Balanced Literacy Block

90 minutes **uninterrupted** reading
- Grade level whole group instruction, small skill groups, Guided Reading groups, practice, conferencing
  - Reading
  - Writing as response to literature
  - Word work, word study
    - Most Buddy Study spelling components (Test taking and list making **not included**)

+ 30 minutes intervention, outside the 90 minute block (if scheduled)

Review Balanced Literacy Components
- Read Aloud, Independent Reading, Shared Reading, Guided Reading
- Interactive Writing, Shared Writing, Independent Writing, Guided Writing, Modeled Writing

Reading begins with:
- The First 20 Days (*Guiding Readers and Writers*, pp. 143 – 145)
- The First 12 Days (G6-8, found in LA Bundle)
- The First 5 Weeks (*Launching the Daily Five*, pp. 119-126)

High Frequency Word Test should be in progress (G1-6)

Curriculum

Essential Questions, vocabulary should be posted for Bundle 1.
- Add vocabulary as it is introduced.
- Colors for each category;
  - Math, *blue* ; Language, *yellow* ; Science, *green* ; Social Studies, *pink*

Lay out Bundle One with grade level team to bridge commonalities for more seamless instruction.

Read **performance task** first so that you know how to lay out lessons and assessments for task completion.
- **Extensions** have been added to most grade levels as a differentiated option for the performance task

K-G2 Collaboration Topics
- Bundle planning
- Lucy Calkins

G3-G8 Collaboration Topics
- Bundle planning
- Lucy Calkins (3-5)

Balanced Math Block

As we begin the 2011-2012 school year, we suggest you continue to familiarize yourself with the *Five Easy Steps to a Balanced Math Program* by Jan Christenson.

Last year we began implementation of:
- **Mastering Math Facts (G1-G6)**
- **Problem Solving (K-G6)**

As an early focus this year, we suggest utilizing Daily Math Review (DMR) in your classroom. Refer to Chapter 1 in the *Five Easy Steps to a Balanced Math Program* for a detailed explanation.

Reminder- Focused instruction will begin 2\textsuperscript{nd} semester.

Writing Block

Implementation of Lucy Calkins is the focus of writing for the first half of the year.

Primary: (GK-2) **Units of Study for Primary Writing**/Smekens Launch
- Read *The Nuts and Bolts*
- Review CD-ROM
- Follow curriculum
- Prepare supplies for students; writing tools and LC writing paper, writing folder, etc.
- Writing icons – on line
- Introduce 6 traits first 2 weeks of school (they are embedded in Calkins)

Intermediate: (G3-5) **Units of Study for Teaching Writing**/Smekens Launch
- Reading *The Guide to the Writing Workshop*
- Review CD-ROM
- Follow curriculum
- Prepare supplies for students; writing tools and, Writer’s Notebook, writing folder, etc.
- Writing icons – on line

View new Lucy Calkins e.docs to **SUPPORT** your writing calendar. I:\District Shares\Curriculum Resources\Lucy Calkins

Important Dates

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