

District Instructional Focus Report

Henderson County School Board

April 20, 2015

District Math Instructional Focus

Elementary

- K-5, weekly e-mail contact to one grade level teacher in each grade level at each school to keep informed about their progress throughout the school year. There has been significant discussion and investigation about what are the needs at each grade level to address the teachers who are new to teaching math or new to teaching math at that particular grade level.
- Providing ongoing resource for elementary curriculum specialists when dealing with specific needs at specific grade levels in their buildings.
- Observation and coaching for teachers who are referred for coaching.
- Observation of elementary math instruction in the three weeks following spring break to make certain that the professional development opportunities for teachers this summer are relevant and most effective.
- Data analysis on 5th grade students to ensure that accurate placement for all 5th grade students entering grade 6 next school year, including organizing multiple assessments so that we have multiple data points to use when making these placement decisions.
- Conducted math focused observation days in targeted schools.

Middle

- For grades 6-8, weekly meetings with every math teacher during his/her planning period throughout this school year, discussing student work, assessment data, and strategies for teaching upcoming content.
- Observation and coaching teachers who have been referred by administrators. Together, we have now created common formative and summative assessments for all units in all three grade levels, working to ensure that these assessments have much rigor.
- Data analysis of K-Prep data from last school year to help teachers find ways to increase achievement this school year.
- Supervision and evaluation of two district math teachers who are charged with the challenge of teaching our most gifted middle school math students, meeting every Thursday afternoon with these two teachers.
- Conducted meetings with each 8th grade teacher and discussed each 8th grade student individually, we have looked at data and listened to teacher recommendations.
- Based on much data and these discussions, made decisions about what students will receive RTI services next school year by being placed into our Math Success classes at the high school, inclusive of roughly 250 students.

- Just created six booklets of CIITS questions for our 8th grade teachers to use as review after spring break.

High School

- For grades 9-12, weekly meetings every Wednesday morning with all math teachers at the high school.
- Evaluate all math lesson plans at the high school with the math department coordinator each week. All teachers are now using common lessons and common assessments when teaching common courses. Much work has been done on grading practices to ensure that our math grades are reflective of mastery of content knowledge.
- Worked especially closely with our 9th grade teachers for a multitude of reasons. This grade level had two new math teachers this school year. Also, our 8th graders are arriving at the high school with significantly stronger math skills; thus, the content of the freshman course is in a constant need of assessment of reflection of the rigor and curriculum revisions.
- Continually worked with the junior teachers on strategies to increase performance on the ACT. Our recent scores are reassuring that we are headed in the right direction. We have just made the decision to immediately begin our intervention with the juniors who did not meet college readiness on the March ACT. We intend to test these juniors in May and hope to see several more students attaining college readiness benchmarks. The seniors who are not college ready receive a lot of attention, working very closely with these teachers.
- Written booklets using the Quality Core released multiple choice questions, so that each child will have seen all of the released items prior to taking the EOC in Algebra 2 in May.
- Met with our CTE department and helped devise/write curriculum to ensure that students are successful on the math section of the Work Keys test making College and career readiness a top priority. We continually struggle with math being the content area that keeps the highest number of students from being college ready. Meet with teachers regularly to address this concern and discuss intervention strategies. The computer program "My Foundations" has been used with about 65 students for the last ten weeks. COMPASS testing was just completed and additional students are now college ready in math due to this specific intervention.

All Levels

- This year, special education has been a top priority. Met every Tuesday morning with middle school special education math teachers to discuss lesson plans and strategies to increase the success of this population of students.
- Met regularly with the special education director to seek guidance for ways to assist these teachers, helped to analyze data relating to the success of sped students.

