



Clark County School District

Helen J. Stewart School

School Performance Plan: A Roadmap to Success

Helen J. Stewart School has established its School Performance Plan for the school year. This plan was developed by the school's continuous improvement (CI) team and informed by a comprehensive needs assessment that included data analysis and meaningful engagement with the school community. It includes the school's goals and process developed during Act 1. The CI team will monitor implementation throughout the school year and evaluate and update the goals at the end of the year.

Principal: Palmer Jackson [Stewart, Helen]

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School Designations: Title I MRI CSI TSI ATSI

Our SPP was last updated on 3/11/2025



School Demographics and Performance Information

In compliance with federal and state law, Nevada's K-12 Accountability Portal provides detailed information about each school's student and staff demographics and school performance rating, a star rating system based on the Nevada School Performance Framework (NSPF). You can find our School Rating report at http://nevadareportcard.nv.gov/DI/nv/clark/helen_j._stewart_school/2024/nspf/.

School Continuous Improvement (CI) Team

The Continuous Improvement Team is made up of a diverse group of school administrators, teachers, staff, caretakers, and students. This team meets regularly to develop, monitor, and continually respond to the school's teaching and learning needs.

Name	Role
Palmer Jackson	Principal(s) <i>(required)</i>
Rick Fuller	Other School Leader(s)/Administrator(s) <i>(required)</i>
Donna Tumpney	Teacher(s) <i>(required)</i>
Stephanie Higa	Paraprofessional(s) <i>(required)</i>
Robert Portelli	Parent(s) <i>(required)</i>
	Parent
N/A	Tribes/Tribal Orgs <i>(if present in community)</i>
Karin Sirk	Specialized Instructional Support Personnel <i>(if appropriate)</i>
Micheal Johnson and Savannah Cortner	Behavior Mentor and School Social Worker



School Community Outreach

This section highlights our school's deliberate and strategic efforts to engage the broader school community in our continuous improvement efforts by keeping them informed on our progress and learning and eliciting their feedback and perspective.

Outreach Activity	Date	Lessons Learned from the School Community
S.O.T. Meeting	3/11/2025	Share School Performance Plan Share Budgets Share Status Check 2
Annual Open House Meeting	9/11/2024	Reviewed the Family Engagement Policy, sought feedback.
S.O.T. Meeting	3/11/2025	Monthly Parent Support Group Meetings will continue for the 2025-2026 school year. Share School Performance Plan Share Budgets Share Status Check 2
S.O.T. Meeting Leadership Team Meeting - April	3/11/2025 3/12/2025	Share School Performance Plan Share Budgets Share Status Check 2

More Rigorous Interventions (MRI) Essentials Identified in the SPP: Roadmap

MRI Essential 1: Conduct comprehensive needs analysis to identify root causes.

MRI Essential 2: Identify strategies and create action steps to address root causes.

MRI Essential 3: Monitor implementation progress of strategies and action steps.

MRI Essential 4: Implement school/District-initiated professional learning connected to action steps.

MRI Essential 5: Implement multi-tiered systems of support (MTSS) school-wide.

MRI Essential 6: Utilize SEA-provided professional learning into daily instruction.



School Goals

The school goals were developed over a series of five events and included opportunities for teachers, parents, and students to share their experience and ideas for improvement. The tables on the following pages capture key aspects of the process the CI team engaged in during the creation of this plan.

Inquiry Area 1 - Student Success

Part A

Student Success			
	Student Performance	Social and Emotional Learning	Access to Rigorous Texts and Tasks
Data Reviewed (MRI #1)	<i>Functional Communication Progress on IEP goals/objectives</i>	<i>Teacher/staff observations Parent/guardian input</i>	<i>Lesson Plans Observations and documentation of direct instruction</i>
	<i>Areas of Strength: Our students are making adequate growth in the area of functional communication.</i>		
	<i>Areas for Growth: Students need access to communicative opportunities school-wide.</i>		
Problem Statement (MRI #1)	<i>Our students at Helen J. Stewart School demonstrate a significant deficit in the area of functional communication. Our students need to be able to generalize functional communication skills to get basic wants and needs met and to aid in successful participation in vocational and leisure activities. Our students need to improve functional communication skills by making progress on the Picture Exchange Communication System (PECS) and/or progress to speech-generated devices.</i>		
Critical Root Causes (MRI #1)	<p>There are various root causes and barriers that tend to hinder our students' consistent progress toward goal attainment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Daily attendance ● Student/classroom behaviors ● Students' ability to engage and focus on instruction ● Students' limited vocabulary ● Systems to support formative assessments and data-informed instructional planning to improve students' functional communication need to be consistent throughout the school. 		



