

PEQUANNOCK VALLEY SCHOOL

Ninth Quarter Report

November 2008

2008-2009 District Initiatives

- ❖ **Improve Student Achievement at PTHS**
- ❖ **Pass a Referendum for PTHS and PV Improvements**
- ❖ **Retain Quality Staff**
- ❖ **Solidify and Equalize Achievement in All Schools**
 - ❖ **Continue to Refine New PV Schedule**
 - ❖ **Continue focused PLC meetings at PV**
 - ❖ **Implement LEARNIA Benchmarking at PV**
 - ❖ **Continue PROPEL Program at PV**

2008-2009 PV School Initiatives

- ❖ **Maintain Momentum on Academic Achievement**
- ❖ **Continue to Refine New PV Schedule**
- ❖ **Continue focused PLC meetings at PV**
- ❖ **Implement Genesis Software**
- ❖ **Implement LEARNIA Benchmarking at PV**
- ❖ **Continue PROPEL Program at PV**
- ❖ **Renew efforts in Character Education**
- ❖ **Continue to focus on Drug and Alcohol Issues**
- ❖ **Celebrate special events and accomplishments**

2008-2009 PV School Initiatives

❖ Maintain Momentum on Academic Achievement

- ❖ Use available data to inform instruction**
- ❖ Active learning is still our focus**
- ❖ Teach what counts!**
- ❖ Use technology effectively to support learning**

❖ Continue to Refine New PV Schedule

- ❖ Continue to exploit Extended Time in Math and Language Arts.**
- ❖ Use blocked/non-blocked time in Social Studies and Science.**
- ❖ Continue to balance elective program in the total curriculum.**
- ❖ Explore possible schedule changes for 2009-2010.**

2008-2009 PV School Initiatives

- ❖ **Continue focused PLC meetings at PV**
 - ❖ **Work together to implement school initiatives**
 - ❖ **Distributed/collaborative leadership**
 - ❖ **Focus on Learning**
 - ❖ **Using data effectively and efficiently**
 - ❖ **Knowing students and colleagues**
- ❖ **Implement Genesis Student Management Package**
 - ❖ **Train the Trainers**
 - ❖ **Convert schedule to Genesis**
 - ❖ **Train the Teachers**
 - ❖ **Implement Attendance and Grading**
 - ❖ **Implement Parent Portal**

2008-2009 PV School Initiatives

❖ Implement LEARNIA Benchmarking at PV

- ❖ Identify LEARNIA Leaders**
- ❖ Create Implementation Plan**
- ❖ Train the Trainers, then teachers (in PLC)**
- ❖ Administer FORM A (Online and Classroom)**
- ❖ Create FORM C from Item Bank**
- ❖ Score CRs and enter online.**
- ❖ Use LEARNIA Results**

❖ Continue PROPEL Program at PV

- ❖ Assess Program Effectiveness**
- ❖ Request approval for sub hiring**
- ❖ Identify students**
- ❖ Train academic coaches**
- ❖ Develop Schedule and begin program**

2008-2009 PV School Initiatives

- ❖ **Renew efforts in Character Education**
 - ❖ **Introduce program to faculty**
 - ❖ **School Culture – FISH!**
 - ❖ **Programs for students**
 - ❖ **Advisory Program**
 - ❖ **Working with other schools**
 - ❖ **Elementary School Connections**
 - ❖ **Participation in Rutgers FCSCCE Project**
 - ❖ **Training at Rutgers**
 - ❖ **Sussex Ave School in Newark**

2008-2009 PV School Initiatives

❖ Continue to focus on Drug and Alcohol Issues

- ❖ RSDT Program**

- ❖ Red Ribbon Week Activities**

- ❖ Morris County Youth Drinking Coalition**

❖ Celebrate special events and accomplishments

2007-2008 OBJECTIVES FOR PV SCHOOL

NJASK8 Language Arts

**Baseline 2006-07 %
12.4%**

**Target 2007-08 %
17.5%**

**Actual 2007-08 %
25.5%**

**Converted 2007-08%
39.4%**

NJASK8 Mathematics

**Baseline 2006-07 %
33.9%**

**Target 2007-08%
39.0%**

**Actual 2007-08 %
36.4%**

**Converted 2007-08%
53.0%**

NJASK8 Science

**Baseline 2006-07 %
33.9%**

**Target 2007-08%
39.0%**

**Actual 2007-08 %
37.1%**

**Converted 2007-08%
37.1%**

TOTAL GRADE 8 Advanced Proficiency for 2007-08É

**Baseline 2006-07%
77.3%**

**Target 2007-08%
92.7%**

**Actual 2007-08 %
99.0%**

**Converted 2007-08%
129.5%**

2007-2008 OBJECTIVES FOR PV (ALL GRADES)

