

Our Journey...

BECOMING A COMPASSIONATE SCHOOL

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My message to my staff:

We are a Compassionate School. You must not lower your expectations for any student but rather, raise your understanding to help them achieve.

Why Did Manitou Park participate in this Project ?

Events that shaped our motivation to change:

- Lack of Parent Involvement- 25 families at events
- Angry- disenfranchised families
- Atmosphere of Disrespect
- Death threats
- Murder
- Gang Fights
- High levels of disciplinary actions and suspensions
- High number of special education referrals (EBD)

Kinds of students entering

- Hyper vigilant,
- Violent,
- Distractible,
- Behind academically – but not Special Education eligible,
- Receptive and expressive communication problems.



Demographics

Race/ethnicity

- Black/African American- 38%
- Hispanic/Latino of any race- 20%
- White- 26 %

Free and Reduced lunch - 84-90%

Enrollment - Pre-K- 5 is 620



HOW WE CHANGED...

- Attitude.
- Academic expectations.... *IBD, Science*
- Self-Regulation strategies
- Reduction in conflicts and referrals to office
- Creating a peaceful transition.
- Taking better care of ourselves
- Partnership with mental health professionals
- Create atmosphere of structure. CHAMPS
- Reactions to traumatic events changed.
- Increase in parent involvement.



How we changed...

Created atmosphere of structure

- Safe and Civil Schools-CHAMPS
- Expectations for each learning activity is taught

Self-Regulation strategies

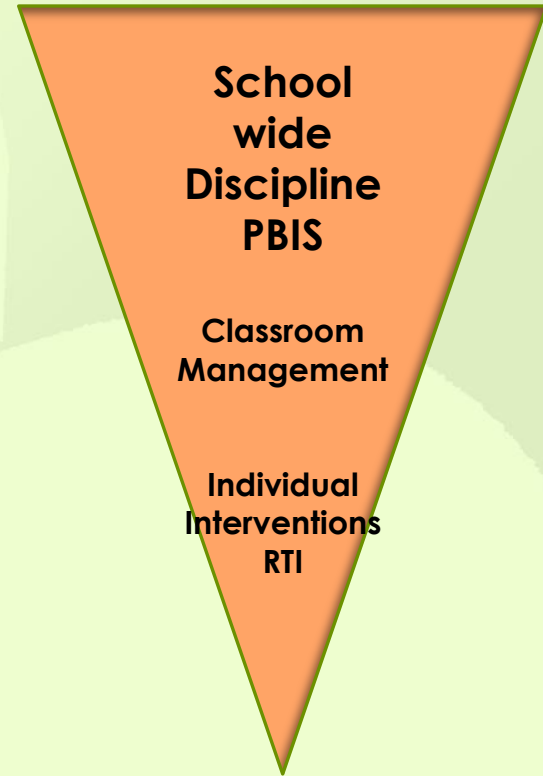
- Yoga calm, sc'ool moves, calming techniques.
- Setting up predictable environments

Reduction in conflicts and referrals to office

- Year prior to implementation (2007) 15 violent fights, 2010 – 2, and 2012 - just 1 in a school of over 600.

Increase in Parent Engagement

- Winter Program attendance :Families - 25 in 2006, 1,000 in 2012



Supportive Elements We Added

- Inquiry by design
- Student voice and engagement
- Tracking of students

Results

- Increase reading, math and science in fourth and fifth grades.
- 4th grade reading 20% increase 2012
- 5th grade math 22% increase 2012
- 5th grade science 2008 - 13% 2012 - 52%



BERC REPORT- SUPPORTIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

- According to classroom observations, 85% of classrooms at Manitou Park reflect a supportive learning environment where teachers assured that the classroom was a positive, inspiration, safe, and challenging academic environment.
- Manitou Park receive a 4 (out 4) on indicator: Safe and Orderly Environment.