Part B

Student Success	
<p>School Goal: <i>Helen J. Stewart School will increase student communication through progressing through phases of PECs, increasing the use of speech generated devices, and increasing verbalization where appropriate.</i></p> <p><i>The percent of classroom observations that show evidence of student communication using PECs, speech generated devices, or verbalization will increase to 40% by semester 1, 2024 and 50% by semester 2, 2025 from the baseline of 24% as measured by classroom observation data.</i></p> <p><i>2021-2022 Baseline:</i> 75% PECs 24% SGD 1% Verbal</p> <p><i>Semester 2 of 2024:</i> 49% PECs 51% SGD and/or verbal</p>	<p>Aligned to Nevada's STIP Goal:</p> <p>Goal 2: All students have access to effective educators.</p> <p>Goal 3: All students experience continued academic growth.</p> <p>Goal 5: All students have access to new and continued educational opportunities supported by funding that is administered transparently, consistently, and in accordance with legislative or grant guidelines.</p>
<p>Improvement Strategy (MRI #2): Improve practice on the NEPF Standard 5: Assessment integration into instruction and align assessment opportunities with learning goals and performance criteria.</p>	
<p>Evidence Level (1-Strong; 2-Moderate; 3-Promising; 4-Demonstrates a Rationale): <i>3-Promising</i></p>	
<p>Intended Outcomes: <i>Students will improve functional communication skills and be able to get needs and wants met through verbalization and/or other communicative means.</i></p>	
<p>Action Steps (MRI #2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Establish a specific timeline for gathering and analyzing student data. (MRI #3)</i>● <i>Separating PECs and speech generated devices will allow for better data collection.</i>● <i>Use baseline data and formative assessments to plan instruction.</i>● <i>Use ULS pre- and post- assessments.</i>● <i>Provide professional development/training aligned to functional communication. (MRI#5)</i>	



- *Develop Comprehensive functional communication scope and sequence schema.*
- *Establish a system for regular review and feedback on the use of communication protocol forms to ensure ongoing accuracy and effectiveness.*
- *Monitor students' progress towards functional communication goals. (MRI #5)*
- *Develop diagnostic assessment tools that effectively measure the progress of our students.*

Resources Needed:

- *Common preparation periods to review data by Grade-level Sections.*
- *Revised data collection forms.*
- *Scope and sequence chart that outlines the communication phases*
- *Assistive Technology devices/support*
- *Local Plan Grant*

Challenges to Tackle:

- *Developing comprehensive guidelines that rely strictly on data.*
- *Ensuring all staff members are consistent with data collection.*

Potential Solutions:

- *Provide comprehensive training and guidance to analyze data.*
- *Utilize the support of various staff members (SPTAs and Strategist) to collect consistent data.*

Improvement Strategy (MRI #2): *Utilize a school-wide evaluation/rating tool scope and sequence schema.*

Evidence Level (1-Strong; 2-Moderate; 3-Promising; 4-Demonstrates a Rationale): *3-Promising*

Intended Outcomes: *All students demonstrate growth towards functional communication goals.*

Action Steps (MRI #2):

- *Develop Comprehensive functional communication scope and sequence schema.*
- *Identify suitable lead staff members to provide in-the-moment coaching in the classroom.*
- *Develop a structured plan for in-the-moment coaching sessions, including frequency and focus areas.*
- *Provide training and resources for lead staff members to effectively carry out their coaching responsibilities.*
- *Establish mechanisms for feedback and evaluation to ensure the effectiveness of in-the-moment coaching practices.*
- *Monitor students' progress towards functional communication goals. (MRI #3)*

Resources Needed:

- *Common preparation periods to analyze student data*



- *Professional development training on functional communication scope and sequence schema*

Challenges to Tackle:

- *Consistent implementation of the functional communication scope and sequence schema school-wide.*

Potential Solution:

- Utilize a universal scope and sequence schema, school-wide.
- Review and evaluate the data derived from the tool monthly.

