

CURRICULUM REPORT

I. Preparation for Illinois Assessment Tests

District #10 students at grade levels 2-8 participate in a statewide testing program each spring.

At the second grade level, the students are administered the Illinois Grade 2 Assessment of Reading and Mathematics Test. This test is also referred to as the TerraNova Assessment Test. The purpose of the assessment is to measure the progress of second grade students in meeting the Illinois Learning Standards for reading and mathematics.

For grade levels 3-8, the students are administered the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT). ISAT measures the performance of students and schools against the Illinois Learning Standards. Assessment will take place during the second and third weeks of March.

Also for grade levels 3-8, students qualifying for the English as a Second Language (ESL) program are administered the Illinois Measure of Annual Growth in English (IMAGE) test instead of the ISAT. The IMAGE test measures the performance of students in reading and mathematics. Assessment will take place during the second and third weeks of April.

The assessment scores for reading and mathematics are used to measure adequate yearly progress (AYP) for all public schools. To prepare our teachers for the assessment process, staff members have been informed of the state's objectives (standards and benchmarks). In addition, grade level meetings are being completed that focus on the interpretation and application of test scores.

II. Internal Review Process

As required by the Illinois State Board of Education, each individual school must design and implement an Internal Review Process. This process includes reviewing test scores and identifying building goals through collaboration with staff.

For many years, all of the required procedures have been an integral part of each principal's leadership process. Principals and their teams of teachers have completed Internal Review training provided by the DuPage County Regional Office of Education. In completing the process, the principals and their staff members are involved in a yearlong analysis of test scores and implementation of identified goals.

III. Talented and Gifted Program (TAG)

At a TAG Parent Meeting held on November 18th, Media Center Directors provided examples of TAG extensions used within their schools. With over 50 parents attending the session, the Media Center Directors were able to provide better communication to the families regarding the TAG program.

IV. Kindergarten and Preschool: Registration, Round-Up and Screenings

At this time of the year, preparations are taking place to implement Kindergarten Registration and Screening, as well as Preschool Round-Up and Screening.

The purpose of the Kindergarten Registration Informational Meeting and Preschool (K-Prep) Round-Up is to identify students for entry into the programs for the following school year. With registration materials being distributed to parents at both events, an overview of the program will be provided at the Preschool Round-Up.

Screening opportunities are provided to students entering kindergarten or preschool during the following fall. Components of the screening include vision and hearing, speech and language, motor skills and basic concepts assessment. The screening will take place on February 1-3, 2005.

An additional event, Kindergarten Parent Orientation, will be offered to parents of entering kindergarten students. On May 19th, parents are being provided with an overview of the kindergarten program. This event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a tour of Benson Primary School.

Numerous staff members are involved in the development of the events. The team of staff members includes the kindergarten and preschool teachers, building specialists from Benson Primary School and Franzen Intermediate School, Benson Primary School's principal, and the Assistant Superintendent.