



School LEA: 7203015

School Name: LEVERETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Submitter Information

Submitter Name: CRYSTAL ROWELL
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Date of application: 6/12/2014

District Information

District LEA: 7203000
District Name: FAYETTEVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Superintendent Name: VICKI THOMAS
Superintendent Email: vicki.thomas@fayar.net

General Questions

School's Most Recent Accountability Status: Achieving School
Special Accountability Status: N/A
Is this a brand new LEA? No
Is this an ALE School? No

Vision and Mission



Leverett's Mission:

Leverett Elementary School promotes excellence by educating its diverse student population in a nurturing, challenging, and disciplined environment. We are committed to helping all students acquire the necessary critical-thinking skills to become problem solvers, responsible citizens and life-long learners.

Description of process leading to plan to enhance district vision and mission:

Leverett Elementary researched possible conversion charter or School of Innovation ideas during the 2012-13 school year, which resulted in the staff voting to apply to become a School of Innovation with a focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) after Act 601 was passed. Leverett staff and U of A personnel formed a partnership to better focus research based professional development for teachers. Two separate groups were elected to serve as the Leverett School of Innovation parent and staff councils. The staff along with parents will continue to focus on designing new and creative alternatives to add to the existing district/school instructional practices to improve academic performance and learning for all students.

This will be done in a variety of ways:

The schedule will be structure in such as that it provides flexible learning times for students to participate in integrated learning times that focus on STEM education, language acquisition, and blended learning. This schedule will also provide teachers with ample time for vertical and horizontal planning times and professional development.

- The integrated STEM initiatives/units will improve student engagement and lead to greater achievement for students. The use of focused critical thinking strategies will lead to improved learning.
- Use of Blended learning models to meet the needs of students and support STEM focused initiatives. This is currently a part of the master schedule for all students K-5. This will also provide parents and students with opportunities for 24/7 learning from any location with internet access. Parents can partner with teachers in helping students with their learning. It will allow students to extend their learning beyond the boundaries of a regular school day and provide more individual learning opportunities.

We will also be looking to implement school wide systems to promote a culture and climate that is conducive to producing a community of learners. This will be accomplished by using strategies associated with How Full is Your Bucket by Tom Rath and 7 Habits of Happy Children by Steven Covey.

- Implement school cabinets that are run by students in order to help transform our school climate and increase student ownership.
- Developing a genuine "community" of learners.
- To develop students who "want" to learn or "be curious", independence and ownership in learning.

Fayetteville School District Mission:

The mission of the Fayetteville School District (FPS) is to provide a rigorous and relevant education in which all students gain the academic and personal skills needed for lifelong learning and success. To fulfill this mission, FPS strives to attain the goal of continuously improving the academic performance of each student by providing a rigorous and relevant articulated curriculum, using effective instructional strategies and a comprehensive assessment system that measures success in the years before and after graduation.

Providing our students with quality instructional time in the classroom is key in meeting the mission and reaching the goals established for the District.

Approval as a School of Innovation will aid Leverett Elementary in improving teaching and learning and in reaching the Fayetteville School District's mission through the use of innovative, consistent, systematic planning, reflecting, and refining processes. Leverett will create and support a project based learning environment.



Goals and Performance Targets

Goal	Goal Description	Goal Assessment
1	<p>Goal 1 – Increase teachers’ use of STEM-focused strategies for instruction in mathematics, literacy and science.</p> <p>•Performance Target: Increase teachers’ knowledge of STEM pedagogy to increase student use of inquiry strategies from once each week to daily in their math, literacy and science integrated content classes in order to build critical thinking skills (inquiry and analysis questioning, strategic thinking/reasoning tasks, extended thinking tasks).</p>	<p>•Goal Assessment: Pre/post-Professional Development awareness/perceptual survey used to measure teachers' comfort using these STEM focused inquiry strategies showing a 25% increase yearly.</p> <p>•Goal Assessment: Classroom walkthroughs will also be used to show a 25% yearly increase in these strategies used by students.</p>
2	<p>Goal 2 – Increase student engagement in mathematics, literacy, and science through STEM-focused initiatives.</p> <p>•Performance Target: Increase student engagement and motivation through the use of STEM-focused initiatives and critical thinking skills.</p>	<p>•Goal Assessment: Developmentally appropriate student survey instrument to assess engagement/self-regulation/motivation. This will show an increase of 30% yearly in students noting they are more engaged in the classroom and motivated to extend their own learning.</p>
3	<p>Goal 3 – Increase the percentage of students reaching or exceeding individual growth expectations from the beginning of the year to end of the year by 30% (This would lead to closing the achievement gap and reducing the percentage of non-mobile students needing interventions, while also ensuring all students are being challenged to achieve to the highest expected level even if they don’t need intervention)</p> <p>•Performance Target: Individual growth measurements will be gathered from standardized testing data that monitors student growth achievement throughout the school year.</p>	<p>•Goal Assessment: Standardized measures such as NWEA MAPS, DIBELS, and state assessment data, as well as student designed culminating assessments will be used to show an increase of 30% of students meeting or exceeding their individual growth measures. Students in all grades will track their own progress throughout the year to ensure they have the opportunity to participate in their own learning process and meet their growth targets.</p>
4	<p>Goal 4 – Increase percentage of students meeting grade level standards in mathematics, literacy and science will increase by 5% yearly.</p> <p>•Performance Target: 90% students will meet their AMOs annually.</p>	<p>•Goal Assessments: 90% of students will meet their AMOs annually assessed by norm referenced/state tests and student/teacher designed culminating assessments.</p>



