

Neva King Cooper Educational Center



2014-15 School Improvement Plan

Neva King Cooper Educational Center

151 NW 5TH ST, Homestead, FL 33030

<http://nkc.dadeschools.net/>

School Demographics

School Type

Combination

Title I

Yes

Free/Reduced Price Lunch

%

Alternative/ESE Center

Yes

Charter School

No

Minority

%

School Grades History

Year

Grade

School Board Approval

This plan is pending approval by the Dade County School Board.

SIP Authority and Template

Section 1001.42(18), Florida Statutes, requires district school boards to annually approve and require implementation of a school improvement plan (SIP) for each school in the district.

The Florida Department of Education (FDOE) SIP template meets all statutory and rule requirements for traditional public schools and incorporates all components required for schools receiving Title I funds. This template is required by State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.099811, Florida Administrative Code, for all non-charter schools with a current grade of D or F, or with a grade of F within the prior two years. For all other schools, the district may use a template of its choosing. All districts must submit annual assurances that their plans meet statutory requirements.

This document was prepared by school and district leadership using the Florida Department of Education's school improvement planning web application located at <https://www.floridacims.org>.

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Purpose and Outline of the SIP

The SIP is intended to be the primary artifact used by every school with stakeholders to review data, set goals, create an action plan and monitor progress. A corollary at the district level is the District Improvement and Assistance Plan (DIAP), designed to help district leadership make the necessary connections between school and district goals in order to align resources. The Florida Department of Education encourages schools to use the SIP as a “living document” by continually updating, refining and using the plan to guide their work throughout the year. This printed version represents the SIP as of the “Date Modified” listed in the footer.

Part I: Current School Status

Part I organizes the current status of the school around five domains inspired by the 5Essentials framework: Supportive Environment, Family and Community Involvement, Effective Leadership, Public and Collaborative Teaching, and Ambitious Instruction and Learning. Questions regarding the school’s Multi-Tiered System of Supports have been embedded throughout this part to demonstrate how data is used by stakeholders to understand the needs of all students and allocate appropriate resources in proportion to those needs.

Part II: Needs Assessment

Part II requires the school to review performance and early warning systems data in order to develop strategic goals and associated data targets (i.e., “SMART goals”) for the coming school year in context of the school’s greatest strengths and needs. An online tool was developed, which includes data visualizations and processing questions to support problem identification, problem analysis and strategic goal formulation.

Part III: 8-Step Planning and Problem Solving for Implementation

Part III enables the school to develop implementation plans for its highest-priority goals. With the overview of the current state of the school in mind and the strategic goals identified through the needs assessment, the planning team engages in a facilitated planning and problem-solving process, through which they

- Define strategic goals and establish targets to be reached by successfully achieving the goals (Step 1)
- Identify resources available to support the goals and barriers that could hinder achieving those goals (Step 2)
- Select high-priority barriers they want to address initially (Step 3)
- Design implementation and monitoring plans for strategies to resolve selected barriers (Steps 4-7)
- Determine how they will monitor progress toward each goal (Step 8)

Appendices

The following appendices, automatically-generated from content entered in Part III, are included in this document:

- Appendix 1 is a timeline of all action steps and monitoring activities
- Appendix 2 is an outline of all professional development opportunities and technical assistance items
- Appendix 3 is a report of the budget needed to implement the strategies

Differentiated Accountability

Florida’s Differentiated Accountability (DA) system is a statewide network of strategic support, differentiated by need according to performance data, and provided to schools and districts in order to improve leadership capacity, teacher efficacy and student outcomes. DA field teams collaborate with district and school leadership to design, implement and refine improvement plans, as well as provide instructional coaching, as needed.

DA Regions

Florida’s DA network is divided into five geographical regions, each served by a field team led by a regional executive director (RED).

DA Categories

Traditional public schools are classified at the start of each school year, based upon the most recently released school grades (A-F), into one of the following categories:

- Not in DA – currently A or B with no F in prior three years; charter schools; ungraded schools
- Monitoring Only – currently A or B with at least one F in the prior three years
- Prevent – currently C
- Focus – currently D
 - Planning – two consecutive grades of D (i.e., DD), or a grade of F immediately followed by a grade of D in the most recent grades release (i.e., FD)
 - Implementing – two consecutive grades of D in the most recent grades release preceded by a grade below C (i.e., FDD or DDD)
- Priority – currently F
 - Planning – declined to a grade of F in the most recent grades release and have not received a planning year or implemented a turnaround option during the previous school year
 - Implementing – two consecutive grades of F (i.e., FF), or three consecutive grades below C with an F in the most recent grades release (i.e., FDF or DDF)

DA Turnaround and Monitoring Statuses

Additionally, schools in DA are subject to one or more of the following Turnaround and Monitoring Statuses:

- Former F – currently A-D with at least one F in the prior three years; SIP is monitored by FDOE
- Planning – Focus Planning and Priority Planning; district is planning for possible turnaround
- Implementing – Focus Implementing and Priority Implementing; district is implementing the Turnaround Option Plan (TOP)

2014-15 DA Category and Statuses

| DA Category | Region | RED |
|-------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Not In DA | 5 | Gayle Sitter |
| Former F | Turnaround Status | |
| No | | |

Part I: Current School Status

Supportive Environment

School Mission and Vision

Provide the school's mission statement

The goal of Neva King Cooper Educational Center is to give all our students the tools needed to communicate independently, enhance normalization, and grow/develop to their maximum potential. This will take place through the use of assistive technology, an individualized curriculum, and the assistance of our greatest asset, our stakeholders.

Provide the school's vision statement

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is committed to providing innovative learning experiences and educational excellence to all.

