



August 2008

Volume 7, Issue 2

COACH TALK

District 1 ... where students come first!



District
ONE
LAUSD



**EXPERT
ADVICE**

Welcome back to our traditional calendar coaches! As we begin a new school year, let's reflect on our previous practices, and ask ourselves how we can increase the amount of time we spend observing for evidence of student learning. How can we utilize the information we gain from classroom observations to plan effective grade level meetings and Banked Time P.D.s? Classroom observations are an integral component of our job description. The beginning of the year is the perfect time to observe classrooms as teachers develop relationships and expectations with students. Impromptu observations offer valuable information including pacing and use of core materials. Taking time to go to all classes of a specific grade level can provide a window to the level of collaboration and follow through of those teachers. A specifically planned observation with a teacher to focus on a targeted content area is also an important step for changing teacher practice and improving student achievement. The purpose of observations is to collect data that will help us meet the needs of our teachers which in turn will improve student achievement. Keep in mind that it is our goal to create a system where teachers expect and feel at ease when we enter the classroom. If teachers believe and trust that the intent of our observations is to focus on student learning, they will feel comfortable with us coming in for frequent expected and unexpected visits.

Your Experts,
Aviva & Jodi



Jean Brown
Superintendent
Annette Star
Literacy Coordinator

IMPORTANT DATES

Coach Meeting
Friday, Sept. 26

Devonshire Site
8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**Second Year
Coach Academy**
Thursday, Sept. 4
Thursday, Sept. 18

Devonshire Site - Room 4
1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

DRAS
Thursday, Sept. 25
Parthenia Elementary School
4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. (tentative)

**New Teacher/Change of
Grade Level Training**
Monday, Sept. 22
Devonshire Site - Rooms 3, 4, 5
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Notes from Annette...



As the traditional school year begins, we need to continue our challenging work of "raising the bar and closing the gap" for all students. While we have seen remarkable gains over the past years, we still have large numbers of students that are not proficient.

This year all literacy coaches will receive professional development to increase our skills in supporting teachers in helping English Learners, Standard English Learners, and Students with Disabilities access the core language arts curriculum. We will be making links between ELA and ELD standards and assisting teachers in utilizing six identified instructional strategies and routines: *Advanced Graphic Organizers, Academic Language Development, Instructional Conversations, Cooperative Learning Structures, Activating Prior Knowledge and Contrastive Analysis.*

Following our study of these areas, our focus will shift to embedding these strategies and routines into our language arts program. The result should reduce the problems of multiple innovations, fragmentation and lack of coherence at the school site for our teachers. I am looking forward to another great year with the District 1 Reading Program.

Have a successful year!

--Annette Star
Literacy Coach Coordinator

What's happening at your school?

Featuring...
Langdon Elementary School



The students in Ms. Ahumada's kindergarten class embraced Boomer as he traveled throughout the school. As the school unit is coming to an end, I am often asked, "Where is Boomer?" All that the students have learned about and from Boomer will leave a lasting impression on the young minds as they pack up and leave on vacation.

--- Marci Edge,
Literacy Coach



How to Contact Us

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August Birthdays:
8/12 Liane Sternlieb
8/22 Chana Nutkiewicz
8/25 Kady Plowman

LITERACY COACH CADRES 2008-09

JOSIE STEVENS	MARCI EDGE	GAYLE WOLF
Anthony-Johnson, Lena	Asarch, Adrienne	Aviv, Orly
Clifford, Abby	Edge, Marci	Beaupre, Patricia
Cross, Connie	Fradin, Nancy	Hazan, Leslee
Hernandez, Tina	Horio, Soo Jin	Hernandez, Cynthia
Lamon, Amy	Kuhlmann, Terri	Humphrey, Lisa
Layton, Bobbie	Robrecht, Carol	McLean, Kim
Nason, Diana	Selinger, Cris	Mitchnick, Lisa
Ratner, Rachelle	Tinoco, Marcia	Sternlieb, Liane
Roman, Silvia		Wolf, Gayle
Stevens, Josie		
ARLENE COWEN & JENNIFER HALL	MARILYN HUBERT & JENNIFER MOLES	KATHY SCHULTZ & RAJINDER SAHANI
Brydon, Carly	Capeloto, Fern	Fagin, Cindy
Chirchick, Rebecca	<i>Garden Grove</i>	Metken, Tami
Cowen, Arlene	Hubert, Marilyn	Morones, Elizabeth
Dominguez, Cindy	Leo, Dayna	Norton, Holly
Elan, Lisa	Magdaleno, Marissa	Nutkiewicz, Chana
Hall, Jennifer	Moles, Jennifer	Pokorski, Rachel
Klein, Julie Cornell	Sunenshine, Barbara	Princi, Elaine
Krofta, Julie	Taguchi, Susan	Sahani, Rajinder
Stafford, Karen	Vasquez, Jeny	Schultz, Kathy



Great Job!

2008 STAR TESTING PROGRAM RESULTS AVAILABLE

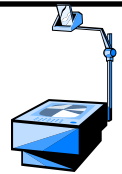
Test scores are now available at our schools and on the California STAR website. This year 57% of the 4th graders in Local District 1 scored proficient or advanced in English language arts, followed by the 2nd graders with 55%, the 5th graders with 50%, and the 3rd graders with 40%. The increases ranged from 1 to 4 percentage points, with the greatest increase at 5th grade (4 percentage points). It is especially rewarding to see increases of as much as 16% at some of our schools, and we look forward to receiving API and AYP data later this month.

Take time to celebrate the results of your hard work this past year with the students, teachers and administrators at your schools, before we redouble our efforts this coming year to raise the bar even higher.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

If you would like more detailed information on your school's test results, go to www.cde.ca.gov and click on the "Testing & Accountability" tab.

1-Day Language Arts Training



Since there were no OCR Summer Teaching Institutes this year, a one-day institute has been designed to highlight the key components of the program in three grade level/grade level spans. New teachers, teachers who have never attended an institute, and teachers new to the grade level span (Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 through 5) are highly encouraged to attend. These institutes will take place on Monday, September 22, 2008 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Devonshire Professional Development Site. Substitute coverage will be provided by Local District 1. Please work with your Principal(s) to identify and register your teachers. Flyers and registration forms are included in your packet.