

Carroll County Board Report
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Vision 2021
“College and Career Ready”
Next Generation: Leadership

Curriculum / Instruction/ Assessment:

- Mrs. Wise and I attended a school during fall break to discuss their literacy programming and to look at a vocabulary strategy they are working with UL to perfect. They are writing a book to highlight their success with this strategy. Good visit.
- The instructional coaches and I attended the gifted symposium. This was a great meeting giving us opportunity to hear from stakeholders throughout the state about best practice for gifted programming. There was information on the following ideas: standard implementation, 21st century learning skills, preparing the next generation learners, David Atkinson the state chamber of commerce director discussing future and jobs for KY graduates, and funding for gifted programs. A district described their 5 year focus on developing a better gifted program in their district. Giftedness is underfunded in schools and difficult to carry out programming due to lack of funds. Our instructional coaches are currently working to develop improved programs to meet the needs of all our identified kids.
- All Denver Champion classroom teachers met in an afterschool meeting for a book study, *Conferring*. The conversation centered around the five conferring purposes teacher uses to get to know students as readers:
 - Attitudes-** reluctant readers, few love reading, students surprised by own level, unaware
 - Stamina-** lots of variation in classroom, individualized to improve, some 5-10 min, some 40, Haven't read many books all the way through (how many chapter books are they reading), Intentionality is helping
 - Readers process-** talking with each other, Huge levels of difference in words, understanding of characters, low levels
 - Readers Diet –** girls love stories, series, boys sports, too big picks, fiction, series, when looking at specific genre in classrooms students will choose that genre.... Grows knowledge base of characteristics of a genre that might not be understood.
 - Relationships-** Get to know child better
 - Data-** Learning about students needs and strengths as a reader.
- **Success Stories Discussed:**
 - K- observed choosing just right books. Excellent practice!
 - Lexile levels... Students beginning to understand choosing just right books based on Lexile level and/ or DRA level. Focuses reader
 - Success level books- helps them to grow, less fake reading
 - Environment- creating high expectations, encouraging, self improvement, efficacy, belief in self
 - Teacher language- encourages success, belief in self- better participation in class

- Blessing books- in middle grades the teacher did this and it caused kids to expand their choices
- ISLN meeting attended to look at district level focus for year on Highly effective Teaching and Learning strategies. Ideas were discussed about how to engage staff in understanding.
- EHS/ HS began new year in new wing. Wonderful transition.
- Instructional Network webcast was viewed. The purpose was to keep instructional district personnel updated on new initiatives. There is so much new information coming out this year it is imperative that we all work together to share ideas and keep on top of things. These are exciting times. All schools must focus on preparing children to reach their potential! Preparing for college one child at a time!

The following information was shared through ISN webcast:

- Preschool leadership cadre- These are state meetings that are developing to prepare for the Race to the Top funds for preschool programs.
- A new common Kindergarten screener for 2012 school year
- End of course assessments for High School: There are some one time exemptions for students that took half of class last year and half of class this year. They are not required to take the end of course assessment. Also some new information about alternative kids.
- Program reviews: writing, arts/humanities, and PLVS
- Standards updates: world language will be part of the review process in primary school starting 2014, Bill and Melinda Gates grants have been used to develop tasks for SS and science literacy ready for use in schools, Science and SS standards are due for completion Dec. 2012.

Respectfully Submitted:
Pam Williams