School Environment

Describe the process by which the school learns about students' cultures and builds relationships between teachers and students

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is committed to building relationships among the teachers and students, by communicating with teachers, staff, families and the community. At Neva King Cooper Educational Center we encourage PTSA membership, to build on parent relationships, which can in turn strengthen teacher and student relationships. We also encourage the building of collegial relationships to provide support among the staff. Frequent dialogue among colleagues, shared work, and making time in the schedule for teachers to work together are ways we learn about those stakeholders at our school. We also take time to provide professional development on effective teaching strategies for the students at Neva King Cooper Educational Center which serve students with special needs. Teachers collaborate, team-teach, and take part in professional learning communities, which bring individuals together around issues of mutual interest and/or concerns. We involve staff in new ideas, and provide them with the resources they may need. Parents and guardians are invited to attend meetings, and school activities to build relationships with the school and home. In addition, Individualized Education Plan are created annually for every student at NKCEC, which target individual needs and strengths giving the school and teacher an understanding of the students. In addition, an Instructional leadership team and Professional Learning Communities have been established to provide opportunities of collaborative conversations to build relationships and learn about student cultures. Administration is dedicated to include parents and families in these conversations through EESAC, PTSA and the annual meetings and activities throughout the year. Our school communicates with parents via phone calls, e-mails, conferences, flyers home to provide up-to-date information, and we welcome parents, guardians and other family members to take part in the school's activities. Parents and families take part in the Individual Education Plan of the students at Neva King Cooper Educational Center and provide information on the students ways in which teacher can familiarize themselves with the students in the classroom.

Describe how the school creates an environment where students feel safe and respected before, during and after school

Student safety at Neva King Cooper is a priority; therefore our school's Behavior Management System serves to assist us in maintaining a safe learning environment that is conducive for teaching and learning. All classes at Neva King Cooper Educational Center have a low-pupil-to-teacher ratio with paraprofessional support due to their inability to function successfully in a general education setting as a result of their need for a smaller learning environment. The students at NKCEC need

consistency, structure, supervision, individualized instruction, and behavioral interventions, which the school security, social worker, program specialist, placement specialist as well as administration, assist in providing these supports. The support staff attends professional development training for behavior coordinators to learn the necessary and current procedures to properly assist teachers with collecting behavior data, to later develop goals and a plan which are addressed on the students Individualized Education Plans. Teachers can then obtain the necessary instructional tools, accommodations, modifications and/or strategies to implement each plan. Professional learning communities to promote positive behavioral strategies are established to ensure that students, staff, parents, and visitors feel accepted, valued, and engaged. School rules and norms are established and reviewed with staff and parents. An Emergency Response Plan is created and reviewed with the staff as well, to ensure the safety of all in the school.

Describe the schoolwide behavioral system in place that aids in minimizing distractions to keep students engaged during instructional time. This may include, but is not limited to, established protocols for disciplinary incidents, clear behavioral expectations, and training for school personnel to ensure the system is fairly and consistently enforced

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a school that services students with Severer Intellectual and Physical Disabilities. Therefore, suspension of students is not used to correct or modify unwanted behaviors. Rather, goals addressed on student Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) with the support of Behavior Intervention Plans (BIPs) drive the modification of unwanted behaviors through an incentive process. Incentives at our school site include and are not limited to participation in activities such as Club Days, Community Based Instruction (CBI) trips, Daisy Pet Therapy, and/ or Open Aquatics on Friday. Our on-site school Social Worker and SPED Program Specialist assist with any concerns that may be addressed through our student services department.

The Behavior Management System at Neva King Cooper Educational Center serves two primary objectives. First, it assists us in maintaining a safe learning environment that is conducive for teaching and learning. Second, it targets our students' Priority Educational Needs (PENS) through the delivery and monitoring of behavioral interventions that teach students new skills in order to reduce problem behaviors that interfere with the student's academic and social/emotional progress.

Identifying effective interventions for our students requires that the multidisciplinary team of staff and family responsible for each student have a comprehensive understanding of the individual and social circumstances impacting his/her behavior. Frequently our students are referred to NKCEC due to their inability to function successfully in a general education setting as a result of their need for a smaller learning environment with low pupil to teacher ratio, their need for consistency, structure, supervision, individualized instruction, and behavioral interventions. Numerous factors contribute to their levels of academic, social, emotional, and behavioral functioning. Frequently their behavioral difficulties result from intellectual/cognitive abilities and/or the presence of mental disorders (i.e.: post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, schizophrenia, etc). Increased awareness of the etiology and behaviors associated with the mental disorders affecting our students will follow. Keep in mind that it is common for our students to meet criteria for more than one disorder.

The following characteristics of the classroom and teacher behavior are an essential part of the design of the classroom management system

1. Rules for appropriate behavior are identified, taught, and posted in all classrooms.
2. Students are frequently reminded of the rules for behaving appropriately and model as such.
3. The teacher creates and maintains a positive, warm, and supportive classroom environment in which students feels comfortable and is academically engaged.
4. The physical space and materials in the classroom are designed to prevent disruption and distractions while maximizing student engagement.
5. Systematic and specific verbal praise is used frequently to give feedback to students and reinforce appropriate behavior.
6. A clear and consistent routine is in place for moving about the classroom and for carrying out general classroom activities.
7. Teachers and staff work together in the classroom and the school to maintain and support the positive behavior of students.
8. Teaching and support staff facilitates the learning process by mediating and controlling learning activities, making adjustments as needed on an individual basis to

accommodate student needs and lesson demands. This proactive approach to classroom management involves actions taken by instructional staff to prevent behavioral problems from occurring.

