

Monday March 18th PTA Meeting - Math and Reading Intervention Services at GMES
(Presented by Mrs. Henkel and Mrs. Mehrman)

Principles of the intervention program:

- Helping all children succeed
- Multi-tiered systems of support
- Data driven decision making

Intervention program has three tiers:

- Universal, tier 1 – all children receives this instruction
- Tier 2 – who is not successful – then we will help these kids by providing them with tools
- Tier 3 – need more intervention and fewer children being taught in groups
- This is a fluid classification system – every 4-6 weeks the team reassess –
- This is the system ACPS uses in all schools – not just one person is making this decision - teachers as well as administrators work as a team
- All of this occurs during I/E time – this is built into the school day

Reading interventions:

- We follow science of reading – phonics, fluency, comprehension etc
- K-3 – all children need foundational skills – maybe a kid needs support with letter sounds – then it goes up gradually – if a student has made it to the top tier then they don't need more interventions
- Reading resources – they use programs e.g., “Walpole DI structured phonics” – 15 minutes 5 days a week supported by a teacher
- Ignite reading is 1-1 Phonics instruction with a live virtual tutor on zoom during the day – this is for 3-5 only – the tutor provides feedback to the teacher – the kids seem to like this
- Not every kid needs a specific program – sometimes kids do better with different sensory inputs e.g., making letters with playdoh
- Systematic scope and sequence aligned to science of reading
- Read and discuss real world texts (in order to help kids connect learning re phonics to the real world)
- IMSE: multisensory teaching

Math interventions:

- New SOL's are implemented the Fall 2024 – will be tested in Spring 2025 SOL's – teaching methods are staying the same – but the when and how of teaching

fractions, etc changes – we will probably need a new tool – RFP – the teachers think these will be good changes

- Number & number sense
- Computation and estimation
- Measurement and geometry
- Probability and statistics
- Patterns functions and algebra

Math resources:

- Do the Math – small group, structured math intervention program
- Dreambox – computer adaptive math lessons
- Zearn – VA All in Tutoring – after school math for 3-5 graders – live teaching from a classroom teaching – it's a hybrid program (classroom teacher from GMES and also a zoom)
- Kathy Richardson – kits for developing number concepts –
- Bridging the Standards – a resource put out through GMU – e.g., 2nd graders just finished up a big fractions unit – parents can use this resource to review problem areas with our kids at home: <https://www.mathstrength.org/home>

Q&A session:

How are kids identified?

- Mostly via tests and assessments given throughout the year – all of the interventions are data-driven – VKRP, MAP scores – Just in Time Quick Checks – will pull in interventionist, classroom teachers, if there's social-emotional issues maybe the counselors will be involved.
- For every school in VA – 500 kids plus in a school then you need to have a certified reading teacher – EL teachers are also interventionists –

Mrs. Mehrman and Mrs. Henkel made positive comments to conclude. In their opinion, our school has great leadership and they feel goal directed and driven.

Mrs. Mehrman and Mrs. Henkel also thanked the parent volunteers and the PTA for the support with the school's new sensory room.