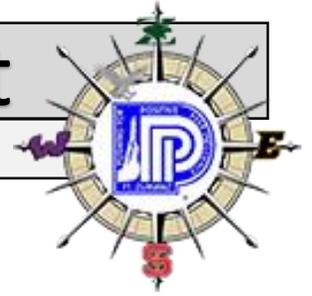


# Fort Zumwalt School District

Office of Curriculum and Instruction

K-5 English Language Arts Curriculum Update - August 2016



This year K-5 teachers will support literacy instruction in the Fort Zumwalt School District with new English Language Arts materials. To ensure students meet Fort Zumwalt's curriculum standards, the instructional program *ReadyGEN* was selected by our teachers and Board of Education as the elementary literacy resource. This resource provides authentic texts written by celebrated authors, digital resources to support learning for all students, unit themes that actively engage all students, and a well-balanced instructional approach that integrates reading and writing.

Along with the new materials, teachers will continue to support literacy instruction by using a lesson structure referred to as a workshop model. This model includes: purposeful lessons, small group instruction, focused independent reading, and focused independent writing. This lesson structure allows teachers to differentiate instruction and meet the needs of individual students.

Another component of literacy instruction is Word Study. Word Study provides students many opportunities to not only build upon their word knowledge, but also apply this knowledge to both reading and writing. Grade level spelling skills and strategies will be monitored and assessed on a continuous basis as opposed to a weekly spelling test. Students will work with various foundational skills throughout the week and teachers will assess and track students' progress throughout the entire unit of study. K-1 students will receive support for phonemic awareness as a part of the Word Study Block using resources created by Michael Heggerty. Handwriting practice will occur during the Word Study Block. At the second grade level cursive handwriting is introduced and then reinforced in the grade levels that follow.

With new materials and by using the best instructional strategies, our goals are to. . .

- Meet each child's needs as a reader and a writer
- Develop a love for reading and writing within your child
- Help each child see themselves as a reader and a writer

We are excited to begin the 2016-2017 school year and we look forward to your continued support as literacy champions for your students.