1. WINTER BREAK SCHEDULE

EACS central administrative offices will be open to the public during the winter break on December 26, 27, 28, and January 2, 3, and 4 from 9:00 – 12:00 each of these days. If you need to contact administrative services, human resources, or any other central office, someone will be available to take your call during these hours. ALL OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 24, 25, 31 AND JANUARY 1.

Karyle Green, ext. 1001

2. CURRICULUM CONNECTION

The Curriculum Connection contains upcoming information regarding assessments, curriculum updates, video clips, instructional websites, and more. Please see Enclosure #1 for specific information.

Marilyn Hissong, ext. 3124

3. LICENSE RENEWAL

The LVIS - License Verification and Information System from the Indiana Department of Education - requires teachers to upload two items to the LVIS website for their teacher’s license to be considered for renewal:

1. Documentation of PGP’s which could be in the form of PGP certificates, official transcripts from universities for courses completed, committee work completed outside of regular work hours documented by a letter from the principal, and student teacher or practicum teachers documented by a letter from the principal. For the complete list of items that can be used for renewal credits go to the EACS website, look under the staff heading for Professional Growth Plans and then click the link titled PGP Activities and Acceptable Documentation.


Providing all documentation through the LVIS website will speed up the license renewal process.

Chris Hissong, ext. 1002

EACS Food Service Fact!

√ Did you know while schools strive to offer healthy lunch and breakfast choices, healthy eating habits should also be encouraged by parents and teachers!

Remember the Slogan:

EAST ALLEN COUNTY SCHOOLS ~ ENHANCING THE EDUCATION!
Comprehension

Real comprehension has to do with thinking, learning, and expanding a reader’s knowledge and horizons. There are **7 Keys to Comprehension**, Susan Zimmermann and Chryse Hutchins, to build a student’s understanding of what the words and sentences mean.

1. Create mental images
2. Use background knowledge
3. Ask questions
4. Make inferences
5. Determine the most important ideas and themes
6. Synthesize information
7. Use “fix up” strategies

**This week’s focus: Create mental images or visualizing**

Sensory images are the cinema unfolding in your mind that makes reading three-dimensional. Certain smells, tastes, sights, and feelings emerge, depending on what you’re reading and what life experiences you bring to it.

- Be explicit and direct about what you see in your mind and sharing sensory images that you have as you read.
- Create a “thought bubble”, like a comic strip, to explicitly demonstrate how proficient readers think while they are reading
- Wordless books; it’s easy to be aware of our own thinking with no words

Keep working on this even with Advanced Readers as their text becomes more complicated.

**Check out the curriculum resources shared drive for additional anchor charts and resources.**

- curriculum resources
- 5 components of reading
- comprehension

Possible Read Alouds

*I Need My Monster* by Amanda Noll

Read or listen to book without showing pictures and have students draw the monsters.

*Can’t Sleep Without Sheep* by Susanna Leonard Hill

*The Storm* Book by Charlotte Zolotow

The text gives very vivid descriptions of each setting in the story. The best part is that the pages rotate from text only to picture only so the kids have to make the picture in their mind first and then turn the page and compare what they visualize to the illustrator’s picture!

Apps

**Scribble Press:** Students can draw images they are visualizing during read alouds or Read to self. Then they can write a description of what they have drawn.

**Word Ninja:** Create words by jumping, flying, and gravity-flipping through this endless running word game.

**Virtual Manipulatives!:** fraction bars

**Word Cloud:** Create word clouds to help remember vocabulary words, character’s traits, and much more!

**First Words with Phonics:** 76 words in three categories helps learn vocabulary and how to make the word

Websites


1. FIRST IN MATH

As of Nov. 28, 2012

Top Schools Statewide

#2 Meadowbrook
#3 New Haven Middle
#7 Leo Elementary
#8 Woodlan Intermediate
#9 Paul Harding

Top Teams - Statewide

#1 New Haven Middle - Cardiac5 in - Gurney
#2 New Haven Middle - Heart12in - - Gurney
#6 Heritage Ele - Mellang
# 9 Leo El - Elrod
#15 Cedarville - Linson

Top Schools – District Wide

#1 Meadowbrook
#2 New Haven Middle
#3 Leo Ele -
#4 Woodlan Inter
#5 Paul Harding Jr. Sr.

Top Teams EACS

#1 New Haven Middle - Cardiac5in - Gurney
#2 New Haven Middle - Heart12in - Gurney
#3 Heritage El - Mellang
#4 Leo El - Elrod
#5 Cedarville - Linson

KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!