Describe how the school ensures the social-emotional needs of all students are being met, which may include providing counseling, mentoring and other pupil services

Neva King Cooper Educational Center ensures that all students' social-emotional needs are met. First and foremost, by providing a safe environment for the students, one in which the students can work in classrooms without fear of not meeting their needs. The School Social worker collaborates with families of the students to make sure students have food, housing, and medicine. Teachers and support staff facilitates the needs of all students by making adjustments, as needed, on an individual basis and provide accommodations as needed. In addition NKCEC has a school psychologist; placement and program specialist all of who assist in making sure the students at our schools social – emotional needs are met. This staff also provides information on services available throughout the community and facilitates collaborations between teachers, families, medical professionals, and others, to encourage healthy development and positive learning experiences. NKCEC looks consistently looks into student needs, and schedules students with teachers who will build relationships with the students.

Early Warning Systems

The school's response to this section may be used to satisfy the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6314(b)(1)(B)(ii)(III), (b)(1)(B)(iii)(I), and (b)(1)(I).

Describe the school's early warning system and provide a list of the early warning indicators used in the system

Neva King Cooper Educational Center's early warning system process is as followed:

- Attendance below 90 percent, regardless of whether absence is excused or a result of out-of-school suspension

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a school specifically geared to students with special needs such as intellectual disabilities. Many students at the school site are medically fragile students who require frequent visits to the doctor's office and at times are hospitalized due to their fragile state. Communication with the families is key to understand their needs. At times, referral to the Brucie Ball Hospital Homebound program is done to facilitate the family's needs. Communication with parents and families, letters sent home as well as connect ed messages reminding parents of school attendance.

- One or more suspensions, whether in school or out of school

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a school specifically geared to students with special needs such as intellectual disabilities. Functional Assessments of Behavior and behavioral intervention plans are created along with the students individual education plan to address behaviors.

Suspensions do not occur at Neva King Cooper Educational Center as their disability affects their understanding of such behaviors and are manifested many times because of their disability.

- Course failure in English Language Arts or mathematics

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a school specifically geared to students with special needs such as intellectual disabilities. All Students are on a modified curriculum tailored to their specific needs and levels of support. Failure in these courses is not an option as the courses are modified to their needs and functioning.

- A Level 1 score on the statewide, standardized assessments in English Language Arts or mathematics

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a school specifically geared to students with special needs such as intellectual disabilities. Many students at NKCEC will receive a level 1 in English Language Arts and Mathematics in the Florida Alternate Assessment. These students are not demonstrating Early Warning Systems but their true capability of functioning. Those students that can perform at a

higher level, receive frequent assistance and lesson strategies and differentiated instruction, through Unique Learning Systems as well as pic/symbol communication systems and assistive technology devices.

Provide the following data related to the school's early warning system

The number of students by grade level that exhibit each early warning indicator:

| Indicator | Grade Level | | | | | | | | | | | | Total |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|-------|
| | K | 1 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | |
| Attendance below 90 percent | 4 | 2 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 12 | 49 |
| One or more suspensions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Course failure in ELA or Math | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| Level 1 on statewide assessment | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 34 |

The number of students identified by the system as exhibiting two or more early warning indicators:

| Indicator | Grade Level | | | | | | | | | | Total |
|--|-------------|----|---|---|---|----|---|----|----|----|-------|
| | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | | |
| Students exhibiting two or more indicators | 7 | 11 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 7 | 6 | 11 | 65 | |

Describe all intervention strategies employed by the school to improve the academic performance of students identified by the early warning system

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a specialized center. All Students at Neva King Cooper Ed. Center are students with disabilities of which have Individualized Education Plan. This plan is tailored to meet the students individual needs, in many areas. Individual Education Plans are the interventions set forth at NKCEC. Individualized Education Plans are developed annually with a multi-disciplinary team of individuals to provide insight on strategies for each individual student.

Family and Community Involvement

The school's response to this section may be used to satisfy the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6314(b)(1)(B)(iii)(I)(aa).

Describe how the school works at building positive relationships with families to increase involvement, including efforts to communicate the school's mission and vision, and keep parents informed of their child's progress

Title I schools use the Parent Involvement Plan (PIP) to meet the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6314(b)(1)(F).

Will the school use its PIP to satisfy this question?

Yes

PIP Link

The school completes a Parental Involvement Plan (PIP), which is accessible through the Continuous Improvement Management System (CIMS) at <https://www.floridacims.org/documents/58255>.

Description

A PIP has been uploaded for this school or district - see the link above.

Describe the process by which the school builds and sustains partnerships with the local community for the purpose of securing and utilizing resources to support the school and student achievement

Continuous communication with Neva King Cooper Educational Center Dade Partnerships is key. Neva King Cooper Educational Center sustains partnerships with the local community by frequently communicating with our Dade Partners. During School functions/activities these institutions are invited to the school and asked to participate. A Community Liaison also assists with maintaining this partnership. At NKCEC we welcome resources to assist in meeting students social-emotional needs. In turn these partners volunteer their services having a positive impact in the community and our students and families' well-being. NKCEC involves all school community stakeholders (students, faculty, staff, parents, guardians, community members) in an ongoing dialogue to establish a culture of respect within the school context.

Effective Leadership

The school's response to this section may be used to satisfy the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6314(b)(1)(H).

School Leadership Team

Membership

Identify the name, email address and position title for each member of the school leadership team.:

| Name | Title |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Roos, Tracy | Principal |
| Fernandez, Alicia | Assistant Principal |
| Forbes, Carla | Teacher, ESE |
| Placido, Melissa | Teacher, ESE |
| Ibarra, Luis | Teacher, ESE |
| Sachs, Holly | Teacher, ESE |
| Morales, Diana | SAC Member |
| Surca, Mary | Other |

Duties

Describe the roles and responsibilities of the members, including how they serve as instructional leaders and practice shared decision making

The administrative team will ensure proper professional development is offered throughout the school year to enhance differentiated instruction throughout the classroom to meet student's individual needs. The principal will allocate resources to build on Neva King Cooper Educational Center's project-based learning as well as learning with instructional tools such as assistive technology. Administration will monitor and assist teachers as the need arises and as observed through classroom walkthroughs, department meetings and data chats.

