



Preparing Career Ready Graduates

NEWS FROM CURRICULUM,
INSTRUCTION,
AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

January 2019

Secondary AC Highlight

Wawona Middle

Science Department AC: Lauren Childs, Brenda Manhas, Ilse Cortez, Chris Cerkueira

What makes your Accountable Community successful?

Although two of us are new to the team this year, we focus on respecting one another and utilizing all of our individual strengths. Some members of the team have greater strengths in the content or organization of the curriculum, while others are skilled at knowing how to support individual students with scaffolds, resources, and strategies targeted to their needs. We are open in our resources and in communicating our successes and struggles. By respecting one another and acknowledging our weaknesses, we are more willing to look for support within our team. "We are all committed to support one another, but everything we do is because of our commitment to our students."

How does your team use data to guide your AC work? We use CFAs and will then get together to look at student misconceptions, strengths, and struggles. We track learning in Excel, student by student, and use a data analysis protocol to deepen our discussion of how our students are demonstrating their learning on the CFA. We are open with one another when looking at the numbers. For us, it's not about comparing ourselves to the team. Instead, we focus on students and what strategies will halp them the most



Elementary AC Highlight

Holland Elementary

3rd Grade AC: Trisha Griffin, Alexandra Philips, Jennifer Movey

How did your Accountable Community come together?

Trisha taught sixth grade previously at Holland, Jennifer moved over from teaching 3rd grade at Heaton, and Alexandra is new to the profession. This is our first year working together and it has been wonderful!

What makes your Accountable Community successful?

Each of us brings a strength to the table. Trisha is a veteran to our site and understands our leader's expectations. Jennifer is our expert in the grade-level curriculum, and Alexandra brings new ideas and strategies to our meetings. We value each other's ideas and work together to do what is best for all of our students. One of our greatest accomplishments this year is tracking student progress through data collection and dissecting that data as a team, then brainstorming best strategies to help our students. We have found Wonders online assessments, and the data provided, to be imperative.

<u>Click here</u> if you'd like to see how this team collects their team data!



Have a question about curriculum? Coaches and TSAs are here to help with planning, engagement strategies, and support in every curricular area. Send your request for support to Tiffany.Hill@fresnounified.org



Curriculum Links

Below, you will find descriptions and links to support you and your students with curriculum needs. You can click directly on the icons to quickly reference the highlighted curriculum areas.



What resources within WONDERS

support teaching foundational skills? <u>Click</u>

here to access the new Foundational Skills Resource documents for K-2. These documents provide connections from the ELA Standards and Framework to the curriculum resources and assessments.



Click here to see videos of foundational skills in

Kindergarten at Turner Elementary.



The Support and Resources Center For Grades K-6 and

Grades 7-8

provides teachers with downloadable aids, technology support, professional development, & program enhancements.



Welcome to the ZINC Close Reading Experience Beta!

These interactive exercises offer guided skill practice for students that will lead to better reading, writing, and scores. After students complete a short intro to Zinc Skills, they will have access to all Close Reading Experiences.

To access this feature in SpringBoard:

- Log into your SB Digital account and click on the "Zinc" tile
- You will see a "Dashboard" pull down menu at the top left
- Select "Close Reading Skills"
- There is an informational tutorial and you can access samples
- You can preview activities and assign to students



Science: NGSS Updates

NGSS supports Common Core

Math and ELA standards while exposing students to rich science learning experiences. With eight Science and Engineering Practices (SEPs), four domains of Disciplinary Core Ideas (DCIs) and seven Crosscutting Concepts (CCCs) comprising the three dimensions of our standards, where do we start? Over the next few weeks, consider a backwards approach, where vocabulary is taught in context of explored phenomenon rather than at the start of a unit. Watch this clip for an example of what this might look like in an elementary classroom.

Are you ready for a deeper dive into NGSS? Preview these <u>vetted lessons</u> for examples of 3D instruction by grade level and topic!

Fresno Unified Elementary Spelling Bee is coming soon! February 26th at Fresno High School. Contact <u>Janie.Delacerda@fresnounified.org</u> or <u>Julieanne.McSherry-Medcalf@fresnounified.org</u> for more information.