NJASK7 Language Arts

Baseline 2006-07 %	Target 2007-08 %	Actual 2007-08 %	Converted 2007-07 %
9.7%	14.8%	18.7%	25.7%

NJASK7 Mathematics

Baseline 2006-07 %	Target 2007-08%	Actual 2007-08 %	Converted 2007-07 %
14.6%	19.7%	33.9%	60.8%

TOTAL GRADE 7 Advanced Proficiency for 2007-08É

Baseline 2006-07%	Target 2007-08%	Actual 2007-08 %	Converted 2007-07 %
24.3%	34.5%	52.6%	86.5%

NJASK6 Language Arts

Baseline 2006-07 %	Target 2007-08 %	Actual 2007-08 %	Converted 2007-08 %
24.9%	30.0%	4.3%	25.5%

NJASK6 Mathematics

Baseline 2006-07 %	Target 2007-08%	Actual 2007-08 %	Converted 2007-08 %
24.9%	30.0%	33.5%	43.6%

TOTAL GRADE 6 Advanced Proficiency for 2007-08É

Baseline 2006-07%	Target 2007-08%	Actual 2007-08 %	Converted 2007-08 %
49.8%	60.0%	37.8%	79.1%

Target (Advanced Proficiency) 197.2%

Total Converted (Advanced Proficiency) 295.1%



Goals 2008-2009 : Pequannock Valley Middle School

Objective 2: Grade 8

By June 2009, there will be an increase in the percentage of Pequannock Township Middle School Students in grade 8 scoring advanced proficient in language arts, mathematics, and science as measured by the NJASK 8 scores as listed below.

NJASK 8 Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science

	2007-2008 percentage	2009 GOAL
Language Arts	25.3 %	26.9
Mathematics	36.4 %	38.7
Science	37.1 %	39.4
TOTAL	98.8 %	105 %

