



Stafford Public Schools

"Our Literacy Journey"

Overview of Test Prep Units of Study Attention Grades 3-5

February 23rd:

Join me right after bus dismissal and receive an overview of our Test Prep Units of Study.

Each teacher will receive copies of the units. I will provide an overview of how to implement specific bends offered.

The long winter months can seem endless and find us yearning for some warmth and normalcy. When the winter months roll around our hours are filled with testing, reflecting, and setting plans to get students where we need them to be by the end of the year.

Recently, the reading teachers held the 2nd Annual Foundations Celebration. We had about 37 participants including the staff developers from Wilson. We had a lot of fun learning from one another and seeing the differences between the various levels of Foundations.

Many grade levels are jumping into the Test Prep Units of Study for the first time! Some amazing work lies ahead. Students will be learning test taking strategies while reviewing high priority standards. Now that teachers have had an opportunity to

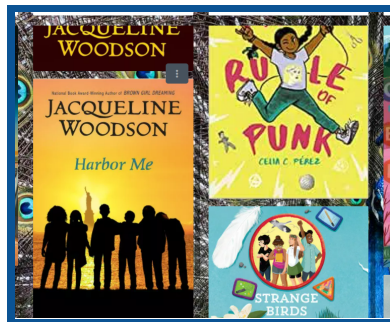
participate in IAB administration training, these assessment blocks should determine the path through the prep units.

We are at a critical moment with primary students. We are seeing gains, closing gaps created by the pandemic. Now more than ever, we need to pay attention to critical reading behaviors that will propel our students forward. We will be spending much of our time together during PLCs and workshop time to focus on the strategies used in the LLI program!

As always, thank you for all that you do for our students. Please reach out with any questions or requests for support. ~Lisa

Literacy/Numeracy Night
Don't forget to fill out the google form to let us know your interest in helping.
First Planning Meeting
March 11--3:15
[\(Click Here\)](#)

Padlet of Book BIPOC Book Choices Gr. 4-8
[\(Click Here\)](#)



Reading Survey Study Group
Subarea II: February 24
Subarea III: March 10
Subarea IV: March 24
3:30-4:30

Upcoming Training

Foundations Virtual Coaching Days: Level III

- March 31st
- May 12th



A Focus on Constructed Responses and the Cycle of Notetaking

Come join your colleagues to discuss ways to engage students in accountable note-taking and group discussions.

March 23rd: 3:15-4:15

- Engage in a data blitz
- Determine strengths and weaknesses
- Set the stage for accountability

<https://meet.google.com/qsr-wnhe-xfe>

Teachers College Office Hours for Caregivers

Thursdays from 6-7pm

Every Thursday, Lucy Calkins, various staff developers and social workers spend an hour with caregivers to give tips about reading as well as SEL needs of students during the pandemic. I have participated in a couple. It is interesting to hear the questions and concerns some parents share. Register using the link below! And encourage parents too!

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

Celebrating Culture

Tips for choosing books that represent diversity.

[\(Click Here\)](#)

February Spotlight



Book Club Outreach

Amy Losee, Grade 4 Teacher, has been running a weekly book club with students and families. "Because of the Rabbit," by Cynthia Lord, has kept the club wanting more! Over the last several weeks, students participated in weekly discussions and activities that supported key reading strategies. I am so excited to recognize Amy for her efforts. The students are having a blast and are already on the lookout for their next book! Thank you, Amy, for your continued efforts to support families during this pandemic.

World Read Aloud Day

CSDE: Celebrating World Read Aloud Day

READ ONE ARTICLE, WATCH ONE VIDEO AND LISTEN TO A PODCAST OF YOUR CHOICE FROM THE LIST BELOW. FEEL FREE TO GO BIG AND READ THEM ALL TO SUPPORT YOUR PLANNING, LEARNING AND TEACHING
([Click Here](#))



Reading Challenges Around the District

Accelerated Reader Challenge



Students in grades 5-8 are ready to earn monthly prizes by reading books and taking the Accelerated Reader quizzes. They can also earn raffle tickets for some grand prizes.

Get Ready, Get Set, Let's Celebrate!!



March Spotlight



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Awesome Work, 2nd & 3rd Grade Teams!

Over the past year, the second and third grade teams have participated in Wilson Coaching. Both teams are experiencing the complexities of our language! They are engaging in collaborative planning sessions, asking questions and providing students with phenomenal

experiences. Thanks for your continued hard work and dedication to maintaining the fidelity of the program.

Segmenting & Blending
Phonemic Awareness Activities

(<https://www.readingresource.net>)

All resources from the reading resource.

Sound Boxes

Use sound boxes to help children segment sounds in words. Have students place one chip under each box. Name the pictures with students echoing. As they echo, students push a chip for each sound. Place one game chip under each box. Great snack time activity. Make the sound board a snack mat!

Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes

Give students a word with 1-4 sounds. Have them stand up and touch their head, shoulders, knees, and toes as they are saying the sounds in words. For example, the word "cat" would be /c/ (head), /a/ (shoulders), and /t/ (knees).

I'm Thinking of a Word

(click title for link)

Teach students a song that will help them hear all of the sounds in a word. Students blend the sounds to guess the word.

Patterns of Power
Training for K-5

Be on the lookout for grammar invitations training being offered on March 8th-our district pd day! If you have not attended training over the last couple of years, this is essential!