

## New Haven Community Report 2013 - 2014

### School Goals for the 2013-2014 School Year:

#### Goal #1

By June 2014, grades 1-8 students will display increased engagement in the learning process in science.

#### Goal #2

By June 2014, students will exhibit understanding of how their actions in daily life impact physical environments.

#### Goal #3

By June 2014, students will display increased empathy for others.

Strategies employed in the pursuit of our goals include:

#### Goal #1

- Early, middle, and senior year grade teacher groups were formed to create and share engaging science lessons that focused on the design process and scientific inquiry.
- Students were encouraged to use W.A.L.T. (We Are Learning To) prior to each lesson.
- More discussion prior to the beginning of lessons.
- There were more hands on science experiments and open ended questions

#### Goal #2

- Staff meetings went "paperless."
- Staff meetings and other group meeting were "bring your own water bottle."
- Students were encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle to school.
- We held an outside school cleanup day.
- A "scrap" paper tray is used for rough work.
- We also use whiteboards for ideas and rough copies.
- Paper consumption is down approximately 10% over last year.
- Grade 3- 12 students save their work electronically.
- Made recycled paper out of scrap paper

### Goal #3

- Worked in cooperative learning groups.
- Developed class agreements focusing on how we can help each other feel safe and be good learners.
- Studied the Olympics with an emphasis on good sportsmanship and goal setting.
- High School social justice presentations - raising money by organizing a raffle. Money was sent to Solutions Academy in Uganda.
- Social Justice Project: Sewing mitts, hats and gloves for immigrant groups and those in need.
- “Roots of Empathy “programme was delayed until September 2014.

### Impact On Students

#### Goal #1

- Student reflections and teacher observations have shown that students are more engaged in science.
- Students have expressed through reflections that they feel more confident in carrying out scientific experiments, making scientific hypothesis, interpreting experimental data to make conclusions, and problem solving to adjust personal designs.
- Students have increased their use of “scientific” language.

#### Goal #2

- Students in grades K to 4 have initiated picking up “trash” on their own time after school and during the weekends.
- Less money spent on paper supplies can be used for the purchase of engaging learning materials.
- The students are more aware of how to save water and electricity.
- They automatically take scrap paper or a white board to write rough drafts.
- Students decided that they do not need new boxes of crayons, markers or pencils at the beginning of the school year if they already have some.

#### Goal #3

- Students are aware of how lucky they are to have an abundance of food, love and education.
- Student surveys show that students in grades 3 to 8 feel safe in their school community most of the time.

- Students in grades 5 to 8 report that they are less likely to make first impression judgments of others based on outward appearances.
- Teacher observations show an increase in student cooperation and a decrease in student conflict at all age levels.

Have a great summer vacation! We look forward to sharing our school goals for 2014-2015 with you in September.

School Resumes September 4, 2014 for students.