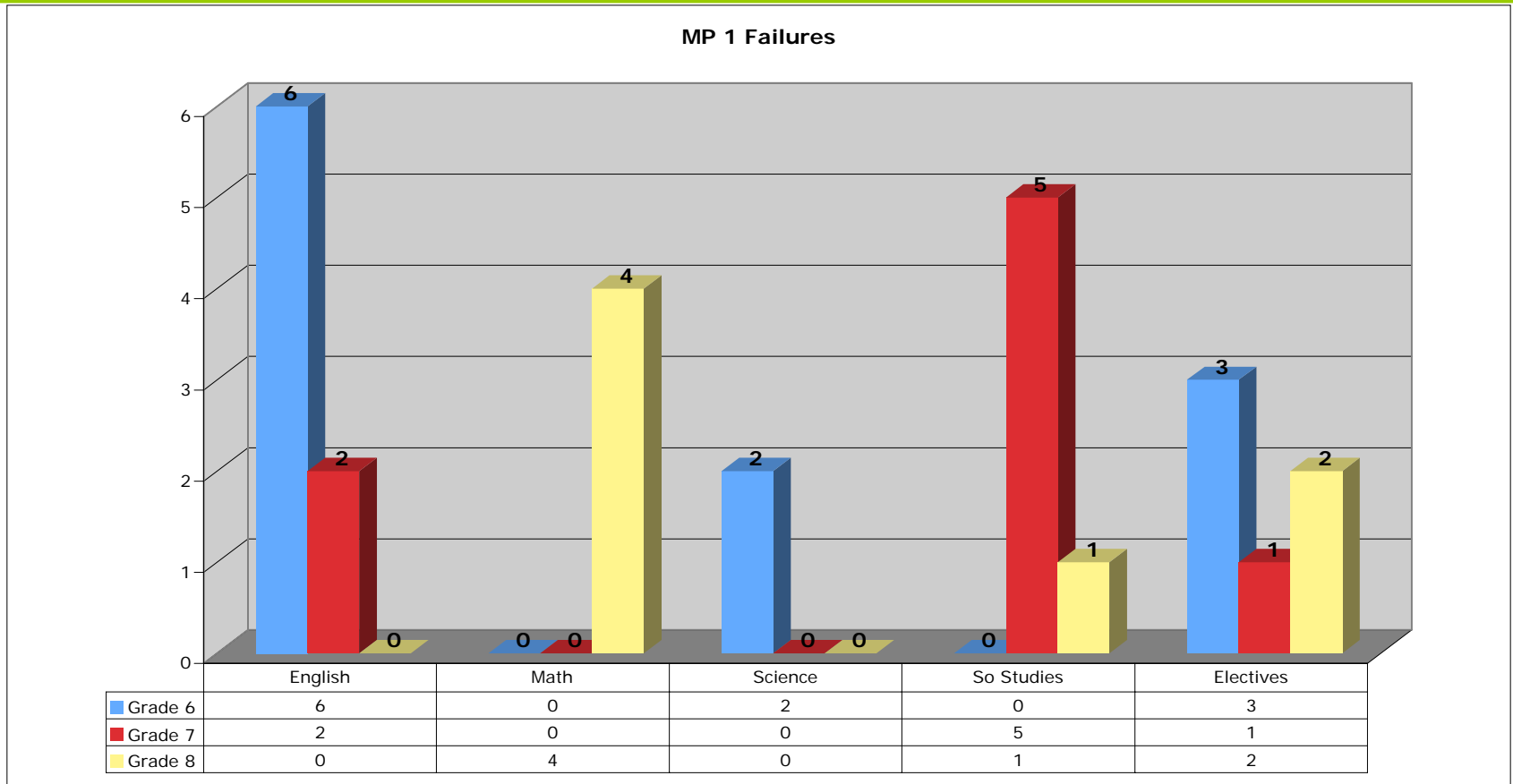
*New Scoring

Student Achievement

PV SCHOOL MP1 GRADE DISTRIBUTIONS BY SUBJECT BY GRADE LEVEL

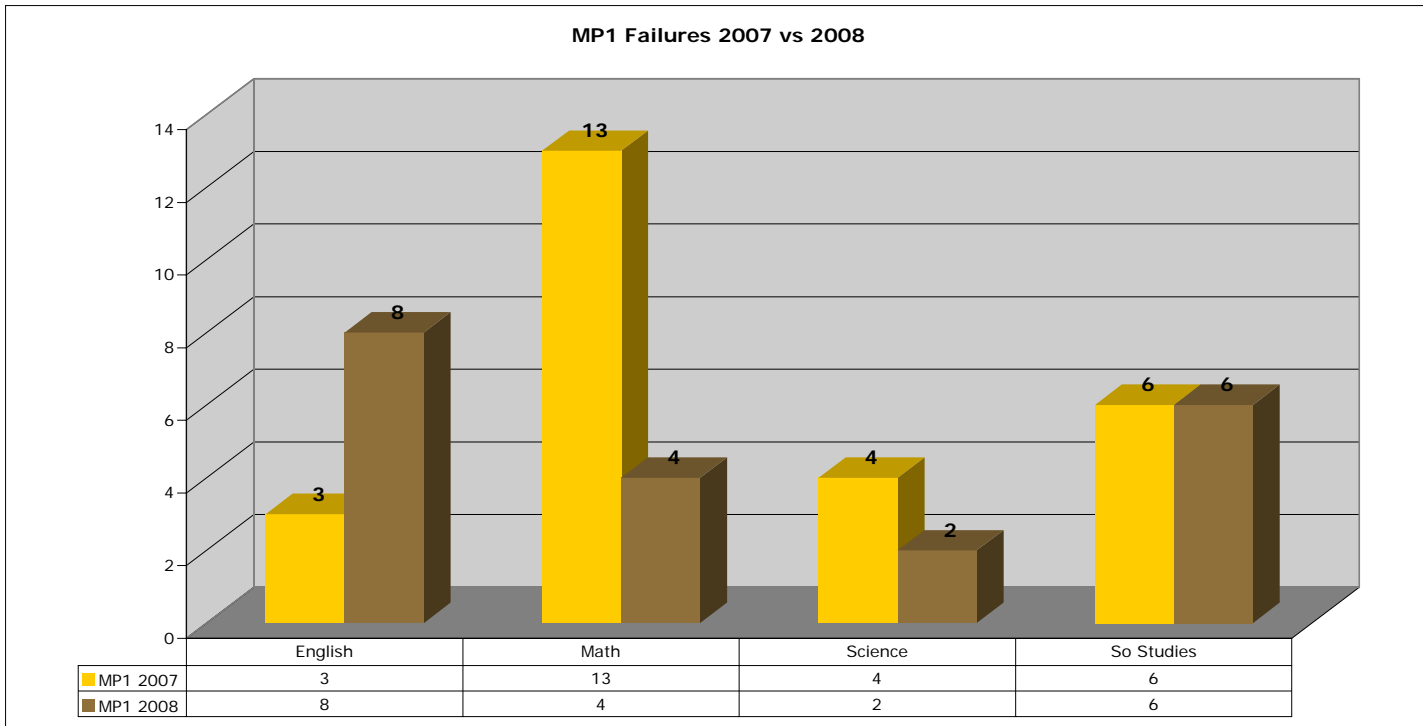
	ENROLL	A RANGE	A%	B RANGE	B%	C RANGE	C%	D RANGE	D%	F	F%
GR 6 ENGLISH	212	76	35.8%	92	43.4%	29	13.7%	10	4.7%	5	2.4%
GR 7 ENGLISH	186	77	41.4%	82	44.1%	20	10.8%	5	2.7%	2	1.1%
GR 8 ENGLISH	178	96	53.9%	64	36.0%	13	7.3%	5	2.8%	0	0.0%
ENGLISH TOTAL	576	249	43.2%	238	41.3%	62	10.8%	20	3.5%	7	1.2%
GR 6 MATH	211	117	55.5%	64	30.3%	27	12.8%	3	1.4%	0	0.0%
GR 7 MATH	185	67	36.2%	68	36.8%	40	21.6%	10	5.4%	0	0.0%
GR 8 MATH	178	49	27.5%	93	52.2%	26	14.6%	6	3.4%	4	2.2%
MATH TOTAL	574	233	40.6%	225	39.2%	93	16.2%	19	3.3%	4	0.7%
GR 6 SCIENCE	211	103	48.8%	74	35.1%	27	12.8%	5	2.4%	2	0.9%
GR 7 SCIENCE	186	105	56.5%	63	33.9%	17	9.1%	1	0.5%	0	0.0%
GR 8 SCIENCE	178	85	47.8%	52	29.2%	35	19.7%	6	3.4%	0	0.0%
SCIENCE TOTAL	575	293	51.0%	189	32.9%	79	13.7%	12	2.1%	2	0.3%
GR 6 SO STUDIES	212	164	77.4%	40	18.9%	6	2.8%	2	0.9%	0	0.0%
GR 7 SO STUDIES	186	41	22.0%	82	44.1%	47	25.3%	11	5.9%	5	2.7%
GR 8 SO STUDIES	179	68	38.0%	74	41.3%	33	18.4%	3	1.7%	1	0.6%
SO STUDIES TOTAL	577	273	47.3%	196	34.0%	86	14.9%	16	2.8%	6	1.0%

