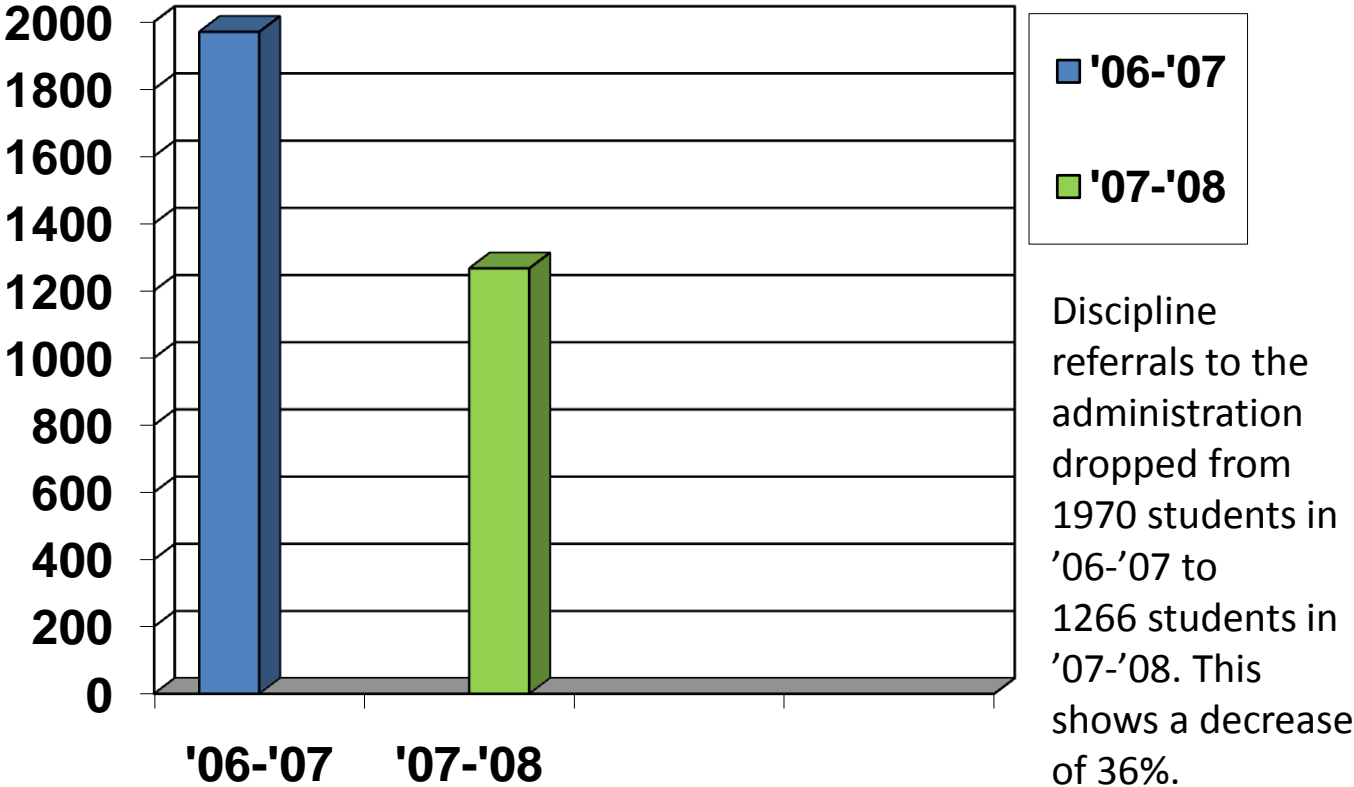
JV Martin Junior High School Dillon, SC

Average reading grade
level increase of 3.1 grades.

Grade Levels Increase	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	4.5	5	5.5	6	6.5	7	7.5	8
Number of Students	1	2	3	10	4	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	1

Decrease in Discipline Referrals-- Number of Students

JV Junior High School Dillon, SC



How did we achieve success?

Analysis of State Standards, review of lesson plans and teaching, determination of where students are vs. where they need to be

Curriculum based monitoring, assessment data analysis and sharing, data based decision making

**Student
SUCCESS!**

Data is everyone's responsibility—
even the student!

Sonday System 1 and 2 with
coaching

Where are your students?

- Determine the reading level of students (Lexile Level, Dibels, AIMS web, state assessment)
- Group students in groups of 3-5 based on reading level
- 40 minute small group lesson 5 per week
- Groups remain flexible

Curriculum Based Monitoring

- Assess student progress regularly
- Make decisions for grouping based on analysis of student data
- Student groups are flexible and change as students' needs change (as determined by use of CBM)

Data is everyone's responsibility!

- Share student data!
- Make students accountable for their data
- Offer incentives for progress
- Don't forget after school programs

Benefits of Using the Sonday System

- Small group instruction
- Incorporates the Big 5
- Works with students of all ages
- All materials are provided
- Portable
- Anyone can use it effectively

