

El Monte Middle School Friday Focus

Every Student, Every Day, Find A Way ~ FAILURE Is Not An Option!

Principal Message – This week we had an amazing Extended Professional Development. We reviewed the coaching cycle with our staff. Mrs. Goosev-Nuckles and Mrs. Barker spent the remainder of our first hour teaching us how to conduct Think Aloud with our students. The remainder of the time, PLC's looked at their lessons for the following week and decided when they were going to try this strategy with their students. PLC's were also looking at their benchmarks and identifying essential standards and creating a game plan on re-teaching and reassessing. **#TeamworkMakesTheDreamWork**

English Learner Scaffolds and Strategies – Instruction should be focused on building stamina in reading and writing to produce critical thinkers and life-long learners. Here are several strategies that you could use in your classroom. #1 – Encourage independent reading. Students should be encouraged to select books at their independent level and not at their frustration level. #2 - Plan units that are product-drive. It should become the epicenter of instruction, thus allowing for mastery. #3 Infuse pre-reading and pre-writing strategies to build schema. "What I know, what I want to know, and what I learned" (KWL), quick-writes, and vocabulary activities before reading and writing are very useful for tapping into students' prior knowledge and making connections in learning. Quick-writes also provide excellent seed ideas for writing. #4 – Making meaning. Provide instruction in basic reading strategies using reciprocal teaching practice that includes predicting, visualizing, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing. #5 – Text Annotation. Teach students to mark or highlight text for main ideas and also for answers to specific questions. Text annotation is an excellent method to make meaning and provide evidence to support answers. #6 – Ask text-based evidence questions. Challenge students to provide specific evidence to support their answers. Use t-chart graphic organizers to have them identify specific lines from a text and explain their thoughts about the lines. #7 – Immerse students in the genre. Provide adequate opportunity for students to examine text features and structures, and to read and learn from mentor texts and literature before writing. #8 – Provide options for writing. provide a variety of writing samples for them to learn from. Teach a variety of genres. Encourage learning and practicing the craft of authors through modeling, conferring, and collaboration. #9 – Analyze and interpret. Teach strategies that emphasize analysis and interpretation -- examine author styles and use of language through literal and figurative analysis to get meaning from text. I encourage all teachers to use these awesome strategies.

#EnglishLanguageLearnersAreOurFocus

Athletic Report – Soccer has been practicing for the past few weeks and will begin playing competitively next week. Basketball tryouts have begun and students are trying extremely hard to make the team. We are excited to start watching them play. **#GoLOBOS**

Parent Evening – Thank you Mr. Alvarez, Ms. Gonzalez, and Mrs. Ramirez for training our parents on the Signs of Suicide. This is an extremely important topic and the parents were extremely appreciative for the information. **#KnowledgeIsPower**

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Quote of the Week:

"Teachers need to give encouragement and praise for what ELLs can do instead of dwelling on all that they can't yet do by providing frequent opportunities for their success."

- Judie Haynes in Education Week Teacher

Upcoming Events:

- 10/23 – Gradebook Check
- 10/24 – AVID Parent Meeting @ 5:00 p.m. in Gymnasium
- 10/24 – Soccer Match against Rafer Johnson @ El Monte Middle School
- 10/25 – Professional Development – Jeff Zwiers @ 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. @ OHS Cafeteria
- 10/26 – Boys Soccer Match against Woodlake @ El Monte Middle School
- 10/26 – AVID Site Team Meeting @ 3:00 p.m. in Room 4
- 10/27 – Pep Rally @ 2:00 p.m. in Gymnasium

Photo Gallery