Student Achievement



This chart shows failures for MP1 in the various subjects in each grade. An interesting aspect of this chart is that there are more failures in Grade 6 than in Grade 7 or 8. This will bear watching.

Student Achievement



This chart compares failures by subject area for Marking Period 1 in 2007 with failures in Marking Period 1 in 2008. There is an overall reduction in failing grades even with a larger student population. It is significant to note the differences in English and Math failures in the two years.

LEARNIA Benchmarking

LEARNIA is a benchmark program which is based on the NJ Core Content Standards. This program has also been provided to two cohorts of schools as part of a five-year program sponsored by the NJ State Department of Education. Pequannock Valley School is a member of the second cohort of schools in the program.

LEARNIA replaces both of our previous benchmark programs because it has elements of each of those programs in it. The basis of the program is the FORM A and FORM B tests. These are pre-made based on the content standards for each of our grade levels. FORM A is essentially a pre-test of the standards to be taught in a given year. This test is administered in October. FORM B is the post-test version of this test, measuring the same material. For this reason, results on FORM A would be expected to be lower because much of the material on this test has yet to be taught. FORM B is expected to show growth over FORM A. FORM B will be administered in late February/early March.

LEARNIA Benchmarking

There is another element to LEARNIA, called FORM C. This element consists of tests made from item banks, similar to those in the Edusoft (Riverside) benchmarks. We will administer a FORM C test in December as an interim measure between FORM A and B. Our teachers will construct these tests from item bank questions.

Yet another possibility with LEARNIA is the ability for teachers to use item bank questions in their own classrooms to determine student understanding of material. We have purchased the iRespond System to allow for these questions to be used in an “Ask the Audience” fashion as is often seen on TV Quiz programs. This will provide teachers with immediate feedback as to what their students have learned. This is an exciting new technology which has many applications in lesson planning and presentation.

LEARNIA Benchmarking

The following spreadsheet details the statistics on FORM A tests given in Math and Reading in Grades 6, 7, & 8. These tests consisted of multiple choice questions as well as constructed response (open-ended) questions. This data is incomplete for Grade 7 and Grade 8 Reading at this time because teachers are still scoring and entering constructed response results. The significance of this test will be apparent when comparing these results with FORM B which is the post-test version of this test.

LEARNIA RESULTS - FORM A - PRETEST FALL 2008

	GRADE 6 MATH		GRADE 7 MATH		GRADE 8 MATH	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Advanced (86-100)	1	>1%	6	3%	15	9%
Proficient (71-85)	28	13%	33	18%	36	22%
Basic (55-70)	65	31%	47	26%	44	27%
Below Basic (0-54)	115	55%	93	52%	71	43%
	209		179		166	

	GRADE 6 READING		GRADE 7 READING		GRADE 8 READING	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Advanced (86-100)	14	7%	2	2%	4	3%
Proficient (71-85)	66	31%	31	30%	24	20%
Basic (55-70)	72	34%	40	39%	64	53%
Below Basic (0-54)	58	28%	29	28%	29	24%
	210		102		121	