Equity Supports. What, specifically, will we do to support the following student groups around this goal?

English Learners: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Foster/Homeless: Ensure students have equitable access to technology and technological services, ie., internet hotspots.

Free and Reduced Lunch: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Ensure IEP goals/objectives are properly sequenced to aid skill attainment. Individualize instruction. Conduct frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction.

Migrant: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Racial/Ethnic Minorities: Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Students with IEPs: Ensure IEP goals/objectives are properly sequenced to aid skill attainment. Individualize instruction. Conduct frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction.



Inquiry Area 2 - Adult Learning Culture

Part A

Adult Learning Culture			
	Instructional Practice	Instructional Leadership	Systems and Structures that Support Continuous Improvement
Data Reviewed (MRI #1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lesson Plans ● Observations and documentation of direct instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Clinical cycles ● Professional Learning Communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Professional Learning Communities
	<p><i>Areas of Strength: The staff is making progress in understanding the components and need for functional communication for all students.</i></p>		
	<p><i>Areas for Growth: The staff is in need of continuous training related to functional communication.</i></p>		
Problem Statement (MRI #1)	<p><i>The staff at Helen J. Stewart struggle with data analysis designed to drive communication goals. We are in need of a comprehensive functional communication scope and sequence schema.</i></p>		
Critical Root Causes (MRI #1)	<p><i>Due to the global deficits of the students at Helen J. Stewart, school staff struggle with finding appropriate measures of functional communication in a variety of ways:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of technology ● Developing learning how to learn behaviors ● Classroom dynamics ● Books/iPads become cumbersome ● Some students have an excessive amount of vocabulary on the iPad, becomes overwhelming for the student to choose words to communicate wants and needs ● All school personnel are not aware of the students' communication levels, especially specialists ● Students require more one-on-one support ● We (staff) limit the students' choices ● Some students do not know how to use the iPad for communication, only to play games. ● Incorporates staff development of the PLC+ model and Pyramid trainings as part of our key Professional Development initiative. 		



Part B

Adult Learning Culture	
<p>School Goal: <i>Teachers at Helen J. Stewart will increase their understanding and skill in implementing functional communication instruction based on student needs.</i></p> <p><i>100% of our teachers will receive functional communication training through Pyramid, participate in monthly data analysis sessions, and have IEP goals/objectives monitored by the learning strategist and SEIF.</i></p> <p><i>The percent of students who meet IEP goals/objectives related to functional communication will be 50% by semester 1, 2024 and 70% by semester 2, 2025 as measured by IEP records in Infinite Campus.</i></p>	<p>STIP Connection: Aligned to Nevada’s STIP Goal:</p> <p>Goal 2: All students have access to effective educators.</p> <p>Goal 3: All students experience continued academic growth.</p> <p>Goal 5: All students have access to new and continued educational opportunities supported by funding that is administered transparently, consistently, and in accordance with legislative or grant guidelines.</p>
<p>Improvement Strategy (MRI #2): <i>Professional development and collaboration to increase students’ functional communication skills.</i></p>	
<p>Evidence Level (1-Strong; 2-Moderate; 3-Promising; 4-Demonstrates a Rationale): <i>3-Promising</i></p>	
<p>Intended Outcomes: <i>Teachers at Helen J. Stewart will increase their understanding and skill in implementing functional communication instruction based on student needs.</i></p>	
<p>Action Steps (MRI #2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Schedule a staff meeting to gather input on desired professional development topics and training formats.</i> ● <i>Distribute a survey or feedback form to staff members to gather additional input on professional development needs and preferences.</i> ● <i>Compile and analyze staff feedback to identify common themes and priorities for professional development.</i> ● <i>Develop a plan for upcoming professional development opportunities based on staff input. (MRI #4)</i> ● <i>All staff will participate in functional communication training</i> ● <i>Teachers will participate in monthly data analysis sessions (MRI #3)</i> ● <i>Administrators and Learning Strategists will consistently monitor IEP goals/objectives monitored by the learning strategist and SEIF.</i> ● <i>Administrators and LearningStrategist will incorporate staff development of the PLC+ model and Pyramid training as part of our key Professional Development initiative. (MRI #4)</i> 	
<p>Resources Needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Time allocation for common planning and IEP review</i> 	



