

## EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE LIMITATIONS AND STRENGTHS

### AREAS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

Students arriving to the high school are academically unprepared. Of the 2006-07 (426 total) freshmen, 76 failed one or more of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade academic classes. The F's totaled 131 with the following distribution:

Special education staff is not being used to its fullest potential.

African Americans are performing lower on the following SOL tests:

- Earth Science
- English (Reading)
- World History
- World History II

ESL students are lacking support in majority or core areas.

No intervention in place during discipline process.

### EVIDENCE

# of F's	# of students
1	35
2	28
3	10
4	3

Current situation:

English: 83 SPED students; one full-time SPED teacher, three SPED teachers with one class each; one para-educator.

Science: 98 SPED students; one full-time SPED teacher; one para-educator.

Social Studies: 93 SPED students; two full-time SPED teachers; one SPED teacher with one class; one para-educator.

Math: 135 SPED students; two full-time SPED teachers; one SPED teacher with one class; one para-educator.

SOL test results show 18% fewer African American students pass tests that require reading, comprehension, and word knowledge. In the area of English (reading), 30% fewer pass the test.

SOL scores indicate an average of 50% pass rate.

- No conflict resolution
- No peer mediation
- No anger management
- No behavior modifications

## AREAS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

Limited Alternative Education Program.

No in school remediation – which leads to frustration, students cannot complete the assignments, behavior problems.

Out of school suspension is **NOT** a deterrent when they can make the work up with no behavior modification requirements.

No semester long transition program for upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to help alleviate behavioral issues.

## EVIDENCE

Our AEP is limited to 10-15 students  
Cannot continue Year to Year (zero Graduate)  
Does not include Special Ed. Services  
Needs Mission, Philosophy, Vision statement. Needs Introduction of Best Practices. Needs SPED teacher.

General research shows that 85% of discipline referrals are from academic frustration – VDOE

Students who were assigned 6 or more days of SRC or OSS had an average cumulative GPA of 1.58 compared to the overall 2.79 GPA of the student body in the 2005-06 school year.

Fifteen students had a repeat 10 day OSS for the 2005-2006 school year.

Sixty students were assigned 11 or more days of OSS for the 2005-06 school year.

Ninety-four students were assigned one 10 day OSS for the 2005-06 school year.

Eliminated Freshman Transition which was **NOT** comprehensive.

Eliminated “School Within a School”  
Eliminated Counseling Center

Two-Thousand ninety-five discipline referrals for freshman compared to 549 discipline referrals for seniors in the 2005-06 school year.

## AREAS IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

There are not enough security devices (video cameras and walkie talkies), and/or such devices are not placed appropriately to provide sufficient coverage in high risk area.

Doorways into both buildings are unlocked during the day, which allows free and easy access and entry into the school building by anyone off the street.

There is a consistent time frame when Cougar assistants and administrators are regularly unavailable to faculty and staff in cases of emergency.

Faculty and staff at PCHS do not regularly practice Schedule Green – **Campus Lockdown Crisis Drills**. In light of current situations in schools across the country this could prove to be a fatal mistake.

Inadequate policies regarding students with alcohol abuse.

Teen pregnancy is rising.

## EVIDENCE

There are no security devices in place in the SRC and PCAC areas. Cameras in place in other areas need to be repositioned to focus on restroom entrances. Presently the number of cameras as well as their locations is inadequate to meet all needs.

No one in PCAC or SRC has a radio to communicate with security. Students in both areas can become volatile and security cannot be reached by phone in a timely manner, as Administrators are often unavailable.

People enter and exit through side doors as well as front entrances to both buildings. Parents often come to classrooms without going to the office for a visitor's pass. There is nothing in place to prevent anyone access to the buildings. This is especially critical in the rear of the technical center where PCAC students enter the school. This is a popular exit that students use to sneak out of school.

During lunches, most of the Administrative staff and Cougar assistants are serving lunch duty in the Commons area and are not available to teachers when incidents occur.

**A Schedule Green – Campus Lockdown Crisis Drill** is part of our Emergency Plan, but is not practiced on a regular basis.

Alcohol offenses have doubled from 4 incidents 04-05 to 9 for 05/06.

Teen pregnancies during 04/05 – 33  
Teen pregnancies during 05/06 - 41

## **AREAS OF STRENGTHS**

Pulaski County High School offers a wide range of technical education opportunities as well as a vocational and job placement counselor.

Sixty – three percent of the students plan to attend a two- or four-year institution. There is also increased opportunity for students to enroll in Dual Enrollment classes in order to obtain college credit.

Each classroom has the same rules so students expect consistency.

Promotes positive character.  
Reflects school values.  
Ties into “Character Counts”.

There is a School Resource Office on site.

There have been changes in parking and traffic patterns.

## **EVIDENCE**

Pulaski County High School course offerings.

Pulaski County High School course offerings including enrollment in Middle College.

Rules posted in classrooms.  
Rules explained in each class.

Cougar Pride poster throughout the school.

SRO officer is housed in the Technical Education Building and is on school grounds five days a week. Security cameras and the on-site deputy along with cougar assistants.

The changes in parking and traffic patterns have alleviated traffic congestion in the morning and afternoon on school grounds. This has minimized traffic jams and accidents.