Describe the process through which school leadership identifies and aligns all available resources (e.g., personnel, instructional, curricular) in order to meet the needs of all students and maximize desired student outcomes. Include the methodology for coordinating and supplementing federal, state and local funds, services and programs. Provide the person(s) responsible, frequency of meetings, how an inventory of resources is maintained and any problem-solving activities used to determine how to apply resources for the highest impact

Data will be used to guide instructional decisions and system procedures for all students to:

- Adjust the delivery of curriculum and instruction to meet the specific needs of students
- Adjust the allocation of school-based resources
- Drive decisions regarding targeted professional development

Create student growth trajectories in order to identify and develop interventions

Title I, Part A;

Extended School Year Services are provided during the summer based on the students' Individual Educational Plans. The district coordinates with Title II and Title III in ensuring staff development needs are provided. Support services are provided to secondary students through Transition Specialists. District staff develop, lead, and evaluate school core content standards/ programs; identify and analyze existing literature on scientifically based curriculum/behavior assessment and intervention approaches. They identify systematic patterns of student needs while working with district personnel to identify appropriate, evidence-based intervention strategies. They also participate in the design and delivery of professional development; and provide support for assessment and implementation monitoring. Other components that are integrated into the school-wide program include an extensive Parental Program.

Title I, Part C Migrant;

The school provides services and support to migrant students and parents. The District Migrant liaison coordinates with Title I and other programs and conducts a comprehensive needs assessment of migrant students to ensure that the unique needs of migrant students are met.

Title I, Part D;

The District receives funds to support the Educational Alternative Outreach Program.

Title II

The District uses supplemental funds for improving basic education as follows:

Training to certify qualified mentors for the New Teacher (MINT) Program

Training for add on endorsement programs, such as Reaching, Gifted, ESOL

Training and substitute release time for Professional Development Liaisons (PDL) at each school focusing on Professional Learning community (PLC) development and facilitation, as well as Lesson Study Group implementation and protocols.

Title III does not apply to Neva King Cooper Educational Center

Title VI, Part B;

Title X Homeless;The Social Worker at Neva King Cooper Educational Center works in conjunction with the District to provide resources for students identified as homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act to eliminate barriers to a free and appropriate education.

Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI); This school will receive funding from Supplemental Academic Instruction (SAI) as part of its Florida Education Finance Program (FEFP) allocations. violence prevention programs, students at Neva King Cooper have significant cognitive disabilities therefore, this does not apply to Neva King Cooper Educational Center nutrition programs;

The school adheres to and implements the nutrition requirements stated in the district wellness policy. Nutrition education, as per state statute, is taught through physical education.The School Food Service Program, school breakfast, and school lunch follows the Healthy Food and Beverage Guidelines as adopted in the District's Wellness Policy.

Housing programs does not apply to Neva King Cooper Educational Center.

Head Start; adult education;

CTE; Due to the severe intellectual disabilities of students enrolled at Neva King Cooper Educational Center, Career and Technical Educational would not be appropriate. Instead, a focus on transitional services enables Neva King Cooper's students to be prepared for Adult Day Service Providers.

Job training, Due to the severe intellectual disabilities of students enrolled at Neva King Cooper Educational Center, Career and Technical Educational would not be appropriate. Instead, a focus on transitional services enables Neva King Cooper's students to be prepared for Daily Living Needs.

School Advisory Council (SAC)

Membership

Identify the name and stakeholder group for each member of the SAC.:

| Name | Stakeholder Group |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Dr. Tracy Roos | Principal |
| Margaret Getchell | Teacher |
| Dr. Diana Morales | Teacher |
| Virginia Ferguson | Business/Community |
| Larry McKenney | Business/Community |
| Darwin Brown | Teacher |
| Cynthia Nickle | Education Support Employee |

Duties

Provide a description of the SAC's involvement with the following activities, as required by section 1001.452(2), Florida Statutes

Evaluation of last year's school improvement plan

SAC takes part in evaluating SIP throughout the school year. They review data, teacher responses and approved current strategies developed by the team. In addition, the SAC committee reviews the action plan.

Development of this school improvement plan

The SAC involvement in the school improvement plan is data-driven decision making. The SAC reviews relevant data (which is much more than test scores), identifies problem areas, develops improvement strategies, monitors their implementation, and then starts the whole process over when the next round of data is available.

Preparation of the school's annual budget and plan

SAC committee provides input on budget set forth for school year.

Describe the use of school improvement funds allocated last year, including the amount budgeted for each project

The projected use of school improvement funds will be used to build on the school's Assistive Technology, such as newer models of communication switches, iPads and or applications geared to break the barrier from the student's inability to communicate during instruction. Including augmentative communication devices, as well, can ensure maximum participation from the students at NKCEC. Teachers, having the necessary tools to enable the students to participate in tasks can in turn increase student achievement.

Verify that the school is in compliance with section 1001.452, Florida Statutes, regarding the establishment requirements and duties of the SAC

Yes

If the school is not in compliance, describe the measures being implemented to meet SAC requirements

Literacy Leadership Team (LLT)

Membership

Identify the name, email address and position title for each member of the school-based LLT.:

| Name | Title |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Roos, Tracy | Principal |
| Fernandez, Alicia | Assistant Principal |
| Forbes, Carla | Teacher, ESE |
| Ibarra, Luis | Teacher, ESE |
| Placido, Melissa | Teacher, ESE |
| Sachs, Holly | Teacher, ESE |
| Morales, Diana | SAC Member |
| Surca, Mary | Other |

Duties

Describe how the LLT promotes literacy within the school

The major initiative of the Literacy Leadership Team this year will be to build the staff's capacity of reading knowledge throughout all content areas. The LLT will work with teachers in exposing the students to vocabulary development, phonetic skills as well as phonemic awareness to support reading development. The LLT will support teachers with providing tools such as communication devices, up-to-date pic/symbol cards, assistive technology devices as well as current technological applications for iPad's computers Promethean boards and smart board devices that will promote reading development and student communication. The LLT will attend workshops on various topics to provide teachers with best practices, up-to-date resources necessary to meet the students needs. The LLT will take part in professional development opportunities at NKCEC and coach staff based on needs. Various literacy activities are planned throughout the year to promote reading development for NKCEC such as Read for the Record Campaign, Reading Hour and more.