District Science Instructional Focus

Elementary

- **Creating units with slideshows, activities and performance tasks to meet intent of standards for all grades K-5.**
- **Currently modeling NGSS lesson on energy to many 4th grade classes.**
- **Modeled NGSS lessons in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classrooms.**
- **On a daily basis, in contact with teachers reflecting on the tests, assignments and tasks that have been created so that they can be made better for next year.**
- **Conduct ongoing PLC meetings for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade to share and model NGSS lessons and resources.**
- **Working with small groups of teachers to create assessments for new standards.**
- **Assist with Science enrichment activities that are used for rewards. (Example: Bubble reward at Spottsville)**

Middle

- **Worked with the 7th grade Science teachers on a weekly basis to create new units that meet NGSS standards.**
- **Shared activities and resources that will help meet the performance expectations of NGSS.**
- **Model lessons and assist teachers with lessons when needed.**
- **Meet with all grade levels weekly for PLC, complete all data analysis spread sheets for each common summative assessment so that teachers are ready to analyze work quickly and used to guide next steps.**
- **Assist 8th grade teachers with the implementation and development of EXPLORE prep.**
- **Provide research for literacy strategies on a regular basis.**
- **Review lesson plans and offer feedback to improve instruction.**
- **Observation and coaching teachers**

High School

- **Using Biology Benchmark data to develop lessons in order to reteach unmastered targets to close, far, and intervention students.**
- **Reteaching 30 “Far” Performing students during RTI one day a week until the Biology EOC.**

- Provided research of activities and resources that will help teachers meet the performance expectations of NGSS and collaboratively work with them to create units.
- Meet with Science teachers weekly for PLC, completing all data analysis spread sheets for each grade so that the common summative assessments can be analyzed quickly and used to guide next steps.
- Developed and assisted with implementation of PLAN prep for all sophomore classes.
- Plan and develop PLAN preparation for all 9th grade courses.
- Realigned high school curriculum to meet new NGSS standards.
- Shared literacy strategy that is Science specific once a month at Science Department Meetings.
- Assist grade 11 teachers with the implementation, development and monitoring of ACT Science Preparation.
- Observe teachers on a regular basis and assist struggling teachers when needed.
- Review teacher lesson plans on a weekly basis and give feedback to improve instruction.

All Levels

- Responsible for the rollout of all Next Generation Science Standards K-12.
- Assure that the middle and high school teachers are following OSHA safety guidelines. That each school has a chemical hygiene plan and requires students to sign a lab safety form.
- Attend monthly WKEC Science Network Meetings to gain new knowledge about new standards and to stay informed about future state assessments.
- Screen and interview all potential Science teacher candidates to assure that we are getting the best teachers for our students.
- Work with the community: City of Henderson on the Canoe Creek Project so that our students may have a classroom outside the regular school building to visit, Brenntag- You be the Chemist in the middle schools and Lego League sponsor.

District Technology Instructional Focus

- **Previewing “Late Nite Labs” (online science labs for AP students at the high school)**
- **Assisted with a team with the design, trainings, application and roll out of the TB 21 grants**
- **Assisting Student Technology Leadership (STLP) groups**
- **Assisting in Program Review evidence review**
- **Assisting teachers with conflicting Google accounts since HCS migrated to professional Google accounts**
- **Staff Technology Coordinator (STC) group migrating to a Professional Learning Community (PLC)**
- **Redesign of the Digital Drivers License process for staff resulting in all certified staff being trained and qualified for a DDL**
- **Digital Drivers License (DDL) for students (a less time consuming task pending approval)**
- **Reviewing Web 2.0 tools for the classroom**
- **Assisting teachers w/classroom implementation of technology tools (ex., Moodle, Edmodo, Google, etc.)**
- **Reviewing software for ages 3-7**
- **Worked to get Google Apps for Education brought into our district as a tool for all students and employees**
- **Supporting the TB21 grant recipients with continued learning and support**
- **Developing PD and training to administrators so they can lead the work in their buildings**
- **Developing PD for teachers for summer training**
- **Designing, planning and implementing a District Technology for May 28 for all district teachers**
- **Develop website and blog for teachers and administrators to gain ideas, inspiration, and open lines of communication around digital literacy and tech integration**
- **Training district curriculum specialists in various digital literacy and tech integration**
- **Attended the KySTE Technology Conference**
- **Will attend the ISTE Conference in June**
- **Assist with multiple district instructional observation visits**

