Santa Ana Unified School District

1 Page SPSA Questionnaire for Board
2015-16

School: **Taft Elementary and DHH (Deaf and Hard of Hearing) School**

1) What is your site doing *differently* this year from last year to improve student achievement?
- **S**cience **T**echnology **E**ngineering **A**rt **M**ath (STEAM) focus school wide
- **A**dvancement **V**ia **I**ndividual **D**etermination (AVID) 1st year of AVID Elementary Certification
- MAP data analysis and setting of student individualized goals
- After school and intersession tutoring focusing on literacy by 3rd G. and English Learners
- LCAP updates and assessment information included in monthly staff and parent meetings
- Development of individualized and small group instruction

2) What is your site doing this year that is considered *new* to improve student achievement?
- **W**riting **I**nquiry **C**ollaboration **O**rganization **R**eading (WICOR), the framework for AVID
- The use of Canvas Learning Management System by teachers and administration
- Expansion of 1:1 technology grades 2-6, upgrade of projection systems in protables
- Typing Club – Web based for student access at school and home, monitored by teachers
- Smarty Ants online reading program
- Student goal setting through the use of MAP

3) What is your site doing *more of* this year to improve student achievement?
- Differentiated Instruction with focus on concepts and process, not just content
- High-level, text-based discussions around informational text
- Increase in the use of complex text and academic language
- Creating assignments for real audiences and with real purpose
- Training in Making Meaning Through Writing to further develop writing across curricular areas
- Teacher use of MAP and Dibels data analysis to drive instruction
- Writing grants with a focus on math, engineering and new generation science standards
- Grade level parent training/family nights
- College and Career focus throughout the school
- Continued flexible inclusion between special education, DHH, and general education classes

4) What is your site doing *less of* this year to improve student achievement?
- Whole class instruction
- Test prep oriented instruction, repetitive learning of academic skills in isolation
- Lessons of predominantly teacher lecture with little or no student talk
- Worksheets
- Lengthy handwriting instruction

5) What is your site doing this year that is *innovative* to improve student achievement?
- Project Lead the Way – Robotics for 5th grade
- Coding
- Using Google Drive for student inquiry, research and presentations
- Class Dojo – Student engagement and parent connection and communication
- After school Imagination Club for innovative thinking
- Cultural enrichment through performing arts assemblies, percussion classes, puppetry, etc.