



NORWALK
Public Schools

Middle School *REDESIGN* ***“Success and Challenges”***

October 12, 2017

Middle School Redesign Committee

Nathan Hale Middle School

- Dr. Al Sackey

I. Successes at *Nathan Hale* Middle School

- **Expanding TTO Math in grades 6 through 8 based on the progress made last year**
- **Designed and will be implementing our Encore programs as well as town hall meetings**
- **Work with the ELA instructional coaches through teacher collaboration and planning in order to improve reading and writing at NHMS, We have already had two meetings**
- **Re-arranged our House teacher's classrooms in order to put students classes as close together as possible**
- **Improved interventions such as Read 180 and System 44**
- **Hope is for higher student achievement**

II. Challenges ...

How do we support Tier I instruction in the new Block schedule?

- Special education supports and coverage with 1 special education teacher per house
- Technical difficulties which impacted MAP, PowerSchool Access and TTO
- Issues with master schedule due to some conflicts with TTO
- Large class sizes in academics
- Small class sizes in specials
- Not enough para supports

Ponus Ridge Middle School

- Dr. Damon Lewis

Successes ...

- Collaboration time
- SRBI Team success
- Child Study team
- House structure
- Tier II Interventions (stand alone)
- ENCORE

Challenges ...

- Embed interventions into Tier I teaching (Differentiation)

Roton Middle School

- Joseph Vellucci

I. Successes at *Roton* Middle School

- Encore Program at all Grades – Especially Grade 6
- Implementation of Read 180/Math 180/System 44 Interventions
- Implementation of Block Schedule in Grade 6
- Higher Student Achievement in Reading and Math as Evidenced on the SBAC/NWEA/MAP.
- Successful Implementation of the SGC

II. Challenges ...

- Teachers Teaching Two Grades and Two Subjects in Two Houses
- Elimination of Subject Area Leaders
- Vertical House Leaders' Responsibilities and Communication with All Teachers in the Houses
- Lunch Schedule/House Meetings

West Rocks

Dr. Lynne Moore

I. Successes at *WRMS*

- Implemented Tier 1 Initiatives
- Compass Learning-Learning Paths congruent with MAP Scores
- NEWSLEA—Non-fiction articles at appropriate lexile levels

II. Challenges ...

Class size of 28 plus

Social Studies and Science Teachers teaching grades 7 and 8

- Encore Classes—loss of 5 days of instruction which is problematic for our school as we strive to be off the State's list of Math Focus schools
- Scheduling House meetings