

CURRICULUM REPORT

I. Winter 2004 Workshop Days

On February 27th and March 1st, Itasca School District's certified staff members participated in two teacher workshop days. The workshops provided a variety of in-service opportunities including differentiating instruction for the purpose of meeting the needs of the talented and gifted students. Additional workshops offered training in the writing process and analysis of test scores.

All staff members received training in the analysis of test scores. Mr. Bob Gerry, a testing specialist, led teams of teachers in reviewing and applying the results within their own grade level of instruction.

The primary level staff members began training in a writing process for their students. A full day workshop provided clear and concise instruction in a procedure to implement within the primary grade levels.

Intermediate level teachers focused on the guided reading process. Itasca School District's reading specialist, Nichole Vorgias, provided an outstanding workshop.

At the middle school, a national presenter (Rick Wormeli) led teachers in the application of the most effective middle school instructional strategies. Throughout Mr. Wormeli's presentation, he emphasized strategies found effective in meeting the needs of talented and gifted students.

II. Kindergarten Curriculum Committee

The Kindergarten Curriculum Committee members are meeting to review the implementation of teaching strategies, materials and pacing of instruction within their classrooms. Committee members include the two kindergarten teachers (Linda Schaschwary and Donna Suptela), Dr. Turner and myself.

III. Reading Committee

A Reading Committee has begun to meet for the purpose of providing a continuous review and analysis of the needs and successful areas of reading instruction within our schools. One teacher from each school serves on this committee. From Benson Primary School, Sherri Klint (first grade teacher) joins the committee. Erin Infusino (fifth grade teacher at Franzen) serves on the committee. Representing Peacock's sixth grade level, Sharon Laughlin is a member of the committee. Meeting monthly, the committee members will continue to explore and discuss the instructional reading needs of our students.