

Support for Struggling Learners

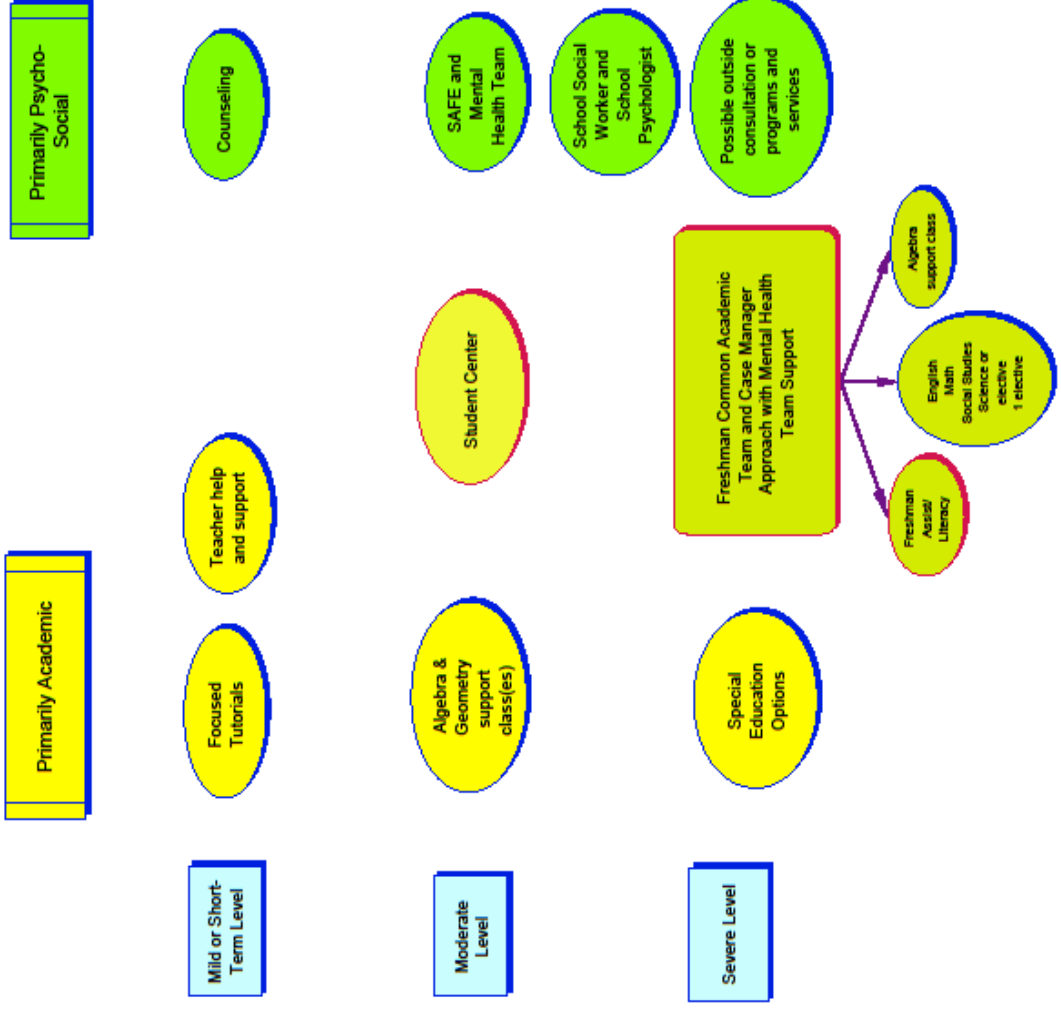
A Grosse Pointe Public School System Success Story

June 28, 2010

The Need

- The district has always had students whose learning needs were greater than those of the general population.
- Increases in the challenge level of the district curriculum widened the gap between district expectations and the readiness of some students.
- While still small, the numbers of the district's struggling learners increased and a workgroup of teachers, counselors, administrators, social workers and psychologists felt that it was urgent that the needs of those groups of students be addressed and developed a plan.

Options for Support of Struggling Learners



Freshman Assist: Reading Results

Note: Percentages are rounded and therefore don't always add to 100% for each school.

Growth	North		South		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Not calculable	6	N/A	1	N/A	7	N/A
Less than 1 year	7	33%	4	36%	11	34%
1 to 2 years	3	14%	3	27%	6	19%
2 to 3 years	2	10%	0	0	2	6%
3 to 4 years	1	5%	2	18%	3	9%
4 to 5 years	2	10%	0	0	2	6%
5 to 6 years	5	24%	0	0	5	16%
6 to 7 years	1	5%	2	18%	3	9%
Total calculable	21		11		32	100%
Total students	27		12		39	

Freshman Assist Results

- 66% of the students whose scores could be calculated (i.e. took both the exam in the spring of both year) made 1 or more year's growth.
- Almost half the students (47%) made growth of 2 or more years.
- A quarter of the students (25%) made growth of 5 to 7 years!
- Next, students will either
 - Continue to Sophomore Assist
 - Graduate from Freshman Assist but receive a period of support in Student Center
 - Graduate from Freshman Assist and enroll in a regular course load

Sophomore Assist

- Smaller number of students with greater learning needs.
 - May have entered the district even later.
 - May have additional challenges.

Growth	Number	Percentage
Not calculable	1	N/A
Less than one year	11	69%
1 to 2 years	4	25%
2 to 3 years	1	6%
Total	17	100%

Update on the first cohort

- The first cohort of students in the Academic Support Program at North just finished their senior year.
- Their grades were higher than would have been expected from their entering skills.
- Their behavior was better than is usual for students who struggle.
- All but one graduated on time.

The wonderful teachers

- North:
 - Kate Murray
 - Geoffrey Young
- South
 - April Sayer
 - Jodi Stevens