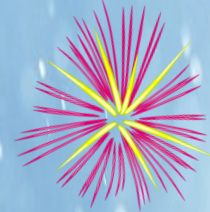


GOOD NEWS FROM RED OAK HIGH SCHOOL



High School Good News!



The months of November and December have been filled with different professional development opportunities for some of our high school core content teams. Our reading, language arts, and social studies teams are set up on a schedule where they can engage in very focused curriculum learning and development team time that is facilitated by our instructional coach. We are very excited about the progress that has been made thus far, and can't wait to continue this learning and work next semester.

Reading Professional Development Highlights:

The goal for our reading curriculum work is to research, plan, and organize class structures or frameworks that can be used on an ongoing basis for high impact teaching and learning to take place. The implementation stage of the set structure or framework will come later. Right now, we are focused on getting all of the pieces that need to be in place in order for us to improve the way we systematically respond to our students' reading needs. Part of this work includes training for SDI strategies, locating and organizing resources for instructional purposes, setting up common assessments that will be used, locating and organizing supplemental and intensive intervention resources, creating a curriculum map, and establishing a better communication & collaboration process between our general education reading teachers and special education teachers.

Language Arts Professional Highlights:

The language arts team has been working on establishing 9-12 essential standards for language skills, speaking & listening skills, informational texts, and literature. This process has been an awesome collaborative experience for the team! Each member of the team has been thinking through how to best assess the skills for each essential standard. Common assessments are the next big piece that this team will tackle in January!

More Good News From High School

Social Studies Professional Development Highlights:

The social studies team is in the beginning stages of revamping their new Iowa Core Social Studies Curriculum. This team has spent time researching the state requirements for social studies and has compared them to our current high school requirements and course offerings. A proposal was developed and a follow-up meeting was held with administration, where our future class offerings at the high school were discussed. The social studies team has continued to work on their new standards by organizing all 9-12 standards and working on the new inquiry anchor standards. This team has worked hard on developing a way to assess a few of the new standards and has been very good about collaborating on the progress that is made along the way. The next step for this team is to review information on how other social studies teachers are structuring the new standards and how they are using their structure to create learning units.