Public and Collaborative Teaching

The school's response to this section may be used to satisfy the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6314(b)(1)(D).

Describe the school's strategies to encourage positive working relationships between teachers, including collaborative planning and instruction

Master schedule is such that teachers can collaboratively plan based on grade levels. Grade Level Department chairpersons have been established to provide expertise on grade level material and assist staff with their current needs. Meetings for departments are scheduled so that they can meet on a weekly basis. Subject Area Leaders were also assigned to assist in the planning of core content areas and provide NKCEC's staff with current tools, accommodations and modifications, necessary to meet Florida State Standards. Subject Area leaders meet once monthly and are available on an as needed basis. Professional Learning Communities, monthly department meetings.

Describe the school's strategies to recruit, develop and retain highly qualified, certified-in-field, effective teachers to the school

1. Provide applicable in-house workshops for Master Plan Points.
2. Partnering teachers new to Neva King Cooper with MINT certified teachers.
3. Work cooperatively with local universities.

Describe the school's teacher mentoring program, including the rationale for pairings and planned mentoring activities

Rationale for pairing of teaching and mentoring will be based on common grade levels and common subject areas.

Planned Mentoring Activities: Professional Development on Best Practices, Professional Development on Unique Learning Systems Curriculum, Professional Development on Grade-book, Professional Development on ACCESS Points, Professional Development on Classroom Management and Weekly collaboration activities.

Ambitious Instruction and Learning

Instructional Programs and Strategies

Instructional Programs

Describe how the school ensures its core instructional programs and materials are aligned to Florida's standards

Neva King Cooper Educational Center is a Special Education Center where all students are on a modified curriculum. Our School ensures its core content programs are aligned by providing professional development, assigning instructional leaders to assist with the planning process. Administration assigned instructional leaders to assist with lesson plan development, provide meetings to support staff with Florida Standards. CPALMs training will be provided in order for teachers to plan according to Florida Standards. Unique Learning Systems, a district adopted curriculum for students are NKCEC is also a curriculum directly aligned to Florida Standards. Pre/post tests will be performed monthly to assess student achievement on State Standards.

Instructional Strategies

Describe how the school uses data to provide and differentiate instruction to meet the diverse needs of students. Provide examples of how instruction is modified or supplemented to assist students having difficulty attaining the proficient or advanced level on state assessments

Students at NKCEC have individualized education plans. These plans utilize various assessments to determine levels of functioning. Instruction is planned based on the student needs and Florida Standards. All instruction at Neva King Cooper is modified and various instructional strategies performed to assist each and every student. At NKCEC teachers utilize accommodation strategies to assist the students. Instruction is differentiated and tailored to student needs.

Provide the following information for each strategy the school uses to increase the amount and quality of learning time and help enrich and accelerate the curriculum:

Strategy: Summer Program

Minutes added to school year: 6,000

Extended School Year (ESY) services are individualized special education and/or related services (such as speech/language therapy or occupational therapy) that are uniquely designed to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to a student with disabilities (as mandated by IDEA). The need for ESY services is determined by the student's IEP team. ESY services are provided beyond the normal school year of a school district in the summer.

Strategy Rationale

The use of extended school year services is a direct result of the possible regression the students can have in critical life skills and academic as well, during the summer break. Thus, reinforcing skills taught during ESY can ensure Free and Appropriate Public Education.

Strategy Purpose(s)

- Core Academic Instruction
- Enrichment
- Teacher collaboration, planning and professional development

Person(s) responsible for monitoring implementation of the strategy

Roos, Tracy, pr0921@dadeschools.net

Data that is or will be collected and how it is analyzed to determine effectiveness of the strategy

Several types of information should be analyzed and reviewed:

Current and previous IEP goals

Classroom tests and grades

Classroom observations (by qualified professionals such as a school psychologist or social worker)

Standardized tests, including statewide assessments in key academic subjects such as reading and math

Student work samples

Progress monitoring data from Unique Learning System

Attendance information

Student Transition and Readiness

PreK-12 Transition

The school's response to this question may be used to satisfy the requirements of 20 U.S.C. § 6314(b)(1)(G).

Describe the strategies the school employs to support incoming and outgoing cohorts of students in transition from one school level to another

An Individual Education Plan meeting is held for each Pre-Kindergarten student who is in the Intellectually Disabled program who will transition from Pre-K to Kindergarten. At the meeting the transition to Kindergarten is planned. The meeting participants include the parents, the Pre-Kindergarten teacher, the Kindergarten teacher, support staff as appropriate (physical therapist, occupational therapist), the ESE Department Chair, and an administrator. It is facilitated by a region Staffing Specialist.

College and Career Readiness

Describe the strategies the school uses to advance college and career awareness, which may include establishing partnerships with business, industry or community organizations

All students attending Neva King Cooper Educational Center are Significantly Intellectually Disabled. However, a select number of students participate in community based instruction in which they visit various community sites as well as an adult center and participate in activities at the center.

Identify the career and technical education programs available to students and industry certifications that may be earned through those respective programs

All students attending Neva King Cooper Educational Center are Profoundly Intellectually Disabled, this section would not be applicable. However, all students at NKCEC participate in community based instruction.