Goal	Goal Description	Goal Assessment
5	<p>Teachers will develop a project based STEM focused curriculum and find the most appropriate instructional materials and supplies to support the school's STEM initiatives and goals.</p> <p>•Performance Target: All teachers will design appropriate measures to determine the effectiveness of the Leverett STEM focused curriculum and materials.</p>	<p>•Goal Assessments: Student engagement surveys, Culminating assessments and teacher reflective narratives will show an increase of 25% yearly to determine effectiveness of curriculum and learning materials.</p>



Requested Waivers

Code section, Rule, or Local Policy	Goal	Rationale
D/P 15.04 There is a written professional development policy consistent with the academic needs of students.	1	Leverett will follow state professional development laws and rules but requests a waiver to allow Leverett flexibility in professional development and in-service training for teachers and for the function of our school school's Instructional Facilitator to better support the school's mission and goals. Leverett teachers will be supported in becoming experts in teaching STEM based, integrated units of inquiry. They will focus on developing personalized learning plans for students while having professional dialogue and collaborating with colleagues. This will require them to attend professional development sessions and workshops that are designed for implementation level of this type of program.
D/C V 10.03 School districts shall adopt instructional materials which provide complete coverage of a subject as described in that subject's curriculum frameworks and which fit the achievement levels of the students assigned to each teacher.	5	Leverett requests flexibility to adopt instructional materials that will provide complete coverage of Leverett's curriculum units to improve services to students.
D/C 10.07 Each school district shall adopt a written policy for appropriate and meaningful homework. The policy shall promote the development of students' independent study skills and work to be done outside the classroom which will reinforce and strengthen academic skills, broaden the educational experiences of students, and relate those experiences to the real life of the community. Parents shall be notified of the policy at the beginning of each school year.	2	Leverett requests flexibility in assigning homework including what and when to provide better services to students through the support of personalized learning and Leverett's integrated curriculum units of inquiry through the use of blended learning times and flipping the classrooms. The school will ensure all students access to devices and internet to support this learning.
D/S/P 10.01.4 The planned instructional time in each school day shall not average less than six (6) hours per day or thirty (30) hours per week.	2	Leverett will comply with standards but requests flexibility in the way instructional time may be counted including on-site instruction, distance or virtual learning or nontraditional school days or hours.
S/P 9.01.2 The school has used curriculum frameworks to plan instruction.	5	Leverett requests flexibility in the application of curriculum frameworks, instructional practices, and GT program/standards to support the design and instruction of innovative, integrated, concept and inquiry-based STEM curriculum units providing better educational services to our students.



Code section, Rule, or Local Policy	Goal	Rationale
D/P 18.02 Each school district shall provide educational opportunities for students identified as gifted and talented appropriate to their ability.	3	Leverett requests flexibility in the application of curriculum frameworks, instructional practices, and GT program/standards to support the design and instruction of innovative, integrated, concept and inquiry-based STEM curriculum units providing better educational services to our students.
S/P IV 9.03.2 Time is scheduled for instruction in the core curriculum; physical activity, visual art, music (grades K-4).	4	Leverett requests flexibility in the distribution of daily time requirements by the state and district for all curricular areas to better serve students through Leverett's integrated curriculum units of inquiry. Students will be allowed to attend PE 30 minutes daily and 60-120 minutes weekly of Art and Music. This will be achieved through the integration of content areas by all teachers throughout the school.



Documentation Checklist

Submission Status	Document Category
Submitted	Stakeholder Engagement
Submitted	Shared Leadership
Submitted	Election Results
Submitted	Professional Development Scope
Submitted	Budget
Submitted	References
Submitted	Approved School Board Resolution
Submitted	Statement of Assurances