<p>Challenges to Tackle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Schoolwide consistency following the functional communication scope and sequence schema.</i> <p>Potential Solution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Utilize a universal scope and sequence schema, school-wide.● Review and evaluate the data derived from the tool monthly.
<p>Improvement Strategy (MRI #2): <i>Utilize common functional communication scope and sequence schema. Students will have communication books/devices with them at all times.</i></p>
<p>Evidence Level (1-Strong; 2-Moderate; 3-Promising; 4-Demonstrates a Rationale): <i>3 - Promising</i></p>
<p>Intended Outcomes: <i>Students will make growth in the area of functional communication. Student behaviors will become less frequent.</i></p>
<p>Action Steps (MRI #2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Schedule time for staff to familiarize themselves with the new protocol.● Implement the new protocol with students across relevant classrooms or caseloads.● Collect data using the new protocol to assess its effectiveness and identify any areas for refinement.● Analyze the data collected to determine the impact of the new protocol on student performance. (MRI #3)● Based on the analysis, make adjustments to the protocol as needed and communicate any updates to staff.● Include dates on our master schedule for reassessing students..● All staff will participate in functional communication training (MRI #4)● Teachers will participate in monthly data analysis sessions (MRI #3)● Administrators and Learning Strategist will consistently monitor IEP goals/objectives monitored by the learning strategist and SEIF.● Administrators and Learning Strategist will incorporate staff development of the PLC+ model and Pyramid training as part of our key Professional Development initiative. (MRI #4)
<p>Resources Needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Time allocation for common planning and IEP review.● Funding for the Local Plan for the Pyramid Training.
<p>Challenges to Tackle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>Schoolwide consistency following the functional communication scope and sequence schema.</i> <p>Potential Solution:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Utilize a universal scope and sequence schema, school-wide.● Review and evaluate the data derived from the tool monthly.
<p>Equity Supports. What, specifically, will we do to support the following student groups around this goal?</p>



English Learners: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Foster/Homeless: Ensure students have equitable access to technology and technological services, ie., internet hotspots.

Free and Reduced Lunch: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Ensure IEP goals/objectives are properly sequenced to aid skill attainment. Individualize instruction. Conduct frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction.

Migrant: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Racial/Ethnic Minorities: Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Students with IEPs: Ensure IEP goals/objectives are properly sequenced to aid skill attainment. Individualize instruction. Conduct frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction.



Inquiry Area 3 - Connectedness

Part A

Connectedness			
	Student	Staff	Family & Community Engagement
Data Reviewed (MRI #1)	Frequent assessments of each student's functional communication levels/domains	Ongoing training with our consultant partner Pyramid	<i>Site-based and in-home training by our staff.-</i>
	<i>Areas of Strength: We have a strong parent group that is interested in learning more about functional communication and their roles at home to support the learning.</i>		
	<i>Areas for Growth: We need continuous and purposeful training designed to support families.</i>		
Problem Statement (MRI #1)	<i>Due to lack of functional communication by students, our parents often are not able to access the community appropriately with their children due to maladaptive behaviors by students not being able to express themselves and their wants/needs/desires.</i>		
Critical Root Causes (MRI #1)	<p><i>Due to the global deficits of the students at Helen J. Stewart, staff, parents, and the community struggle to ensure the students are actively participating in the community around them. Some root causes are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Students and families use adaptive functional communication vs. those implemented and used by the school</i> ● <i>Homelessness</i> ● <i>Inconsistency between home and school</i> ● <i>Lack of understanding of how PECS/augmentative device works to communicate at home</i> ● <i>Outside influences; such as medication, nutrition, living conditions, etc</i> 		

Part B

Connectedness	
<p>School Goal: <i>Provide parent training to aid functional communication across all settings.</i></p> <p><i>The percent of students who have a family member attend at least one functional communication training will be 40% by semester 1, 2023 and 60% by semester 2, 2025 as measured by parent training sign-in sheets.</i></p>	<p>Goal 6: All students and adults learn and work together in safe environments where identities and relationships are valued and celebrated.</p>



