

2023 – 2024 Building Needs Assessment

Section 1: Student Needs.

1. As of September 20, 2022 there are 181 students in attendance at Southwestern Heights High School.
2. Currently there are 133 students that meet the definition of at-risk.
3. Southwestern Heights has 30 high school students that are on an IEP.
4. Approximately 59 students are English Language Learners.
5. Last year our building was 67% percent Hispanic. The disparities we have with our ELL students are in the areas of reading, math, and SEL. We have created ESL reading classes and have purchased FastBridge to address these concerns. We also offer ESL math and science classes. We have implemented the MTSS model in English classrooms in a better effort to address the reading concern. Our plans are to start implementing more MTSS strategies for all students and more Tier based interventions in advisory.
6. The BOE has approved Animal Science and Horticulture classes to count as a third science credit for those students that are in need, rather than them having to take Chemistry, Physics or Human Anatomy.
7. There are also disparities with our Special Education population in both reading and math. We have implemented the MTSS model in English classrooms in a better effort to address the reading concern. IEP students receive paraprofessional support, as well as pull out time in the resource room. The staff accommodates these students based upon their individual needs outlined in IEP.
8. We have seen a rise in SEL needs in the past few years that have only increased due to Covid-19. We have hired a full time social worker to help our families.

Section 2: Staff Needs.

1. All of our licensed teachers are designated as highly qualified and properly assigned.
2. Each teacher is given one hour of planning time per day.
3. The high school currently uses 2 paraprofessionals. Both are used in the special education department.
4. Southwestern Heights employs current technology. A new computer lab was recently opened as a result of new construction. Students have the opportunity to use one of three different computer labs. SWH is 1-1 with chromebooks. Administrators use iPads and Chromebooks for both informal and formal teacher evaluations.
5. The district has initiated a one-to-one student technology initiative with Chromebooks.
6. Classroom teachers use HoverCam document presenters, powerpoint presentations, as well as other technology programs in their daily lessons. The district has purchased Smart Panels for every classroom.
7. Southwestern Heights High School employs one full time counselor, one school nurse, one librarian and one library aide.
8. The High School has hired a half time math teacher to fill the need of increased class sizes in that area.
9. SWH has partnered with SCCC to offer more CTE courses onsite. SCCC will also offer Tier I classes to SWH students.

Section 3: Curriculum Needs.

1. Curriculum is aligned with state standards, as well as within the district.
2. We offer an in-house Advisory period to assist students academically, as well as address social/emotional needs and student's individual plans of study. Students stay with the same advisor for 4 years in HS.
3. We offer Applied Math I and II courses for those students who need more math assistance and are not ready for Algebra courses. We offer Practical English I and II courses for those students who are in need. Practical classes allow for smaller class sizes and address specific ability levels of the students. We also offer ESL science courses for those students in need, which addresses the specific ability level of the students.
4. Currently our technology is appropriate. We have fully implemented the 1-1 Chromebook initiative. We also allow students to take their Chromebooks home. We work to stay on the cutting edge, as technology constantly changes. We update technology as needed. Our district technology plan is approved.

Section 4: Facility Needs.

1. Our building currently services 181 high school students. There is adequate space, at this time, for all of our students. As mentioned earlier, Southwestern Heights has constructed three new classrooms for our students, one of which is a computer lab.
2. The High School has undergone a major heat and air renovation recently. This has made the building temperatures more comfortable, controllable and conducive for learning.

3. Regular facility updates are made as needs arise and funds are available. Carpet was just replaced in the junior high building. Lockers were refurbished in the high school building. The JH and HS updated/upgraded security camera systems and intercom/clock systems in 2020.
4. Our building was repainted and sandblasted in the summer of 2021.
5. The football fields have both been reseeded to provide a better experience for our athletes.
6. The front lawn was resodded in the Spring of 2022.
7. We are struggling with water usage and water availability but hope to remedy that with the purchase of new land and water rights.

Section 5: Parental Needs.

1. Our teachers have open lines of communication with our school and staff. We hold regular parent-teacher conferences (2 each school year). The school offers parents an opportunity to be involved in support groups; such as booster club and site council. Our school also holds district and building site council meetings.
2. Our school district uses the PowerSchool system, which allows parents to obtain grades, assessment scores, attendance information, etc. via the internet. We also notify families of events, activities, school closings, attendance concerns and student bills using the PowerSchool program. The district is also working to allow parents to pay those bills online.
3. Certain programs also make use of regular home visits to communicate with parents and students.
4. The HS Principal and Counselor meet with the parents of incoming freshmen annually.
5. Principals and counselors meet annually with the parents of incoming students to review handbook policies, academic requirements and answer questions.

Section 6: High Schools.

1. The graduation rate for 2005 was 87.5%
2. The graduation rate for 2006 was 97.1%
3. The graduation rate for 2007 was 95.6%
4. The graduation rate for 2008 was 90.0%
5. The graduation rate for 2009 was 96.9%.
6. The graduation rate for 2010 was 84.9% (new 4-year cohort data)
7. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2011 was 97.3%.
8. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2012 was 97.6%
9. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2013 was 89.1%
10. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2014 was 91.1%.
11. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2015 was 81.4%.
12. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2016 was 84.3%.
13. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2017 was 95.9%.
14. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2018 was 91.1%.
15. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2019 was 100%.
16. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2020 was 94.1%.
17. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2021 was 84.4%
18. The 4 year cohort graduation rate for 2021 was 92.5%
19. The dropout rate for 2005 was 0.7
20. The dropout rate for 2006 was 1.3
21. The dropout rate for 2007 was 0.3
22. The dropout rate for 2008 was 0.0
23. The dropout rate for 2009 was not available from KSDE.
24. The dropout rate for 2010 was not available from KSDE.
25. The dropout rate for 2011 was 0.0.
26. The dropout rate for 2012 was 0.7.
27. The dropout rate for 2013 was 0.3.
28. The dropout rate for 2014 was 1.3.
29. The dropout rate for 2015 was 1.7.
30. The dropout rate for 2016 was 0.7.
31. The dropout rate for 2017 was 0.7.
32. The dropout rate for 2018 was 0.3.
33. The dropout rate for 2019 was 0.4.

34. The dropout rate for 2020 was 0.7
35. The dropout rate for 2021 was 1.4
36. The dropout rate for 2020 was 0

Overall:

1. The Principal, JH and HS Counselors, and Superintendent were involved in helping determine the needs of this attendance center.