

The Charlton Heights Building Council met on Tuesday, December 21, from 3:20 p.m. to 4:10 p.m. in the Library Media Center.

We discussed team language arts goals by grade level. Following are highlights of each grade level goal:

Kindergarten: 100% of students will master the 20 district sight words by March, 2011. When students master the kindergarten list, they will start instruction on the first grade word list, and will then use Fountas and Pinnell to determine instructional reading levels. Teachers will use guided reading groups, weekly literacy centers and morning meeting time to teach language arts skills.

Grade 1: The first grade goal is to have 80% of the children attain the Reader level by June. The teachers will utilize guided reading, literacy centers, Foundations and phonics lessons, as well as leveling their libraries to help increase decoding, comprehension and fluency skills.

Grade 2: The second grade goal is to increase student scores on the district assessment from 88% to 90% in June. The teachers will be using differentiated materials and leveled texts to achieve this goal.

Grade 3: The third grade teachers will use three common writing assessments to track the writing progress of each student. The third grade team goal is to have 85% of the students score a 3 or 4 on the June Writing Assessment. Teachers will develop a common rubric and will use team time meetings to examine exemplar papers and ensure that grading is consistent.

Grade 4: The fourth grade team goal is to track student progress using the Fountas and Pinnell assessment, and have each student advance two reading levels by the end of the school year. The teachers will create differentiated reading groups based on reading levels to differentiate instruction during their ELA block.

Grade 5: Using the Fountas and Pinnell running records, the goal is to improve at least on reading level by the end of the year for each student. The teachers will conduct learning activities revolving around characterization and story details, and will integrate reading into the other content areas. The teachers will also build student fluency through a variety of oral reading practices.

The next Building Council meeting will be on Wednesday, January 19, from 3:20 to 4:20 p.m. in the Library Media Center. We will be discussing the 21st Century Framework for learning and ways to improve instruction and student learning.