Describe efforts the school has taken to integrate career and technical education with academic courses (e.g., industrial biotechnology) to support student achievement

All students attending Neva King Cooper Educational Center are Profoundly Intellectually Disabled. Therefore, this section would not be applicable.

Describe strategies for improving student readiness for the public postsecondary level based on annual analysis of the [High School Feedback Report](#), as required by section 1008.37(4), Florida Statutes

All students attending Neva King Cooper Educational Center are Profoundly Intellectually Disabled. Therefore, this section would not be applicable.

School Improvement Goals

The following key is intended to help readers understand how the sections of this document correspond to the steps of the 8-step planning and problem-solving framework used in the School Improvement Plan. The Quick Key numbers can help registered users go directly to the point of entry for any given goal, barrier and strategy within the online survey.

Problem Solving Key

G = Goal

B =
Barrier

S = Strategy

1 = Problem Solving Step  S123456 = Quick Key

Strategic Goals Summary

- G1.** Increase student achievement by improving core instruction in all content areas.
- G2.** 40% of the students will participate in STEM/CTE like activities such as project - based Learning activities
- G3.** 38% of the students at NKC had attendance concerns, NKC will reduce by 1%.
- G4.** 25% of parents participated in NKC decision making, therefore NKC will improve parental involvement by 10%.

Strategic Goals Detail

For each strategic goal, this section lists the associated targets (i.e., "SMART goals"), resources available to support movement toward the goal, barriers to achieving the goal, and the plan for monitoring progress toward the goal

G1. Increase student achievement by improving core instruction in all content areas. 1a

G037527

Targets Supported 1b

| Indicator | Annual Target |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| AMO Math - All Students | 33.0 |
| AMO Reading - All Students | 33.0 |
| FAA Science Proficiency | 33.0 |
| FAA Writing Proficiency | 33.0 |

Resources Available to Support the Goal 2

- Leadership Team, Department Chairpersons, Subject Area Leaders, PD Liaison, Program and Placement Specialist, school therapists
- Technology

Targeted Barriers to Achieving the Goal 3

- Communication
- Effective use of Technology geared for children with special needs

Plan to Monitor Progress Toward G1. 8

Unique Learning Systems' reports will be monitored to assess strategies implemented

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

On 6/5/2015

Evidence of Completion

Assessment from Unique Learning System and results from the Florida Alternate Assessment.

G2. 40% of the students will participate in STEM/CTE like activities such as project - based Learning activities **1a**

 G037531

Targets Supported **1b**

| Indicator | Annual Target |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| FAA Science Proficiency | 40.0 |

Resources Available to Support the Goal **2**

- Science and Math Lead teacher's assist with best practices

Targeted Barriers to Achieving the Goal **3**

- Curriculum for Science and Math for Access Point standards

Plan to Monitor Progress Toward G2. **8**

Students will work on creating objects using various supports such as switches.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Student work Products; Department meetings and FAA results

G3. 38% of the students at NKC had attendance concerns, NKC will reduce by 1%. **1a**

 G037533

Targets Supported **1b**

| Indicator | Annual Target |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Attendance Below 90% | 1.0 |

Resources Available to Support the Goal **2**

- Provide support mechanisms to promote consistent attendance from our students.

Targeted Barriers to Achieving the Goal **3**

- Fragile medical conditions

Plan to Monitor Progress Toward G3. **8**

Parent / Teacher Communication

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Annually, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Attendance Bulletin and communication Logs

G4. 25% of parents participated in NKC decision making, therefore NKC will improve parental involvement by 10%. 1a

G037535

Targets Supported 1b

| Indicator | Annual Target |
|-----------|---------------|
| | 10.0 |

Resources Available to Support the Goal 2

- Provide Resource Center

Targeted Barriers to Achieving the Goal 3

- Lack of awareness of services

Plan to Monitor Progress Toward G4. 8

Review parent sign in logs

Person Responsible

Tracy Roos

Schedule

Semiannually, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Parent Sign- In Logs

Action Plan for Improvement

For each strategy selected in the plan to reduce a targeted barrier to a strategic goal, this section lists the rationale for that strategy (i.e., why the school believes it will reduce the barrier) and the action steps that have been identified as necessary to implementing the strategy, including details such as the point person, timing and duration, and evidence of completion. At the end of each set of action steps is the plan for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of the respective strategy.

Problem Solving Key


G = Goal **B** =
Barrier **S** = Strategy

1 = Problem Solving Step  S123456 = Quick Key

G1. Increase student achievement by improving core instruction in all content areas. **1**

 G037527

G1.B1 Communication **2**

 B090199

G1.B1.S1 Teachers will provide students with various reading materials, picture task cards and/or communicative devices **4**

 S100956

Strategy Rationale

Strategy listed will assist students with student communication and later in increasing core content area achievement.

Action Step 1 **5**

Teachers will utilize reading material, picture task cards including functional vocabulary with communicating responses in reading.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

On 6/5/2015

Evidence of Completion

Assessment given to students from Unique Learning and FAA results.

Action Step 2 5

Teachers will utilize Assistive Technology devices while using Unique Learning Systems in all core subject areas.

Person Responsible

Mary Surca

Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Classroom Walkthroughs; lesson Plans

Plan to Monitor Fidelity of Implementation of G1.B1.S1 6

Unique Learning Systems' reports will be monitored to assess strategies implemented

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

On 6/5/2015

Evidence of Completion

Assessment of Unique Learning Systems and FAA results.

Plan to Monitor Effectiveness of Implementation of G1.B1.S1 7

Student's Continued use of picture task cards throughout lessons and responses as well as their responses throughout the Unique Learning Systems' reports will be monitored to assess strategies implemented

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez


Schedule

On 6/5/2015

Evidence of Completion


Evidence will be determined by the assessment given to students from unique Learning and FAA results.

