

Cyber Village Academy (CVA) Literacy Plan for Read Well by Third Grade

Introduction and Objective

According to MN Statute 120B.12, a school district must have a plan to ensure that every child is reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3. Cyber Village Academy's youngest students are in grade three. Teachers adhere to the model cycle of continual assessment, data-based instructional planning, and standards-based instruction to ensure student success. Through this continual process, those young students reading below grade level are targeted for additional support to accelerate achievement so they can achieve the objective of grade level reading by the end of third grade. The school has adopted the following procedures, interventions and supports to align with the Read Well by Third Grade program.

Assessment

Upon entering Cyber Village Academy, all students are given several assessments to determine proficiency levels.

MAP/MPG – This assessment measures the following areas of reading: comprehension-informational, comprehension-narrative, literature, and word recognition, analysis and vocabulary. Students obtain a RIT score based on their results.

Lexia - Lexia provides explicit, systematic, personalized learning on foundational reading skills for students of all abilities, and delivers norm-referenced performance data and analysis. This research-proven, technology-based approach accelerates reading skills development, predicts students' year-end performance and provides teachers data-driven action plans to help differentiate instruction.

MyON - myON provides actionable data on the number and type of books opened and read; the time a student has spent reading; a student's completion of book quizzes; the results of regular Lexile benchmark assessments; and a report that forecasts long-term reading growth.

Cyber Village Academy requests literacy data from previous schools to assist in successful and smooth transitions for students who have been receiving extra supports.

Through these initial screening assessments, CVA staff is then able to target students who are below grade level reading proficiency to probe further into areas of specific need. Additional information on a student's status, as well as subsequent progress monitoring based on the outcomes of initial assessments, comes from Dibels.

Results of these measures are communicated to the staff during Problem Solving meetings held every other week. A systematic procedure to address the student's needs is outlined during this meeting. Implementation teams include the classroom teacher, the Title I teacher, specialist teachers and special

education teachers, who then meet to design a plan with more specificity based on schedules, a student's time on campus, and groupings of other students with similar needs. Particular resources are identified to assist in closing the gap.

Subsequent Problem Solving meetings include updates on progress monitoring data, effective practices, and achievement in reading as it pertains to success in other content areas. The entire staff is involved in these meetings as it is the CVA philosophy that all teachers have shared responsibility for every child's achievement. Modifications in programming for the student are data-driven and may result based on the findings from progress monitoring efforts and other anecdotal records reported by teachers.

Communication

Results of the initial MAP/MPG assessments are provided in a timely manner to parents and students. Initial results are communicated through parent/teacher and student/teacher conferences in which individual goals are established for the year. Parents are provided information on the MAP/MPG assessment, what their student's target level is, and what supports are available from the school. Parents are also provided helpful strategies and resources to assist their child at home in becoming proficient through NWEA DesCartes resources and online assistance and information such as Reading Rockets. Parents will be regularly informed of student progress via email communication, phone calls and/or face-to-face parent meetings based on the short-term goals that are established for the student.

Individualized Learning Plans are created by the teacher and the student using testing data, classroom learning achievement and observations. Teachers work with students to develop short and long term goals and frequently revisit the document to ascertain their levels of accomplishment, to identify different strategies for success, or to refine or modify the goals. Individualized Learning Plans are available securely online for students and parents to access at any time.

Interventions and Instructional Supports

The following paragraphs outline the programs Cyber Village Academy may use. Decisions regarding which system to apply are made by the implementation team based on the identified area of need.

Lexia: Designed as an essential component of every reading curriculum, Lexia Reading provides individualized learning and norm-referenced performance data without interrupting the flow of instruction to administer a test. This scalable, research-validated, technology-based system predicts students' year-end performance and provides teachers with data-driven action plans to help differentiate instruction.

Dibels: The DIBELS measures assess the 5 Big Ideas in early literacy identified by the National Reading Panel: phonemic awareness, alphabetic principle, accuracy and fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Other instructional supports may include, but are not limited to, small group work in the regular classroom, individual work in the Resource Room, and online resources to work on at home and/or school.

Professional Development

Professional Learning Communities are well-established at Cyber Village Academy. Through this community of educators, professional development takes place on a weekly basis. Training in differentiation and instructional strategies, for example, equip teachers to meet the literacy needs in their subject area. Coaching is done formally three times a year, and reflections on teaching strategies and effectiveness occur regularly throughout the year in both structured and unstructured ways.

NWEA's DesCartes Continuum of Learning resources support instructional planning and help define flexible groups for instruction, personalize instruction, link test results to skills and concepts aligned with state standards and facilitate student learning plans. These resources are key in developing Individualized Learning Plans as they specifically outline past, present, and future reading objectives to assist in goal planning. Teachers have used, and continue to increase their knowledge in, these resources to assist in personalizing instruction and maintaining a strong growth trajectory for every student.

Culturally Responsive Instruction

The literacy programs available and mentioned above include components specifically targeted to English language learners. Cyber Village Academy is prepared to address the needs of learners in this category through specially designed professional development opportunities when this becomes a factor in our school environment.

Resources

. "Classroom Resources." *NWEA*. NWEA, n.d. Web. 01 March 2012. <<http://www.nwea.org/products-services/classroom-resources>>.

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