Maybrook Elementary School, Valley Central

Included in Maybrook’s Strategic Improvement Plan are the principal’s reflections and recommendations, in which she analyzes the school’s progress in meeting each of four Action Monitoring Plans.

PART IV – Reflections/Recommendations

In addressing our Action Monitoring Plan for ELA, we have done a much better job with consistent use of our Reading Response Journals/Reader’s Notebook. Rubrics were developed with K – 2 working as one group and Grades 3 – 5 in another. Interactive Read Alouds are now being used effectively by all including our librarian. Daily editing of paragraphs has become routine. Additionally, we have been reflecting on student writing and have decided that additional structure was needed in Writing Workshop. We feel that so many of our students have limited vocabularies as well as experience backgrounds, therefore, a greater degree of modeling and some changes in structure are now being put in place and will be continued next year.

In our Action Monitoring Plan for math, all the three action steps are in progress. Despite work on higher level thinking skills this year, we will need to continue to develop strategies that will promote deeper thinking in our students.

I am extremely pleased with our third Action Monitoring Plan – hosting a great numbers of high quality academic events for parents and students to enhance student learning. We now have seven parent/student nights (3 math, 3 reading and 1 MST). These provide an outstanding opportunity for parents to see teachers model ways of working with their children. Attendance at these continues to be very good. The Career Day for Grades 3 – 5 was a tremendous success thanks to Mrs. Gollinger, Mrs. Jurgens and their committee. It provided a highly enjoyable learning experience for our students in grades three, four and five. The Invention Convention had every fourth grader with his/her parent in attendance!

Part of our fourth Action Monitoring Plan was stalled due to the district-wide decision not to give awards for attendance this year. We had quarterly rewards, were going to use weekly banners, etc. The literacy character portraits team has done a terrific job and most are now on classroom doors being enjoyed. The team researching garden projects found it to be too expensive, however, trees were planted on Earth Day.

Lastly, the professional development training by our LC Coordinator and Literacy Leader has continued to be highly beneficial for all involved.