

# THE BULLETIN BOARD

NEWS FROM CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Fresno Unified Newsletter

January/February 2017 v.6

What resources will help me to effectively address the state standards?



Welcome to The Bulletin Board – A great resource to meet the needs of teaching and learning. This issue connects you to quality resources to effectively address the state standards.

## Curriculum & Instruction Website

### NEW [Math Resources](#)

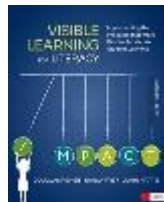
- Focus by Grade Level
- Coherence Maps
- Progression Documents
- Quarter 3 Planners

### NEW [ELA Resources](#)

- Scope & Sequence
- Cycle 2 Training Materials

## Making Learning Visible

*Teacher clarity about learning expectations, including the ways in which students can demonstrate their understanding, is powerful. p.27*



Click here for videos:

[Teacher-Student Relationships that Impact Learning](#)

[Making Learning Visible with Teacher Clarity and Expectations](#)

[Making Learning Visible Through Learning Intentions](#)

[Making Success Criteria Visible in 4th Grade](#)

## Have You Seen This?

### Wonders K-6



From your teacher dashboard, you can click on this icon to engage your students in online discussion threads on lesson topics. Here you can also assign the Research & Inquiry Projects outlined in your Teacher's Edition.

### GO Math K-6



Go Math! CA  
Personal Math  
Trainer, G4

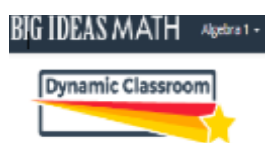
HMH has added a new icon to your teacher dashboard! This feature allows you to quickly access the Personal Math Trainer available for assigning to students. Be sure to check out the adaptive features!

### SpringBoard 7-11



Springboard has added Writing Workshops! Each workshop guides students through the writing of three separate texts in the specific mode being taught: one that is teacher guided, one that is collaborative, and one that is independent.

### Big Ideas 9-12



The Dynamic Classroom is an interactive lesson presentation tool on the teacher dashboard. Teachers can present their lessons and have point-of-use access to all online resources.

# EDUCATORS TO WATCH

## **Willow Reed, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Baird Middle School**



Willow Reed has taught for 13 years, and is in her sixth year of teaching 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Baird. Mrs. Reed is delighted to teach at Baird Middle School and be part of the rigorous academics, character building, and life skills building that are their tradition.

### **How is the implementation of SpringBoard going?**

Implementation is going really well. This summer I had three days of training. The trainers were dynamic and during that time I made connections with other educators from across the district that I will continue to utilize when I need help planning or working through the SpringBoard resources. Since we just adopted SpringBoard, we should remember to be kind to ourselves as we learn and teach the curriculum. It's always challenging to do something new, but if we are thoughtful and reflective, we will only get better. There are many tools in SpringBoard and in our district that we can use. As teachers, it's important to stay positive and not get too stressed with change. When we get stressed our kids get stressed. I would like to call out the help I have received, and continue to receive, from Alison Mosley and the team in Curriculum and Instruction as they have been a great source of support.

### **How do you fit everything in?**

I try to plan about three days in advance for my six classes in my block schedule, knowing that I will make many adjustments as I go. Seventh grade students are very social so every day I include reading, writing, talking and thinking. I am always looking for opportunities to make SpringBoard learning clear and visual for my students. For example, I color code my different classes so it is easy for the students and me to see materials. Routines are taught and retaught. The assessments are embedded and talked about constantly so my kids know where we are going. Lots of visuals and goal setting are a must. Conferencing with six students per day helps me keep up with a personal touch. I collect a **Check Your Understanding** at least once a week to check in and see what my students know. This practice helps with our class and school goal setting.



### **Student's Thoughts on SpringBoard:**

- "I like knowing the assessment prompts ahead of time. It makes learning easier."
- "We know what to do because it's all in one place."
- "It has tips, definitions with the articles, and information is reliable."

## **Lynnette Vincent, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, Malloch Elementary School**



### **How are you fostering ownership with your students?**

When the students see that I am excited to try something new, they feed off my energy. We are all learning Wonders together, and they love being a part of that with me. I am honest with them when I'm struggling with an aspect of the program or concept, and they can't wait to help me figure it out. They also see that even though I am their teacher, I am still willing to learn something new every day.

### **How do you utilize the Instructional pathway to support student learning and fit everything into your ELA time block?**

Using the Instructional Pathway as our weekly anchor chart, students know what to expect each week. Knowing what to expect each week has boosted the morale in my classroom.

### **What is some advice you may provide for other teachers using the new Wonders Curriculum?**

Be a risk taker. Don't be afraid to try! There are so many aspects within the Wonders program that it will take time to experiment with all of it and decide what to file in your tool box. I would advise the use of technology as it has sparked high engagement with my students. The students love interacting with the online texts, especially the *My Binder* piece.



### **How do you use technology to support students learning?**

We are having so much fun utilizing the technology in Wonders! Since we have a class set of tablets through the Personalized Learning Initiative, we are able to use the technology pieces on a daily basis. I feel the most important part of technology we use in my classroom is the Wonders online assessments. I feel my class is much better prepared than last year for the district and state testing simply because they are accustomed to navigating an online weekly assessment. I understand that not everyone has a class set of tablets like I do, so I would encourage others to be creative on ways to incorporate technology in the classroom.