Improvement Strategy (MRI #2): *Provide functional communication training to families/group homes so functional communication can be used with fidelity in all environments.*

Evidence Level (1-Strong; 2-Moderate; 3-Promising; 4-Demonstrates a Rationale): *3-Promising*

Intended Outcomes: *Home communication will become a reflection of school communication.*

Action Steps (MRI #2):

- *Establish a regular communication channel for families to provide suggestions and feedback.*
- *Develop a survey to solicit parent input to help determine the most effective training opportunities.*
- *Create opportunities for families to share their input during parent-teacher meetings, workshops, or through online platforms.*
- *Review and analyze suggestions provided by families to identify common themes and areas for improvement.*
- *Develop and implement strategies to incorporate family suggestions into support plans for students at home and in the community.*
- *Provide virtual and in-person trainings on communication modalities (MRI #4)*

Resources Needed:

- *Parent workshops and trainings on functional communication*
- *Family resources designed to support the familial needs*

Challenges to Tackle:

- *Ensuring that all families have equitable access to resources and training; Helen J. Stewart is not a “neighborhood school”, our students represent the entire Las Vegas, therefore, transportation and family work schedules hinder their ability to participate in events.*

Potential Solutions

- *Survey each family to determine the best modality of communication that best meets their needs.*
- *Provide information through multiple communication modalities; face-to-face, virtual, email, newsletters, ParentLink, and/or home visits.*

Improvement Strategy (MRI #2): *Make parents and community aware of events and training opportunities at Helen J. Stewart School.*

Evidence Level (1-Strong; 2-Moderate; 3-Promising; 4-Demonstrates a Rationale): *3 - Promising*

Intended Outcomes: *Increase family engagement from 16% to a consistent 40%.*

Action Steps (MRI #2):

- *Increase communicative platforms; use social media to inform families of engagement opportunities*
- *Maintain and monitor a calendar of events.*
- *Maintain regular updates of flyers with upcoming events and training opportunities.*
- *Send out Parentlinks regularly to inform parents about upcoming events and training opportunities.*



- *Ensure our website is regularly updated with accurate information about events and training opportunities.*
- *Monitor the effectiveness of these communication channels and make adjustments as needed to improve engagement.*

Resources Needed:

- *Staff member(s) to manage social media platforms*

Challenges to Tackle:

- *Purposefully plan for events*
- *Assigning personnel needed to sponsor the events*

Potential Solutions

- Develop a master calendar of events/training opportunities.
- Provide extra-duty pay to staff to work after school hours.
- Host events during the school day.

Equity Supports. What, specifically, will we do to support the following student groups around this goal?

English Learners: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Foster/Homeless: Ensure students have equitable access to technology and technological services, ie., internet hotspots.

Free and Reduced Lunch: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Ensure IEP goals/objectives are properly sequenced to aid skill attainment. Individualize instruction. Conduct frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction.

Migrant: Provide differentiated instruction at the students' instructional level using multiple modalities to aid comprehension. Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Racial/Ethnic Minorities: Implement Culturally Responsive Teaching techniques and practices.

Students with IEPs: Ensure IEP goals/objectives are properly sequenced to aid skill attainment. Individualize instruction. Conduct frequent progress monitoring to guide instruction.



COORDINATION OF FUNDS TO SUPPORT THE PLAN WITH OTHER PROGRAMS

Funding Source	Amount Received for Current School Year	Purpose(s) for which funds are used	Applicable Goal(s)
Local Plan Grant	\$ 19,100.00	General supplies for instruction Materials, furniture, and supplies for new vocational classrooms.	Goal 2: Effective Educators-Student Success Goal 5: Funding - Student Success
Title I Funds	\$35,868.00	Out-of-District Professional Development and Consults, Extra duty pay for Staff Professional Development and Collaboration	Goal 2: Effective Educators - Student Success and Adult Learning Goal 3: Continued academic growth - Student Success, Adult Learning, and Connectedness Goal 5: Funding - Student Success Goal 6: Partnership - Connectedness