

MBMS English Department
March 16, 2015 – PD Agenda

TOPIC: Balanced Literacy

BRING: *Conferring with Readers + F&P Continuum of Learning* book (if you have one)

OBJECTIVES:

- Explore text complexity and plan ways to make texts more rigorous or more accessible
- Articulate common reading strategy TPs using F & P literacy continuum
- Identify approaches to forming and facilitating student book clubs
- Identify key approaches to conferring with readers
- Discuss ideas for more authentic and engaging independent reading
- Plan individual and/or group practices to try for whole class instruction, strategy groups, and independent reading. (Plan to come back to the group in coming months with successes and failures to adopt best practices.)

8:05 – 9:45 am

- I. Using whole class instruction to assess individual reading skills
 - A. **Fountas & Pinnell: Behaviors and Understandings to Notice, Teach, Support**
 - B. ***Text Talk Time* video**
 - C. ***Simplifying Complex Text* video excerpts**
 1. How can we increase text complexity by dialing up the task?
 2. How can we scaffold difficult grade-level tasks using more accessible texts?
 3. If time: How can we take the central texts we use and create more complexity through comparison? How do we juxtapose to make more accessible?

9:45 – 10:00 am BREAK

10:00 am – noon

II. * Strategy Group and Individual Conferring: *Conferring with Readers: Supporting Each Student's Growth and Independence*

- A. Improving student conversations about books
- B. Group conferring:
 1. Management and Structures / efficient and realistic record keeping
 2. Forming groups
 3. Conference strategies

** Discuss and/or plan how to use summer reading books as a way to research/assess reading levels.*

Noon – 1pm LUNCH

1:00pm to 3:00 pm

III. Continue anything from before lunch, if needed.

IV. Planning Book Clubs and/or Independent Reading (English Dept.)

- A. Time to examine Calkins' Reading Workshop resources
- B. Discuss and/or plan an independent reading unit
- B. Discuss and/or plan engaging independent reading activities and assessments