Balanced Literacy Block

This week’s focus: (GK-8)

Independent Reading: Reading BY Children

Independent Reading allows students to read at their independent level selecting “just right” books. Students choose their own texts and have a chance to deepen comprehension and work on fluency. An organized yet diverse classroom collection of books covering a variety of levels, genres, and themes is a must!

Students should:
- read continuously.
- keep their own records.
- reflect on their reading.
- confer with the teacher about their reading.
- think about and write responses to their reading.

Building stamina: primary goal 30 minutes; intermediate goal 45 minutes

G4 –5 Book minimum 40 titles of multiple genres (See Guided Readers and Writers, pg. 408)

G6-8 Book minimum 12 (3 per quarter)

Grades 6-8 Reading Requirements for Independent Reading DOC

Guided Reading: Reading BY Children

Teachers conduct guided reading sessions in which they work with small homogeneous groups of students based on data. Students read on their instructional level (90%-94% accuracy.) The teacher is there to reinforce skills and guide the group through questioning and discussion of the text.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:
- Lessons average 15-20 minutes
- Frequency of meeting varies from daily to weekly
- Focus on skills or strategies needed to move student to the next level
- Record keeping necessary

You must have expectations in place for what students will do that are NOT meeting with you. Review of expectations will need to take place as needed.

*Assessments

Wireless Gen. If Necessary Extensions: contact principal
- DIBELS/TRC (GK-2) until Sept. 29, mCLASS Math until October 19, and MONDO (G3-5) until October 5.

K-G2 Collaboration Topics
- Buddy Study Spelling
- District Writing Prompt

G3-G8 Collaboration Topics
- Buddy Study Spelling
- Daily Math Review (3-6)
- District Writing Prompt – SRI results (G6-8)

Data

Testing completion next step: DATA MEETINGS

Data should be used to drive your instruction from all levels.
- Most common overall errors should be retaught whole group or small group.
- Common reading levels can provide Guided Reading groups of no more than 5 or 6
- Common error patterns should provide teaching points for students to work on in small groups or independently

Test Error Patterns:
- LNF – letter name (alphabetic principle)
- FSF – ability to isolate initial phoneme in a word
- PSF – recognize, produce, and manipulate phonemes in a word
- NWF – identification of letter sounds as student builds blending from sound-sound-sound to whole word
- DORF – accuracy and fluency at grade level, and adv. phonics
- DAZE – vocabulary, content, and context problem solving

STEPS/MONDO- designed to find a student’s instructional reading level including patterns in accuracy and comp.

Bundle Calendars

If you are working to follow the grade level bundle calendars, you should be looking to move toward beginning Bundle 2. Please take time to set up your next Bundle.

BUNDLE 2 window:
- GK – 2 September 19 – October 18
- G3 – G5 September 19 – October 21
- G4 Math Sept. 12 – Oct. 21
- G6 – G8 September 19 – October 14

Links to calendars:
Please remember that the calendars for all grades are posted on the main EACS website by grade level.

Please give your coach any feedback you may have about Bundle 1 and the performance task.