District Instructional Focus

- **Instructional coaching**
 - Developing rich activities in lesson plans with teachers
 - Observations and debriefing with teachers (non-evaluation walkthrough)
 - grade level meetings
 - 1 on 1 coaching
 - new teachers mentoring
- **Instructional modeling**
 - Classroom writing instruction
 - Consistent vocab instruction
 - Small group ELA instruction
 - Small group math instruction
- **RTI**
 - Pull out groups (reading, writing, math)
 - AimsWeb assessment
 - Name & claim
 - Weekly RTI team meetings (academic & behavior)
 - Monitoring individual and group student progress and data
 - After school small groups
- **Finding resources for teachers**
 - OnDemand prompts/writing and locating exemplars
 - Reading passages
- **Professional Development**
 - Weekly Grade level meetings
 - Staff meetings
 - Teach Like a Champion (TLAC)
 - Smekens Literacy Strategies
 - MAP reporting
 - Gradecam
 - Technology
 - Writing progression
 - Literacy strategies
 - New teacher support
 - Goal setting
 - Brigance (trainers)
 - Bar modeling (MIF)

- **PGES**
 - Student Growth Goals/Professional Growth Goals
 - Pre/post data
 - CIITS
 - Peer observation training for all district teachers
 - Student Voice scheduling, administration and monitoring
- **Data analysis**
 - Pre/post test
 - Creating Common assessments/common scoring assessments
 - Lead/Coach data team talks for CFA, CS
 - Analyzing assessments
 - Copying assessments
 - Weekly data team meetings
 - Monitoring trends
 - “Next Step” planning with teachers
 - College and Career Readiness data talks
 - with teachers
 - with students
- **ARC Chair**
- **Read and monitor lesson plans**
 - Provide weekly feedback to teachers on lesson plans
- **CSIP**
 - Writing school-wide plans/frameworks that align with CSIP
 - I & I checks
- **Program Review**
 - Collecting data/writing PR information for ASSIST
 - Rubric evaluation
 - Program review team member (that evaluate other schools)
- **Additional (high school only)**
 - Team scoring of English 2 On Demand
 - Organizing current 9th grade data for placement in English 2 or 10th grade reading strategies
 - Working with students in intervention groups identified with career pathways to achieve Career Readiness on Workkeys benchmark.
 - Analyzing progress of students in senior English transition and/or reading intervention groups

- **Assist with multiple district instructional observation visits**
- **Attend GRECC and WKEC ILN, ISLN, and KLA meetings representing Henderson County Schools**

District Special Education Instructional Focus

- **Attend monthly Special Education Department meetings in schools**
- **Attend numerous ARC meetings throughout the year**
- **Supporting new principals in their understanding and implementation of sped particularly Least Restricted Environment law (LRE)**
- **Observation of students with behavioral issues**
- **Revision of the district Behavior Intervention Plan**
- **Design of the Framework for Teaching Walkthrough instrument for specific use in the resource or co-teaching setting**
- **Conduction numerous classroom walkthroughs and observations**
- **Supporting new sped teachers**
- **Conducting trainings: IEP update, accommodation, confidentiality, co-teaching basics, reading comprehension strategy and RAP trainings in multiple schools, conference summary training**
- **Monitoring data of sped students**
- **Research and provide practice materials for EOC and WorkKeys testing**
- **Established reading strategies classes for grade 9 and 10 students thus providing additional minutes for reading instruction for sped students**
- **Assist with the development of BIP plans**
- **Assist teacher in development of SGG**
- **Review lesson plans for evidence of effective instructional strategies, differentiation and reteaching/using CHETL rubrics and providing feedback to teachers**
- **Assist/support with alternate assessment**

District Gifted Instructional Focus

- **6th Annual Farm Follies was a success**
- **Art Expo , April 16, 2015**
- **Conducted multiple district wide academic challenges and academic team meets**
- **GT Specialist analyze test data for progress monitoring of gifted students.**
- **Individual/group instruction to accelerate students in identified specific academic areas.**
- **GT identification process: screen all 3rd grade students in HCS:**
 - General Intellectual (Nagleiri and Otis-Lennon)**
 - Specific Academic (MAPS)**
 - Leadership Inventory**
 - Creativity Testing**
 - Drama Audition**
 - Art Portfolios**
- **Begin transitioning GT Pre-School to Kindergarten, 5thgr. to 6th gr., 8th gr. to 9th gr.**
- **Continue implementing:**
 - **Math Counts**
 - **Gearing Up for College**
 - **Middle School Art**
 - **8th gr. Leadership**
 - **Middle School Drama Workshop in collaboration with Henderson Fine Arts**
 - **Elementary creativity instruction “Create a City”.**