

Aligned Collaboration: Guaranteed Success for All Children

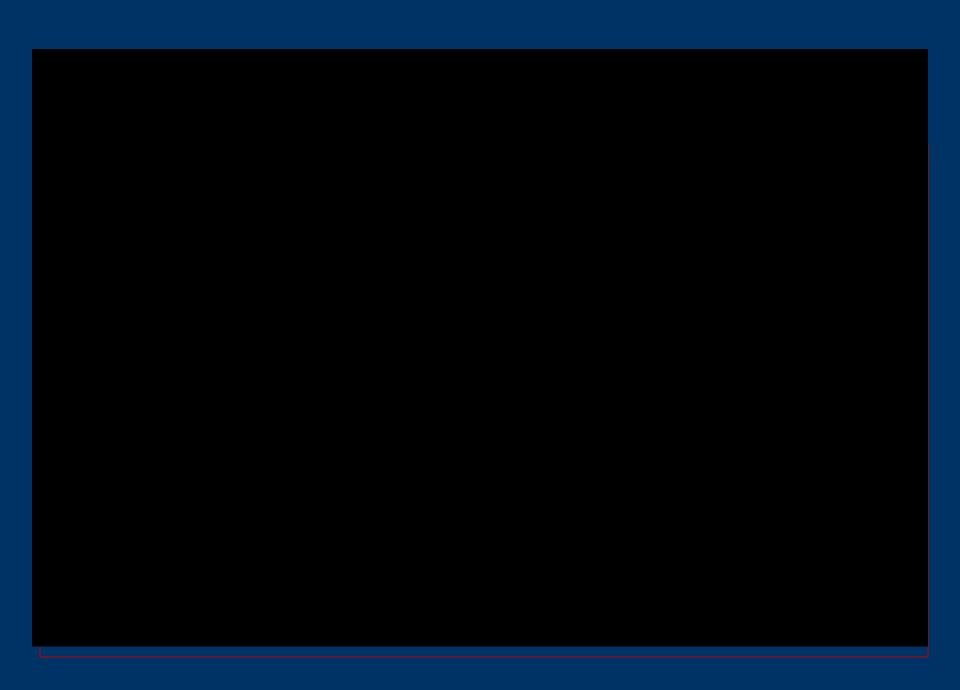
Brady-Henderson Mill Creek Elementary School Huntingdon, Pennsylvania

Rebecca Newton, First Grade Teacher

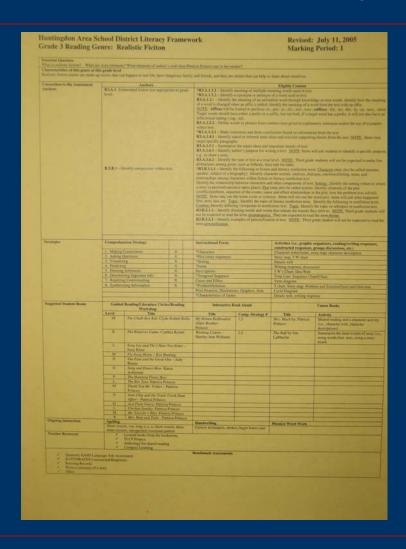
Jeff Coppes, Director of Elementary Education

Brady-Henderson Mill Creek Elementary School

- K-5 school set within a rural district in Pennsylvania
- 120 children in grades K-5
- 18 children in PA Pre K Classroom
- Staff Characteristics
 - 2006-2007-Average years of experience-20.65
 - 2007-2008-Average years of experience 12.23
- Assessments
 - Grades K-2: DIBLES, Rigby Running Records and local assessments for reading/mathematics, and Domain Writing
 - Grade 2: Terra Nova for reading and mathematics, HASD Quarterly Reading, and Domain Writing
 - Grades 3-5: PSSA, 4Sight, HASD Quarterly Reading, Domain Writing, Fountas and Pinnell Running Records
- 57.86% of the children receive free/reduced meals
- Annual operating budget of \$26,254.00
- Co-Teaching: All support services take place in regular education classroom
- Response to Intervention School
- Award winning Parent-Teacher Group