G1.B2 Effective use of Technology geared for children with special needs 2

 B090200

G1.B2.S1 Teachers will be trained in effective use of technology for instructional use in the classroom.

4

 S100957

Strategy Rationale

Professional development on ways to implement current technology in all areas can allow students to access curriculum in a variety of ways.

Action Step 1 5

Teachers will work collaboratively to create and adjust reading and communicative strategies utilizing technology, as necessary, based on student learning outcomes.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

On 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Acheivement data such as teacher-made tests, and FAA results.

Action Step 2 5

Teachers will plan lessons, utilizing technology including all students in the room.

Person Responsible

Schedule

On 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Lesson Plans; Classroom Walkthroughs

Plan to Monitor Fidelity of Implementation of G1.B2.S1 6

Will engage in professional learning communities to build and adjust technology strategies based on student learning outcomes.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Weekly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Department meetings; Unique Learning Assessment

Plan to Monitor Effectiveness of Implementation of G1.B2.S1 7

Leadership team will work together to create and adjust strategies through best practices and meeting, to enhance use of technology in the classroom

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/22/2015

Evidence of Completion

Achievement data from Unique Learning System assessment and FAA results

G2. 40% of the students will participate in STEM/CTE like activities such as project - based Learning activities

1

G037531

G2.B1 Curriculum for Science and Math for Access Point standards 2

B090208

G2.B1.S1 Provide students project-based learning opportunities using switch assistive technology. 4

S100966

Strategy Rationale

Providing Assistive Technology in the classroom provides opportunities for all students to take part in classroom activities.

Action Step 1 5

To provide students with picture task cards, communication devices, technology in classrooms and use of IEP accommodations, to assist in production of planned activity.

Person Responsible

Schedule

On 7/2/2015

Evidence of Completion

Student Made Products, Unique Learning System Assessment and FAA Results

Plan to Monitor Fidelity of Implementation of G2.B1.S1 6

Administration will perform classroom walkthroughs and Leadership team will assist with best practices.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Weekly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Student made Products Unique Learning System Assessment and FAA results

Plan to Monitor Effectiveness of Implementation of G2.B1.S1 7

Provide support mechanisms through department meetings and subject area meetings, to promote Student work products.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez


Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015


Evidence of Completion

Student Work Products, Department Agenda and Unique Learning System Assessment


G3. 38% of the students at NKC had attendance concerns, NKC will reduce by 1%. 1

 G037533

G3.B1 Fragile medical conditions 2

 B090210

G3.B1.S1 Continuous communication with student families. 4

 S100968

Strategy Rationale

Maintaining communication with families allows the school to determine if hospital/home bound placement is appropriate for the child.

Action Step 1 5

Teacher calls home on first absence

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Weekly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Communication Logs, Attendance Report

Plan to Monitor Fidelity of Implementation of G3.B1.S1 6

Provide community outreach assistance

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Biweekly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Communication Logs; Attendance Bulletin; School Social Worker reports

Plan to Monitor Effectiveness of Implementation of G3.B1.S1 7

Parent / teacher communication log and outreach assistance program

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Annually, from 8/18/2014 to 9/17/2014

Evidence of Completion

Communication Logs and Attendance Bulletin

G4. 25% of parents participated in NKC decision making, therefore NKC will improve parental involvement by 10%. **1**

G037535

G4.B1 Lack of awareness of services **2**

B090212

G4.B1.S1 Provide parent supports and encourage parents to attend various meetings at NKCEC. **4**

S100970

Strategy Rationale

By providing support networks and meetings parents can gain awareness of new trends.

Action Step 1 **5**

School wide activities will be scheduled at various times to accommodate parents with limited schedules. Provide bilingual written and verbal communicate and translation services.

Person Responsible

Alicia Fernandez

Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Parent Sign-In logs

Plan to Monitor Fidelity of Implementation of G4.B1.S1 **6**

Review parent participation logs

Person Responsible

Tracy Roos

Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

Evidence of Completion

Parent Sign-In Logs

Plan to Monitor Effectiveness of Implementation of G4.B1.S1 7

Review Sign-In Logs ; School Social Worker assistance for parent supports

Person Responsible

Tracy Roos

Schedule

Every 2 Months, from 8/18/2014 to 6/21/2015

Evidence of Completion

IEP Participation and Parent Sign-In Logs

Appendix 1: Implementation Timeline

Action steps and monitoring activities identified in the SIP as necessary to achieve the school's goals.

| Source | Task, Action Step or Monitoring Activity | Who | Start Date (where applicable) | Deliverable or Evidence of Completion | Due Date/End Date |
|--------------|---|-------------------|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| G1.B1.S1.A1 | Teachers will utilize reading material, picture task cards including functional vocabulary with communicating responses in reading. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Assessment given to students from Unique Learning and FAA results. | 6/5/2015 one-time |
| G1.B2.S1.A1 | Teachers will work collaboratively to create and adjust reading and communicative strategies utilizing technology, as necessary, based on student learning outcomes. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Acheivement data such as teacher-made tests, and FAA results. | 6/4/2015 one-time |
| G2.B1.S1.A1 | To provide students with picture task cards, communication devices, technology in classrooms and use of IEP accommodations, to assist in production of planned activity. | | 8/18/2014 | Student Made Products, Unique Learning System Assessment and FAA Results | 7/2/2015 one-time |
| G3.B1.S1.A1 | Teacher calls home on first absence | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Communication Logs, Attendance Report | 6/4/2015 weekly |
| G4.B1.S1.A1 | School wide activities will be scheduled at various times to accommodate parents with limited schedules. Provide bilingual written and verbal communicate and translation services. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Parent Sign-In logs | 6/4/2015 monthly |
| G1.B1.S1.A2 | Teachers will utilize Assistive Technology devices while using Unique Learning Systems in all core subject areas. | Surca, Mary | 8/18/2014 | Classroom Walkthroughs; lesson Plans | 6/4/2015 monthly |
| G1.B2.S1.A2 | Teachers will plan lessons, utilizing technology including all students in the room. | | 8/18/2014 | Lesson Plans; Classroom Walkthroughs | 6/4/2015 one-time |
| G1.MA1 | Unique Learning Systems' reports will be monitored to assess strategies implemented | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Assessment from Unique Learning System and results from the Florida Alternate Assessment. | 6/5/2015 one-time |
| G1.B1.S1.MA1 | Student's Continued use of picture task cards throughout lessons and responses as well as their responses throughout the Unique Learning | Fernandez, Alicia | 9/8/2014 | Evidence will be determined by the assessment given to students from unique Learning and FAA results. | 6/5/2015 one-time |

