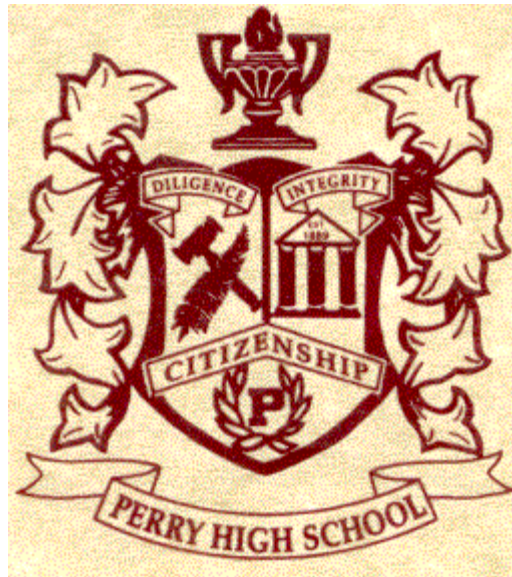


# **Perry High School Addendum 2008-09**



## **Rigor, Relevance, and RELATIONSHIPS**

## **Needs Assessment**

Upon further review of the 2008 Georgia High School Graduation Test (GHSGT) results and parent surveys conducted during the Spring of 2008, there are additional areas of need to support improvement in the English, Math, Science and Social Studies test scores and parental involvement. These needs will be detailed in this addendum.

### **Instruction**

Research shows that classroom assessments that provide accurate, descriptive feedback to students and involve them in the assessment process can improve learning (Black and William, 1998). As a result, we see the need for more assessment for learning in our English and Mathematics classrooms. Assessment for learning means more than just assessing student often, more than providing the teacher with assessment results to revise instruction. In assessment for learning, both teacher and student use classroom assessment information to modify teaching and learning activities. To achieve this goal, we believe it is imperative to increase the number of Senteo Classroom Response Systems to include all core academic classrooms. Student feedback indicates that they prefer the Senteo system over the CPS units, because they can see their answers on the screen.

Research shows that English language learners' scores on large-scale and classroom achievement tests are often low due to a number of issues beyond the knowledge, skills, and abilities that the test is intended to measure (Fairbairn, 2007). One method that can be used to ease this stress; allowing students to experience the testing conditions ahead of time. These conditions include elements such as the time constraints that students will face during the actual test, the seating arrangements

(especially if they are different from the usual classroom set-up), and the materials to be used during testing (answer sheets, calculators, etc.). Of particular interest to us is the use of calculators.

Student feedback after the GHSGT indicated many were required to use a calculator they were unaccustomed to using in class. We believe this may have hindered their success and feel there is a need to purchase “testing” calculators for all Mathematics teachers.

As we move forward with our need to infuse advancing technologies into our classroom instruction, more and more teachers are seeing the benefits of using Smart Technology’s products with students. We believe the continued purchase of SmartBoards, Airliners (and replacement batteries) and the Brigit conferencing software is essential to our goal of producing technologically savvy students in a Web 2.0 world. The goal is to not only provide an avenue for teachers to record their lessons for distribution on the Internet, we also want to provide online parent training, via the Brigit conferencing software, that will be presented live and/or recorded for viewing at a later time.

There has been a dramatic increase in the use of our facilities with the addition of our “new Commons area. These uses include: teacher training for our school and district personnel, parent meetings, awards banquets and other parental involvement activities. We realized a need for a larger format projection screen, a PA system and a modern computer that can handle the rigors of the advancing technologies we are using. For example, we purchased a software package last year called ArcView GIS. It is a graphics intensive, mapping program used for analyzing data and formulating

conclusions. The program is currently being used in the Science and Social Studies classrooms, but will start being used this year by administration to keep track of Title I technology inventory. Unfortunately, the two computers we use on a regular basis for training (Professional Learning Lab and Symposium) are inadequate to perform the tasks required by technologies like ArcView, SmartBoards, Sympodiums, etc.

The Projection screen and PA are needed to enhance the materials we present to parents in the commons. An 8-foot screen in a venue that large is not conducive to good communication.