Creating Consistency Through Our Literacy Frameworks



Reading

- Essential question
- Connection between reading and writing
- Connection to Standards and Assessment Anchors
- Connection to comprehension strategies
- Eligible content that will be assessed
- Teacher resources
- Student resources
- Linked to approaches in balanced literacy
- Assessments to be used

Writing

- Essential question
- Standards
- Craft/Revision mini-lessons and resources
- Teacher resources
- Benchmark assessments
- Ideas for Writer's Celebrations



Enhancing Skills Through Aligned Professional Development



- 182 Trainings since June 2001
- Study Groups
- Literacy Coach
- Data Analysis
- Four PD Days each year aligned to vision
- Governor's Institutes for Early Literacy
- Summer Academies
- Professional Learning Communities

Getting New Teachers Synchronized



- Academy for Excellence
- Literacy Coach
- Mentor Teachers
- Study Groups
- Professional Learning Communities
- Differentiated Supervision
 - Required for first 3 years in district

Building the Team: Families Mirroring Literacy Strategies at Home

2006-07

2007-08

Monthly

 Family
 Strategy
 Activities link
 to DVD

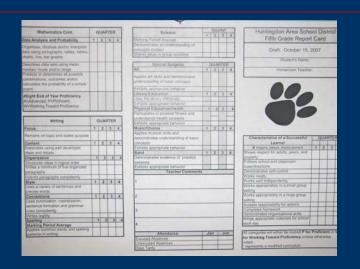
Evaluating Our Effectiveness Through Teacher-Created Quarterly Assessments

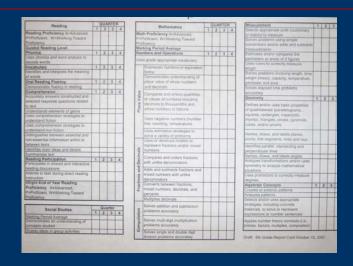




- Assess the important Assessment Anchors.
- Look very similar to the PSSA.
- The questions are phrased exactly as they will see them in the PSSA.
- Be in the same genre as studied this marking period.
- Challenge them to read and respond to both fiction and non-fiction.
- Challenge them to choose the best of four possible answers (selected response format).
- Require them to write constructed responses by effectively using BATTS or RACES.
- Allow special education students to have the exact accommodations that they have during the PSSA. Please refer to the section on accommodations in your Anchor Assessment/ PSSA Notebook that we provided all third-fifth grade teachers last year.

Pulling it Together with a Standards-Based Report Card





- Standards-based
- Reflects HASD curriculum
- Includes our present assessments
- Progress is marked as "P" for proficient, "W" for working toward proficiency or "A" for students that are performing at least one year above reading level
- Hybrid format that includes percentage grades for mathematics and spelling
- Aligned to National Reading Panel
- Includes area specialists (Art, PE, Music, Library and Band)
- Characteristics of Successful Learners
- Being piloted during 2007-2008 with two families from each classroom (106 families)

Supervision Aligned to Vision for Literacy





- Differentiated Supervision
 - Collaborative Planning
 - Professional Dialogue
- Guided Reading and Writer's Workshop Indicator Checklists
- Administrative Team Observations
- Opening our doors-making our educational practice public

Aligning Resources





- Administrative
- Classroom budgets
 - Student learning related
 - Aligned to frameworks
- Study Group books
- After-school tutoring
- Professional Development

Working Together to Inspire All



"Solidarity describes Brady-Henderson Mill Creek Elementary School. We as teachers, parents and community members strive to provide a supportive, consistent environment for our students. We celebrate our successes and collaborate with one another to overcome our challenges-inspiration at its best!"

--Submitted by Brady Teachers

Summary Points

- Key Learning's
 - Understanding and utilizing the comprehension strategies
 - Ongoing, high-quality professional development is the key to school improvement
 - Consistency of instruction positively impacts students, families and the school
- Challenges still Ahead
 - Meeting the needs of diverse learners and moving them forward
 - Vocabulary development
 - Continued work on comprehension strategies
 - Getting new people, "Up to speed."