Curriculum & Instruction Report

Oct. 24, 2023



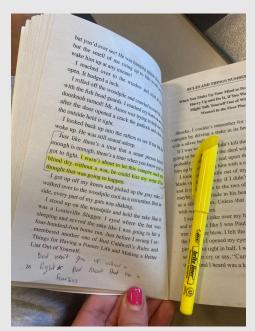
October Highlights

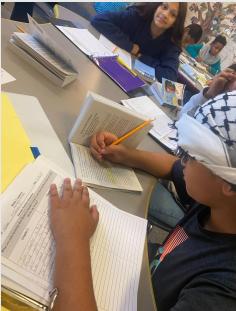
- Finishing our first standards-aligned, interim assessment period
- Preparing for this week's parent-teacher conferences
- Strong focus on literacy during Quarter 1:
 - New foundational skills curriculum
 - Reviewing end-of-unit writing across grades K-8
 - Creating Reading Success Plans for all K-3 students identified as having substantial reading difficulty under new state guidelines (SB 681)
 - New intervention systems and resources
 - Completed first quarterly LETRS training for 2023-2024



Text Annotation

A generous private donation allowed us to purchase individual copies of select Wit & Wisdom novels for middle school ELA students this year. As a result, students are able to annotate and capture their thinking by highlighting and writing in the margins of text, as well as take the texts home to read. It's been so much fun to see students carrying their texts around with them, reading them during free time, and even on the bus!

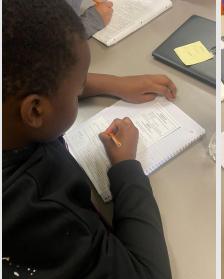




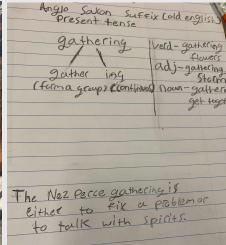


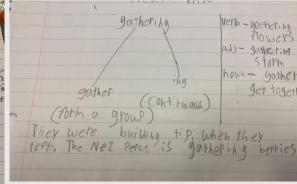
Morpheme Magic

Our learning through LETRS is coming alive in intermediate classrooms this year through a focus on explicit morphology instruction to build vocabulary and grammar knowledge. Check out students in fifth-grade using the multiple-meaning word "gather" to study the suffix -ing and create sentences using vocabulary that is tied to the content of their ELA Wit & Wisdom module, a study of the Nez Perce tribe.



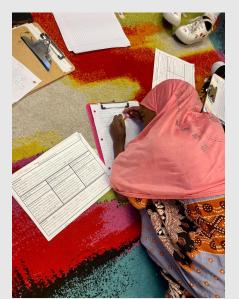


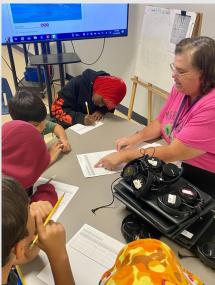




Literacy Interventions

Our revamped language and literacy intervention block is up and running in the elementary school! Grade-level teams used a new assessment flowchart and English language proficiency data to group students with similar missing skills for reading and language support. So many examples of our learning through LETRS are present in lessons -- explicit instruction of spelling patterns, sentence-building charts, decodable text, Elkonin boxes, and graphic organizers to support writing.









MS Reading Intervention

Our LETRS learning also is evident in middle school. We have 13 middle school teachers and coaches who opted into LETRS to build their knowledge of evidence-based reading practices to support older students who are not yet proficient readers. Though the course is geared toward K-3 instruction, teachers of upper grades have taken away so much knowledge and incorporated it into their practice. One example is a restructuring of our Middle School Reading course, which provides intervention support to students in grades 6-8 who have gaps in the word recognition strand of <u>Scarborough's Reading Rope</u>. Middle School ELA teachers are becoming more cognizant of explicit vocabulary, morphology and language instruction.









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