Student Achievement

**Pequannock Township Public Schools
Study Island Report
% Correct Ninth Quarter (MP1 2008-09)**

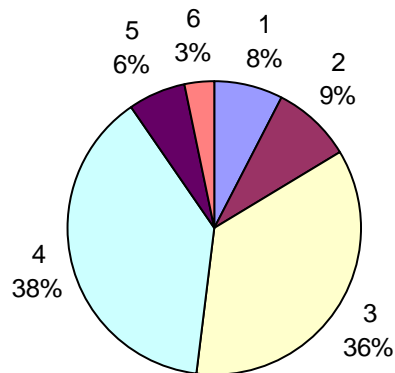
Grade	Total Students in Grade	Questions	% Correct
Grade 6	212	On Grade Level:	28,690 65.9%
		Off Grade Level:	10,125 66.8%
Grade 7	186	On Grade Level:	33,001 78.5%
		Off Grade Level:	16,421 68.7%
Grade 8	180	On Grade Level:	23,594 75.3%
		Off Grade Level:	17,645 67.6%
TOTAL	578	102,907	71.4%

***Study Island** is a program that is based on the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and allows students to answer questions in Math and Language in Grades 6 -7-8 and in Science in Grade 8. The program is web-based and students can use it at school or at home. Students and teachers began using this program as soon as school started. Compared to MP1 of 2007-2008, both usage and correct response rates are up!*

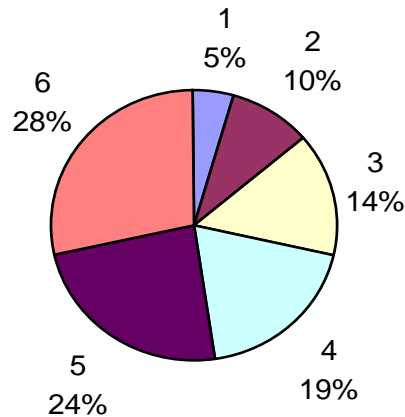
Active Learning- MP1 2007*

Level of Engagement	All Subjects Level of Engagement	Core Subjects Level of Engagement	Non Core Subjects Level of Engagement
1	11	11	0
2	13	13	0
3	67	52	15
4	72	56	16
5	9	9	0
6	15	5	10

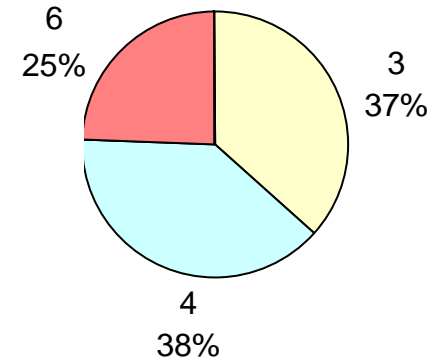
**Level of Engagement
All Subjects**



**Level of Engagement
Core Subjects**



**Level of Engagement
Non-Core Subjects**

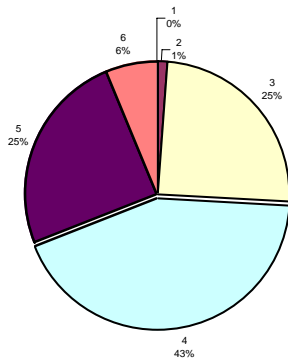


* These charts are based on IPI observations where many short walk-in observations create a picture of the level of engagement in the school's classrooms – This walk-through occurred in October and nine administrators participated.

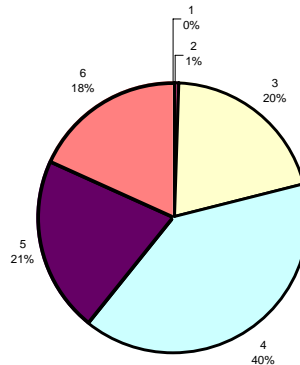
Active Learning- MP1 2008*

Level of Engagement	All Subjects Level of Engagement	Core Subjects Level of Engagement	Non Core Subjects Level of Engagement
1	0	0	0
2	1	1	0
3	22	19	3
4	44	33	11
5	23	19	4
6	20	5	15

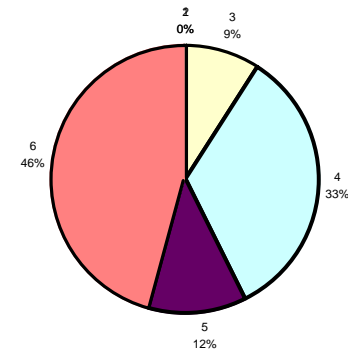
**Level of Engagement
All Subjects**



**Level of Engagement
Core Subjects**



**Level of Engagement
Non-Core Subjects**



* These charts are based on IPI observations where many short walk-in observations create a picture of the level of engagement in the school's classrooms. This walk-through occurred in October 2008.

