



**West Athens Elementary School**

Board District 1 (LaMotte) | Local District 8 (Romero)

West Athens Elementary School.....REWRITE

**RATIONALE**

- Overall, the plan is well-written and includes many current District initiatives such as Full Option Science System (FOSS), Specially Designed Academic Instruction in English (S.D.A.I.E.) and Thinking Maps. One exemplary element of the plan is that the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) are integrated throughout. Also, the assessment plan is aligned to current state standards, but the goal is to begin transition to the CCSS by using Running Records to measure a student’s use of text complexity and level of reading comprehension.
- Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are used extensively to focus on Lesson Study, discuss instructional strategies, review student work, and design learning activities. As part of professional development, teachers will keep a data notebook to help inform instruction over the course of the year. Additional time will be provided to teachers for studying common assessments, developing common grading policies, and incorporating assessment writing skills across the curriculum.
- Park Western Elementary School is noted as a model school with which West Athens Elementary will partner and learn, but it is not clear exactly how the two schools will work together to support student achievement at West Athens Elementary.
- The proposal references adopting the Local Initiative School (LIS) governance model; a faculty vote must be taken before this governance model is fully implemented. It is also important to note that the majority of teachers participating in the advisory vote process indicated that they did not support the plan.

**NEXT STEPS**

- Approval is contingent upon the enactment by UTLA of all waivers requested by the design team.
- Rewrite portions of the plan to address the following:
  - Clearly define how West Athens Elementary School and Park Western Elementary School will work together in support of student achievement.
  - What aspects of the Park Western instructional program will West Athens emulate? Why?
  - Conduct a vote for adoption of the LIS model in accordance with the Local Stabilization and Empowerment Agreement.
- Service Plan for Special Education – the team must provide further clarification in the plan.
- The deadline to submit all revisions is no later than **5:00 PM on April 27, 2012**. Detailed information will be provided to the design team via a letter from the PSC team. Additionally, a representative from the Intensive Support and Intervention Team or the Superintendent’s Office will be assigned to support you throughout the rewrite process.