**Coles Advisory Council Minutes- November 17, 2021**

Read over the minutes from last week--- minutes approved

Introduction of Mrs. Miller and Mrs. Cosand (reading specialist and PALS tutor)

**To help council members discuss and provide ideas of how to improve reading skills of students, it is important to educate council members on teaching reading and writing and what does this look like at Coles Elementary?**

**Mrs. Miller (Reading Specialist)**

With balanced readers, we teach them a variety way of reading: looking at phonics, context clues, decoding, etc. We will implement and make sure that we are phonics focused.

* Spoke to us about the comprehensive literacy framework
* Big push in phonics (shared “Science of Reading” research compared to Balanced Literacy) (important to teach all components of reading it in a systematic way)
* Targeting writing
* Scarborough’s Reading Rope: language comprehension and word recognition= skilled reading
* Reading Lessons at school: whole group instruction, minilesson, gradual release of responsibility practice, and then there can be guided reading groups, independent work and centers
* Small group guided reading is differentiated and they read leveled texts. In the groups, there can be literature circles, strategy groups which work on metacognitive skills, skill based groups

**How do we know when students need extra time and support?**

\*School wide assessments, testing data, running records, PALS data, common assessments, DRA/ QRI, etc.

**What supports are available?**

\*Reading specialist, reading tutor, Lexia Core reading, core extension, PALS tutor

**Mrs. Cosand (PALS tutor)**

PALS is a program that serves K-3 that is a literacy screener for students that are at high risk for reading program. PALS= Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening

Foundation for learning to read

* The ability to recognize and work with sounds
* Decoding and encoding
* They read short stories/passages to decode between Long and Short vowel sounds, vowel blends, digraphs, etc….
* They are assessed in the Fall and Spring (mid year checks are also given and data analyzed)
* If they do not meet the benchmark then they are identified for PALS
* A letter will come home to families if the child is identified

**What is reading recovery?**

Identified in 1st grade and has one on one intervention. Small group. Works on phonics, reading strategies, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, building words, etc.

**Ideas at home!!!**

Daily reading and writing, Lexia Core, community library, reading recipes and technology websites.

**What does reading look like in Coles?**

Reading Curriculum Video Clips were shown as whole group minilessons from most grade levels, small group reading lessons with general education teacher, PALS tutor and reading specialist

**Feedback**

Looking at the reading passage that was our homework and the video clips, it is impressive to see how it all aligns and how much reading instruction occurs throughout each day for students and the way it is taught.

**Next meeting ideas:**

Based on our continuous improvement plan/ strategic plan, it would be important to learn what students need to learn for math K-5 and how they are taught and how it is practiced.

**Questions?**

What is the expectation of the group on the report?

Referencing the Continuous Improvement Plan or Strategic Plan--- to provide the school with ideas of how to increase student performance in areas identified through data. In order to do this, some background is needed to know what is already being done and provide suggestions for growth.

Can parents eat in the lunchroom yet?Not yet as this is an area in which students have their masks off and to have additional people in the cafeteria could bring in more germs that could spread as masks are off and the risk of spreading is higher.