2007 to 2008 MP1 IPI Comparison*

Level of Engagement	All Subjects Level of Engagement						Core Subjects Level of Engagement						Non Core Subjects Level of Engagement					
	MP1-2007		MP1-2008				MP1-2007		MP1-2008				MP1-2007		MP1-2008			
1	11	6%	11	0	0%	0	11	8%	11	0	0%	0	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
2	13	7%	26	1	1%	2	13	9%	26	1	1%	2	0	0%	0	0	0%	0
3	67	36%	201	22	20%	66	52	36%	156	19	25%	57	15	37%	45	3	5%	9
4	72	39%	288	44	40%	176	56	38%	224	33	43%	132	16	39%	64	11	19%	44
5	9	5%	45	23	21%	115	9	6%	45	19	25%	95	0	0%	0	23	40%	115
6	15	8%	90	20	18%	120	5	3%	30	5	6%	30	10	24%	60	20	35%	120

* These charts compare the IPI ratings from MP1 in 2007 through MP4 in 2008. There is a significant shift in IPI percentages toward more active classrooms. There was a another increase in the percentage of ratings of 5 and 6. The chart below shows an overall 300% increase in the incidence of these ratings from MP1 in 2007 to MP 4 in 2008. These are the ratings indicating student-centered classes. It is significant to note that during the IPI visit, we were conducting LEARNIA testing - an automatic rating of "3"

	All Subjects		Core Subjects		Non-Core Subjects	
	MP1-2007	MP1-2008	MP1-2007	MP1-2008	MP1-2007	MP1-2008
Ratings of 5 or 6	13%	39%	9%	31%	24%	75%
Increase of:		300%		344%		313%

Improvement Strategies

The PROPEL Program:

This program was implemented at the beginning of the third marking period. PROPEL stands for “PReparing Our Pupils for Excellence in Learning.” Four academic coaches worked with students of all ability levels to help them succeed. A student survey at the end of the program indicated that our students felt confident that PROPEL had helped them adequately prepare for state testing.

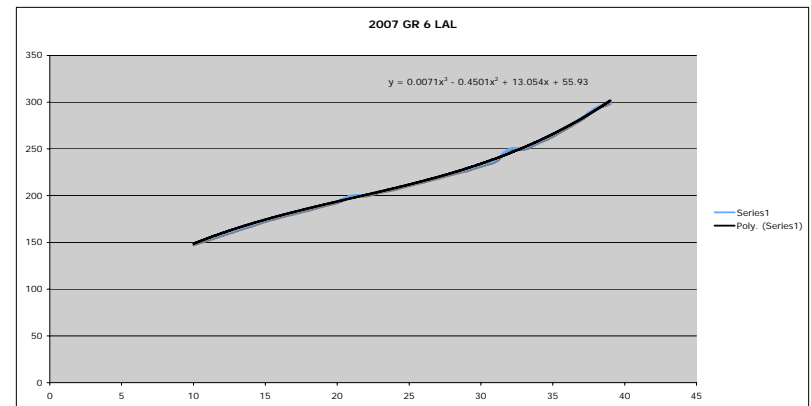
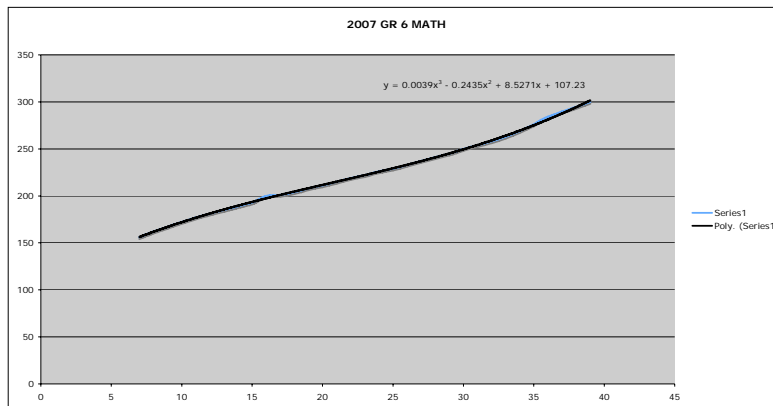
This program focused on addressing skills that would be helpful in general and would apply to standardized testing. Typical sessions lasted 20 minutes and consisted of a diagnostic test on Study Island, a short writing exercise, Math problem solving, or some form of direct instruction.

Following testing, we analyzed the test results, comparing the performance of students who participated in PROPEL with those that did not. In every case, PROPEL students showed greater growth than those students not in the program. Based on this analysis, we are currently planning to implement PROPEL again, starting in January 2009.

