Balanced Literacy Block
High Frequency Word Test should be in progress or completed (G1-6). This must be done to begin Buddy Study Spelling
This week’s focus: BUDDY STUDY SPELLING (GK-6)
   ➢ Kindergarten – Traditional test begins in November, Buddy Study intro begins second semester
   ➢ First Grade – Traditional spelling test using HFW and principal words for Bundle 1. Buddy Study starts before the end of Bundle 2.
   ➢ G2 – 6 – five day cycle
     o *Principal lesson and choosing of words
     o Day 1: Choose, Write, & Build
     o Day 2: Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check
     o Day 3: Buddy Check
     o Day 4: Make Connections
     o Day 5: Buddy Test (Correctly spelled words are highlighted on student HFW list)
➢ Number of Weekly Words:
   Kindergarten: 5 Words per week (High frequency word list)
   First Grade: 5 Words per week (High frequency word list, simple word patterns)
   Second Grade: 8 – 10 Words per week (6 from the principle being studied and 2 – 4 from the High Frequency Word List)
   Third Grade: 10 – 15 Words per week (6 – 8 from the principle being studied and 4 – 7 from the High Frequency Word List)
   Fourth Grade: 10 – 15 Words per week (6 – 8 from the principle being studied and 4 – 7 from the High Frequency Word List)
   Fifth Grade: 10 – 15 Words per week (6 – 8 from the principle being studied and 4 – 7 from the High Frequency Word List)
   Sixth Grade: 10 – 15 Words per week (6 – 8 from the principle being studied and 4 – 7 from the High Frequency Word List)
➢ Additional details can be found under Curriculum Resources

Curriculum
Compass Odyssey to begin
   ➢ Entering students for Compass Odyssey

Writing Block
District Writing Prompt: Give soon!
   ➢ Scoring use: found under RUBRICS
     o EACS K-1 Rubric – fall scored in red
     o G2-5 ISTEP+ writing appl/conv
     o G6-8 ISTEP+ writing appl/conv
   ➢ Inter-rater reliability within grade levels
     o Collaborate for common scoring
   ➢ Record quarterly student scores
     K-1 Writing Prompt Recording Sheet
     G1-9 Writing Prompt Recording Sheet
   ➢ Kindergarten – Keep B-M-E prompts
   ➢ G1-8 – Keep end-of-year prompt
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
   ➢ Introduce 6 traits first 2 weeks of school (they are embedded in Calkins)
Intermediate: (G3-5) Units of Study for Teaching Writing/Smekens Launch
   ➢ View new Lucy Calkins e-docs to SUPPORT your writing calendar.

K-G2 Collaboration Topics
-Buddy Study Spelling - Daily Math Review
-District Writing Prompt - Math Facts

G3-G8 Collaboration Topics
-Buddy Study Spelling - Daily Math Review (3-6)
-District Writing Prompt - Math Facts (3-6)

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.
K DMR-Problem Solving

Reminder: Focused instruction will begin 2nd semester.