

# Middle School Quality Initiative

## Comprehensive, Research-Based Literacy Framework

### Instruction

<i>Effective Teaching Across the Disciplines</i>	<b><u>Deliberate Teaching</u></b>	<b><u>Strategic Instruction</u></b>	<b><u>Tiered Assessment</u></b>
	Teachers regularly and explicitly demonstrate the ways proficient readers make meaning from texts and the ways proficient writers construct texts.	Schools provide intensive, targeted reading instruction to students of all reading levels in homogeneous groups, taking into consideration the different starting points of students, their literacy strengths and needs, and what lessons and activities will ensure that all students grow.	Schools use a universal screener to identify patterns and trends in reading needs, and secondary diagnostics for students scoring at-risk on the screener. Students are assessed regularly during Tier 1 instruction.
<i>Engaging Students with Complex Text</i>	<b><u>Reading</u></b>	<b><u>Writing</u></b>	<b><u>Discussion</u></b>
	Teachers increase the volume and range of texts students encounter and support them in deepening their engagement, using strategies that have been explicitly taught and metacognitive reflection to assess learning and thinking.	Teachers expose students to a wide volume and range of writing experiences, explicitly teaching strategies for extensive writing and writing to learn.	Teachers create classroom environments in which high-quality, authentic thinking and discussion around text improves students' comprehension and writing skills.

### Infrastructure

<i>Literacy Leadership</i>	<b><u>Literacy Vision and Goals</u></b>	<b><u>Distributive Literacy Leadership</u></b>	<b><u>Resources and Programming</u></b>	<b><u>Modeling and On-Going Reflection</u></b>
	To lead change in schools, literacy leaders develop a shared literacy vision and annual goals and maintain a clear focus on the vision and goals throughout the school year.	Literacy leaders work with a literacy team to model literacy practices and execute the school's literacy vision and goals.	Literacy leaders strategically align fiscal resources in support of their literacy vision and annual goals.	Literacy leaders engage in reflective practices about their schools' literacy visions and goals with fellow leaders and thought partners. They seek to ensure that teaching and learning are informed by evaluation processes that rely upon real-time data.
<i>Teacher Collaboration</i>	<b><u>Strategies for Teacher Collaboration</u></b>		<b><u>Scheduled Time for Teams to Meet</u></b>	
	Teacher teams engage in cycles of learning in which instructional decisions are made through careful analysis of student level data and/or low-inference observation. Some strategies for teacher collaboration include but are not limited to: looking at student work, inquiry, lesson study, lab-sites, inter-visitations, and demo sites.		School programming allows for structured, regularly scheduled time to meet within the school day, across a work week. Successful teams have clear distributive leadership structures (such as teacher leaders) and routines for meeting time.	
<i>Professional Learning</i>	<b><u>Embedding Literacy within the School Context</u></b>		<b><u>Fostering Collaboration</u></b>	<b><u>Differentiation</u></b>
	Literacy leaders provide time, resources and support for professional learning connected to the school's literacy vision and goals. Effective leaders develop a cohesive, comprehensive plan for adult learning.		Literacy leaders develop professional learning plans that foster collaboration and shared responsibility for student achievement and literacy.	Adults have diverse learning needs, and professional learning must be differentiated to address those varying learning styles and needs.
<i>Family &amp; School Partnerships</i>	<b><u>Building Relationships</u></b>			<b><u>Linking Partnerships to Learning</u></b>
	Families play an integral part in improving academic achievement and should be viewed as partners in students' literacy development. In order to build positive and constructive relationships with families, schools create open and welcoming environments where all families feel valued.			Schools share literacy data with families and support them in interpreting the information. They help families better understand what skills are critical to literacy success, how their child is progressing, and how families can best support their children. Schools provide families with strategies, activities and resources that can be used at home to enrich their children's learning.