Office of School Turnaround

SIG School Profile 2012-13

SCHOOL NAME: Virtual High School
DISTRICT NAME: Cincinnati City
Model: Transformation
Cohort: 1
Locale: Major Urban
Grades: 9-12
Number of Students: 337
Eligible for Free & Reduced Lunch: 46.9%

Highlights of Reform Model

Virtual High School is using the transformation model and Principal Miller was assigned to the high school in 2009-10. Virtual is a credit recovery program designed for students who are behind in credits and they can work online at their own pace in order to meet graduation requirements. In addition, some students attend Virtual for taking advance courses so they can work at a faster pace than in a typical setting.

The school is given operational flexibility including modifying school hours, schedule, and staffing to meet the needs of the students. Students attend one of two or three hour time frames (morning or afternoon) Monday-Friday. Virtual High School students participated in over 400 hours of extended learning opportunities during the 2012-13 academic year with some of the students attending both sessions to accelerate their learning.

The performance index reported on the Ohio Report card improved over the past three years (2009-10 55.7; 2010-11 72.4 and 2011-12 74.4) but the school is designated in the Academic Watch category and they did not earn Adequate Yearly Progress for 2011-12. Enrollment increased from 219 students in 2008-09 to 360 in 2011-12. This data reflects the addition of a new K-12 Digital Academy that is also housed at Virtual High School.

The school piloted OTES (Ohio Teacher Evaluation System) with teachers linking academic achievement to teacher evaluations.

Transformation Specialist Completing Report

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Test Grade	Test Subject	2011-2012 School Year Proficient Percentage	2010-2011 School Year Proficient Percentage	2009-2010 School Year Proficient Percentage
3rd Grade	Reading	--	--	--
	Mathematics	--	--	--
4th Grade	Reading	NC	--	--
	Mathematics	NC	--	--
5th Grade	Reading	NC	--	--
	Mathematics	NC	--	--
6th Grade	Reading	--	--	--
	Mathematics	--	--	--
7th Grade	Reading	NC	--	NC
	Mathematics	NC	--	NC
8th Grade	Reading	50.0%	NC	NC
	Mathematics	40.0%	NC	NC
10th Grade	Reading	75.7%	75.8%	50.0%
	Mathematics	48.6%	63.6%	38.1%
11th Grade	Reading	78.3%	76.7%	82.8%
	Mathematics	58.3%	70.0%	65.5%
12th Grade	Reading	90.0%	93.1%	96.3%
	Mathematics	76.7%	82.1%	88.9%

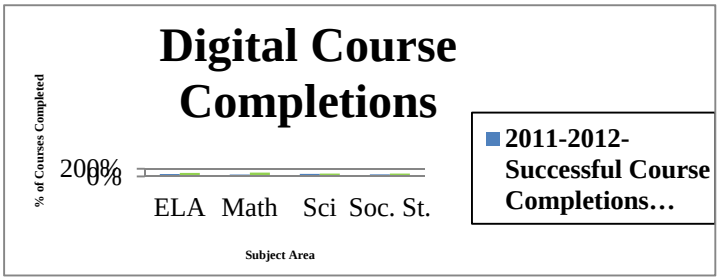
Evidence-Based Best Practices Observed

Virtual High School utilizes the services of instructional coaches who analyze school data to help determine the needs of students and assist teachers with intervention strategies and job embedded professional development as needed. Teachers monitor student progress and system data to provide intervention or enrichment as needed for individual students. Students are also able to monitor their progress and mastery of state standards within each course.

Systemic Changes Observed

In 2011-12 Virtual started a mentoring program since many of the students struggled to complete online courses. As the charts below indicate, mentoring did have a positive impact on course completion for the students who participating in the pilot in all core subjects.

	2011-2012 - W/O Mentoring Program			2012-2013 - With Mentoring Program		
Subjects	Total Courses	# Completed Successfully	%	Total Courses	# Completed Successfully	%
ELA	219	133	61%	267	248	93%
Math	144	74	51%	107	107	100%
Sci	158	106	67%	205	150	73%
Soc. St.	237	128	54%	188	142	76%



Current Barriers to Achievement

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Students enrolled at Virtual are at least one year behind their grade level peers. Many of the students have socio-emotional or academic issues that interfere with their ability to graduate within four or five years. In 2011-12, 10.6% graduated within four years and 18.4% graduated within five years. Providing services and supports for the increasing number of students will continue to be a challenge for the school. As the charts above indicate, interaction with a mentor showed positive trends for all subject areas, but particularly significant was the increase in math course completion.

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