Improvement Strategies

The PROPEL Program:

In order to analyze the results of PROPEL, we needed to relate the scores from 2008 to the scores from 2007. In making this comparison, it was necessary to use converted scores which were derived using the following equations from the 2007 test. The following graphs show the equations used to convert scale scores from raw scores for the 2007 NJASK tests. These equations were derived from available test data (raw score/scale score comparisons). After converting the raw scores on the 2008 NJASK tests, these equations were used to convert the raw scores to scale scores using the same “cuts” as were used in 2007. By using these converted scores, we can make a comparison of performance from 2007 to 2008.



As an example, these are the curves and equations used to convert sixth grade raw scores. Equations were also derived for seventh and eighth grade raw scores.

Improvement Strategies

The PROPEL Program:

Using the converted scale scores, we analyzed the test results, comparing the performance of students who participated in PROPEL with those that did not. In every case, PROPEL students showed greater growth than those students not in the program.

GRADE 8:	LAL	MATH
Total Performance (includes all students)	+16.8	+26.10
Grade 8 Non-PROPEL Students	+15.89	+23.30
Grade 8 PROPEL Students	+17.61	+30.05
Grade 8 PROPEL (On Concerns List)	+11.77	+29.39
Grade 8 PROPEL (On Watch List and unlisted)	+25.86	+30.97
GRADE 7:	LAL	MATH
Total Performance (includes all students)	+6.81	+18.10
Grade 7 Non-PROPEL Students	+4.99	+17.37
Grade 7 PROPEL Students	+13.69	+20.85
GRADE 6:	LAL	MATH
Total Performance (includes all students)	+0.34	+4.93
Grade 6 Non-PROPEL Students	+0.03	+3.65
Grade 6 PROPEL Students	+1.73	+10.05

School Culture

Statistics for 9/3/08 – 11/5/08

MP 1 Statistics

❖ Number of Suspensions: 8 ISS, 5 OSS

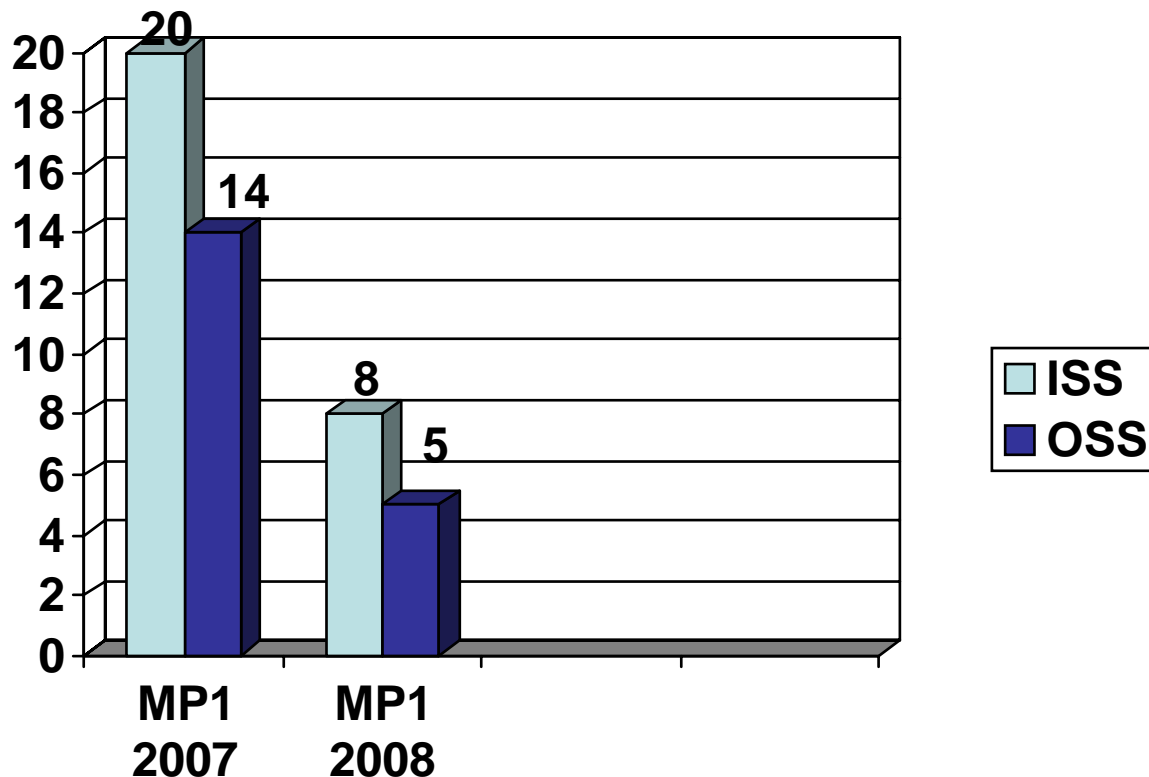
- ❖ These figures include suspensions resulting from verbal or physical harassment or some other form of physical contact.