| Source | Task, Action Step or Monitoring Activity | Who | Start Date (where applicable) | Deliverable or Evidence of Completion | Due Date/End Date |
|--------------|--|-------------------|-------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| | Systems' reports will be monitored to assess strategies implemented | | | | |
| G1.B1.S1.MA1 | Unique Learning Systems' reports will be monitored to assess strategies implemented | Fernandez, Alicia | 9/8/2014 | Assessment of Unique Learning Systems and FAA results. | 6/5/2015 one-time |
| G1.B2.S1.MA1 | Leadership team will work together to create and adjust strategies through best practices and meeting, to enhance use of technology in the classroom | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Achievement data from Unique Learning System assessment and FAA results | 6/22/2015 monthly |
| G1.B2.S1.MA1 | Will engage in professional learning communities to build and adjust technology strategies based on student learning outcomes. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Department meetings; Unique Learning Assessment | 6/4/2015 weekly |
| G2.MA1 | Students will work on creating objects using various supports such as switches. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Student work Products; Department meetings and FAA results | 6/4/2015 monthly |
| G2.B1.S1.MA1 | Provide support mechanisms through department meetings and subject area meetings, to promote Student work products. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Student Work Products, Department Agenda and Unique Learning System Assessment | 6/4/2015 monthly |
| G2.B1.S1.MA1 | Administration will perform classroom walkthroughs and Leadership team will assist with best practices. | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Student made Products Unique Learning System Assessment and FAA results | 6/4/2015 weekly |
| G3.MA1 | Parent / Teacher Communication | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Attendance Bulletin and communication Logs | 6/4/2015 annually |
| G3.B1.S1.MA1 | Parent / teacher communication log and outreach assistance program | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Communication Logs and Attendance Bulletin | 9/17/2014 annually |
| G3.B1.S1.MA1 | Provide community outreach assistance | Fernandez, Alicia | 8/18/2014 | Communication Logs; Attendance Bulletin; School Social Worker reports | 6/4/2015 biweekly |
| G4.MA1 | Review parent sign in logs | Roos, Tracy | 8/18/2014 | Parent Sign- In Logs | 6/4/2015 semiannually |
| G4.B1.S1.MA1 | Review Sign-In Logs ; School Social Worker assistance for parent supports | Roos, Tracy | 8/18/2014 | IEP Participation and Parent Sign-In Logs | 6/21/2015 every-2-months |
| G4.B1.S1.MA1 | Review parent participation logs | Roos, Tracy | 8/18/2014 | Parent Sign-In Logs | 6/4/2015 monthly |

Appendix 2: Professional Development and Technical Assistance Outlines

Professional development opportunities and technical assistance items identified in the SIP as action steps to achieve the school's goals.

Professional Development Opportunities

Professional development opportunities identified in the SIP as action steps to achieve the school's goals.

G1. Increase student achievement by improving core instruction in all content areas.

G1.B1 Communication

G1.B1.S1 Teachers will provide students with various reading materials, picture task cards and/or communicative devices

PD Opportunity 1

Teachers will utilize reading material, picture task cards including functional vocabulary with communicating responses in reading.

Facilitator

PD Liaison

Participants

Teachers and Leadership Team

Schedule

On 6/5/2015

PD Opportunity 2

Teachers will utilize Assistive Technology devices while using Unique Learning Systems in all core subject areas.

Facilitator

PD Liaison

Participants

Teachers and Paraprofessionals

Schedule

Monthly, from 8/18/2014 to 6/4/2015

G1.B2 Effective use of Technology geared for children with special needs

G1.B2.S1 Teachers will be trained in effective use of technology for instructional use in the classroom.

PD Opportunity 1

Teachers will work collaboratively to create and adjust reading and communicative strategies utilizing technology, as necessary, based on student learning outcomes.

Facilitator

PD Liaison

Participants

Teachers

Schedule

On 6/4/2015

G2. 40% of the students will participate in STEM/CTE like activities such as project - based Learning activities

G2.B1 Curriculum for Science and Math for Access Point standards

G2.B1.S1 Provide students project-based learning opportunities using switch assistive technology.

PD Opportunity 1

To provide students with picture task cards, communication devices, technology in classrooms and use of IEP accommodations, to assist in production of planned activity.

Facilitator

PD Liaison

Participants

Classroom Teachers

Schedule

On 7/2/2015

Technical Assistance Items

Technical Assistance opportunities identified in the SIP as action steps to achieve the school's goals.

Budget Rollup

Summary

| Description | Total |
|---|------------|
| Goal 1: Increase student achievement by improving core instruction in all content areas. | 250 |
| Grand Total | 250 |

Goal 1: Increase student achievement by improving core instruction in all content areas.

| Description | Source | Total |
|---------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| B1.S1.A1 | School Improvement Funds | 250 |
| Total Goal 1 | | 250 |