

JSS School Improvement Action Plan Progress Report

Goal #1: Strengthen curriculum through improved curriculum continuity in all the grade levels.

Rationale for this goal:

Through the years, we have utilized different teaching strategies, student resources and curricular series within a specific subject are over different grade levels. This resulted in discontinuity and gaps in learning and achievement. For some subjects, there was no formal curriculum (writing). We have also noted that many of our textbooks are aging. By providing continuity in learning, we will engage and strengthen student learning, therefore creating better prepared students.

Alignment with mission, philosophy, SLEs:

In keeping with our school’s mission, improving curriculum continuity will cultivate academic excellence in our students. This will build a comprehensive curriculum which prepares our students to become engaged and responsible members of the Catholic Church and society. It will also encourage students to be independent learners and develop the strong analytical, problem solving, and organizational skills necessary for academic excellence.

Strategy #1	Evaluate and update each subject area for continuity in all curricular areas
2016-17 Action	<p>Action Plan Progress</p> <p>To address certain gaps and discontinuity, JSS implemented the Mathletics on-line learning system during the 2016-17 school year.</p> <p>To enhance student learning in technology, JSS implemented the Scratch coding software for students in grades 6 through 8</p> <p>JSS has identified Science as the first subject to be mapped for continuity.</p> <p>JSS is currently studying the Next Generation Science Standards, its teaching resources, and student learning materials required for implementation.</p> <p>.</p>

Strategy #2	Identify and purchase appropriate teaching materials to support the updated curriculum from strategy #1
2016-17 Action	Action Plan Progress JSS is currently studying the Next Generation Science Standards, its teaching resources, and student learning materials required for implementation; and to identify potential financial costs associated with implementing these standards.

Goal #2: Create a professional development plan for staff in catechetical training, CCSS (Common Core State Standards) implementation, and new technology.

Rationale for this goal:

Achieving completion of the Basic Catechetical training has been an ongoing need at JSS with our continually changing staff. We believe that achieving this goal will unify us as a stronger faith community and examples for our students. Throughout the many discussions during our Self Study, we frequently identified the need for more training in Common Core standards and best practices for this new approach to learning. The addition of Chromebooks and tablets to the school program in 2015-16 requires teachers to have a fuller understanding of these new tools for learning. All of these areas of staff growth will enrich the educational experience of our students.

Alignment of goal with the school’s mission, philosophy, and SLEs

Our Mission, Philosophy, and Schoolwide Learning Expectations charge us to provide a program that is academically rigorous and spiritually centered. Our goal for professional development in Catechetical formation, fuller understanding of best practices in Common Core teaching, and advanced training in new technologies aligns perfectly with our defined Mission and Philosophy.

Strategy #1	Through a structured Adult Faith Formation program, provide instruction to staff so that we complete the Basic Catechetical program of the Diocese
2016-17 Action	Action Plan Progress Identified the Adult Faith Formation on-line program, and in cooperation with the parish, this program will begin June, 2017

Strategy #2	Provide teachers with the skills and methodology associated with Common Core teaching
2016-17 Action	Action Plan Progress Professional development has been completed by all faculty members to implement teaching strategies to enhance math instruction through a greater understanding of the common core standards (Holy Cross School, 3/3/2017).

	<p>Professional development has been completed by all faculty members to understand and to implement positive discipline methods (Michelle Handel, Fall, 2016).</p> <p>Professional development has been completed to learn the methods and best practices for teaching science and technology (Holy Cross School, 3/3/17).</p> <p>Professional development has been completed to learn strategies for working with diverse learners (Holy Cross School 3/3/17).</p>
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Strategy #3	Provide teachers with the skills/training for new technology tools
2016-17 Action	<p>Action Plan Progress</p> <p>Professional development has been completed to implement and facilitate independent math instruction through the Mathletics online learning software (Webinar, 3P Learning, 3/8/2017).</p> <p>Professional development has been completed to implement and to understand the data analysis portion of the STAR Assessments. (Two sessions of training during the 2016-17 school year).</p>

Goal #3. Improve course of study for high achievers through development of advanced curriculum and electives program.

Rationale for this Goal:

As a result of many staff meetings, the results of IOWA tests, student input, parent input and the SAC Strategic planning committee input our desire is to offer a more rigorous curriculum and enrichment program opportunities to ensure high achievement of all students.

Alignment with mission, philosophy, SLEs:

In keeping with our school’s mission of cultivating academic excellence, we desire to provide these program to meet the needs of our high achieving students. And much like our philosophy, with this goal we are striving to offer all students the opportunity to excel in their academic development. One of our main focuses in or SLEs is academic excellence of all JSS students.

Strategy #1	Create an advanced curriculum and electives program.
	Action Plan Progress Implementation begins 2017 school year

Strategy #2	Provide scheduled times to implement the newly developed program.
	Action Plan Progress TBD