❖ Number of Disciplinary Referrals: 92

- ❖ Does not include such issues as dress guidelines, cell phone visibility, unprepared for PE, or gum, though these issues are still addressed and documented.
- ❖ Referrals (including those resulting in suspensions) included such offenses as rudeness, not following directions, hallway and classroom safety, name-calling, general classroom disruption, and skipping teacher/central detentions.

School Culture

ISS/OSS Comparisons



The incidences of ISS and OSS were higher in the First Marking Period during 2007 than in the First Marking Period of 2008. Last year, we began the year by making a statement about the unacceptability of certain behaviors. Through last year and into this year, we believe that students have learned this stricter standard and are complying in their behavior.

School Culture

We have identified **Teacher Satisfaction** as an objective for this school year. In November, we conducted a “Teacher Satisfaction Survey” during our faculty meeting and these are the results...

Average Numerical Rating on a scale of 1 to 10 (10 being most satisfied): **8.44**

Frequency of Ratings: **94%** of the ratings were either **8, 9, or 10**.

Most frequently mentioned issues that would improve satisfaction:

- ✓ Increased availability of technology (Laptops, LCD Projectors, SmartBoards)
- ✓ Smaller class sizes for electives.
- ✓ Better professional development opportunities in technology and other subjects.
- ✓ Better articulation of curriculum and programs: ie Grade 5 to 6, Grade 8 to 9.
- ✓ More appreciation/recognition programs.
- ✓ More administrative feedback on classroom activities.

School Culture

One program that has great potential to have a positive effect on school culture is the FISH! Program. This phenomenon comes from the Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle. It is a motivational program that helps organizations look at values and attitudes which directly affect the workplace. We are using ideas from FISH! Culture to prompt discussion at our faculty meetings.



The four tenets:

- ©Be There
- ©Choose Your Attitude
- ©Make Their Day
- ©Play

Other Activities

- **Character Education:**

- Rutgers FCSCCE Project:**

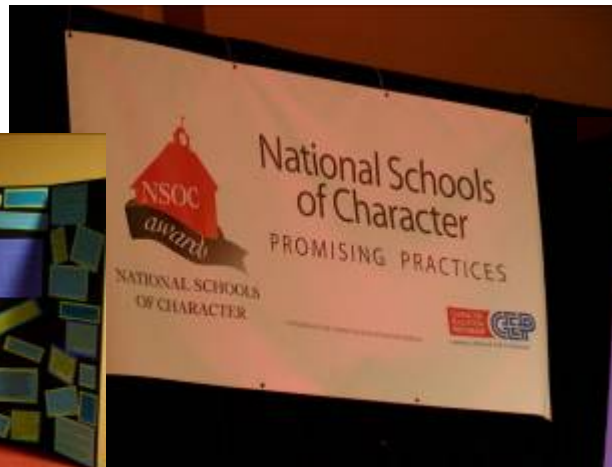
- We are coaching the Summit Avenue School in Newark during the 2008-2009 School Year. As an experienced coaching team, we will also be working with three other coaching teams to provide training in the coaching model.
 - We had our first meeting with the Sussex Ave School staff in November and we are planning several joint activities which will involve our staff and students in this project. We will host the Sussex Ave Team at PV in January.
 - Two projects are already underway, a writing project and a blogging project. In both of these projects, students will have the opportunity to share ideas with their counterparts at the other school.

Other Activities

- **Character Education:**
Two More CEP Best Practice Awards



Our best practices represented at the Poster Show.



Receiving our awards at the Awards Ceremony.

Other Activities

- **Drug and Alcohol Initiatives**

- RSDT - We continue the Random Drug Testing Program with approximately 80% participation in both schools. We have increased the sampling rate to 30%. We have applied for Lab Licenses for PTHS and PV School pursuant to the changes in regulation.
- Red Ribbon Week - Several activities were planned for Red Ribbon Week in October. These included appearances Matt Bellace and Jesse's Journey. We also administered surveys for the Partnership for a Drug Free NJ and our annual ADA Survey.
- Morris County Youth Drinking Coalition - Dr Trusheim represents the educational sector in this county-wide organization. This group presents Town Meetings about the alcohol problem in various sectors of our society and champions programs such as Key Registration, Social Hosting Laws, and Private Property ordinances.

Other Activities

Citizenship: Learning to be civic-minded and responsible

PV School students participated in a state-wide Mock Presidential Election. Our students were engrossed in the candidates and their positions on important issues. At the end of October, our students were able to cast their vote for Obama or McCain.

Mock Election 2008



PV's election results mirrored the actual election with Barack Obama gaining 55% of our votes with 45% for John McCain.



Our votes were tallied with other schools in New Jersey. Obama carried the student vote in the state as well.



Other Activities



Walk to School Day



Back to School Night



“Remote Control” Assembly



“Red Ribbon Week”



Class Parties



YEA Youth Summit