### **Improve of Instruction Services**

Increasing the amount of technology being used in our classrooms has produced a need for professional learning. There are a number of teachers who voiced a desire to attend the GaETC (Georgia Educational Technology Consortium) Conference in Atlanta last fall. The conference is organized to present classroom technology integration strategies from teachers around the country. We believe that 1 or 2 teacher leaders need to attend this conference and present their experience to the staff during a faculty meeting. However, with NECC conference being held in Washington, DC, and the 2009 Model Schools Conference being held in Atlanta next summer, there is also a need for 1 or 2 of our teachers to attend these conferences.

Beginning with the FY2008 budget, we joined the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD). We have found the resources available from these two entities have greatly benefited our professional learning community. We feel there is a need to

renew these memberships annually to ensure we are up to date on the latest research based practices.

Perry High School has an ever increasing population of students from economically disadvantaged families and it is becoming more and more difficult for staff to relate to the students. We have a need to incorporate some “Rigor, Relevance and Relationships” training into our staff development. The materials produced by the International Center for Leadership in Education are excellent resources. However, it is imperative that we send at least two teacher leaders to the Model Schools Conference in Atlanta (June 29 – July 1, 2009) to listen to presentations from Model Schools from around the country.

### **Parent Involvement Coordinator**

We have not had a Parent Involvement Coordinator in the past. The increasing amount of documentation required to satisfy the Title I regulations predicates the hiring of a person for this job. We feel that an individual familiar with the community, with student(s) attending Perry High School would be beneficial. We have also discussed with Perry Middle School the possibility of splitting the salary of a person to work at Perry High School and Perry Middle School. The goal would be to improve the continuity between the two schools.

### **References**

- Black, P., & William D. (1998). Inside the black box: Raising standards through classroom assessment. *Phi Delta Kappan*, 80(2), 139-148.
- Fairbairn, Shelley (2007). Facilitating greater test success for English Language Learners. *Practical Assessment, Research & Evaluation*, 12(11).

## **Budget Narrative Perry High School – FY 09**

### **Schoolwide positions**

1. English teacher
  - a. Salary – \$34,700
  - b. Group Health – \$5,854
  - c. Social Security – \$2,653
  - d. Teacher Retirement – \$3,218
  
2. Social Studies teacher
  - a. Salary – \$28,259
  - b. Social Security – \$2,162

### **Function Code 1000**

This year we will use Schoolwide funding to support direct instruction by purchasing:

1. (2) – P4512D01 80 GB Micro Tower computers. One will be placed in the professional learning lab to support instruction on how to use the emerging technologies we are implementing and the other will be used in our multimedia podium that is used during gatherings in our Commons area. -- \$1,246
2. (1) Flat Screen monitor for above computer – \$195.83
3. (1) License for Adobe Acrobat Professional to improve parent and community member accessibility of Title I documents -- \$49.24
4. (1) 5WS12x12 Projection screen to be mounted in the commons area for student, parent and faculty gatherings – \$549.95
5. (300) TI - 30XIIS Scientific Calculators to support student success on the Mathematics portion of the GHSGT -- \$6,100
6. (1) -- Senteo Classroom Response System to improve the student participation in our 9<sup>th</sup> grade Biology classes. -- \$1,800
7. (11) -- Additional SmartBoards to complete the Math Department, nearly complete the English Department and start the next phase of our implementation the Science Department. -- \$11,209
8. (10) – Airliner batteries to support the aging batteries in Airliners that were purchased 3 or more years ago. -- \$395
9. (1) -- Califone PA300+UHF-P to be used to amplify presentations in the Commons during student, parent, and professional learning activities -- \$795

### **Function Code 2210**

This year we will use School-wide funding to support instructional services by:

1. Membership to ISTE -- \$195
2. Travel to NECC for one person in June 2009 -- \$1000
3. Registration for NECC -- \$209 (with ISTE membership discount)
4. Travel to one person to MSC in Atlanta -- \$740
5. Registration for MSC 2009 - \$550
6. Institutional Membership to ASCD -- \$200

**Function Code 2900**

This year our parent center will focus on providing better opportunities to communicate with parents. We will use schoolwide funds to:

1. Hire a new Parent Involvement Coordinator
  - a. Salary -- \$3,000 (10 hours a week, \$10/hr)
  - b. Social Security -- \$270
2. Develop and print a High School 101 handbook to help all incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders with the transition from middle school to high school -- \$1000
3. PIC Supplies (Paper, postage, etc.) to ensure proper communication with parents is taking place -- \$950
4. Purchase a magazine/Pamphlet rack for use in the new Parent Resource Center.