

Welcome to Kindergarten!

April 6, 2017

CEELC Gym

McFarland's PK-12 Literacy Philosophy:

"Reading and writing are lifework, not deskwork."

Lucy Calkins

The School District of McFarland's literacy philosophy articulates our common vision. At the heart of this vision is the intention to cultivate and nurture a love of reading and appreciation of the written word. Our philosophy is grounded in a balanced literacy framework that immerses and engages children (students) in a variety of authentic reading and writing experiences every day. Teachers afford students opportunities for both discovery and systematic instruction, helping them develop a range of strategies and skills that allow them to construct, critically examine, and apply meaning. Following the gradual release model, students work to synthesize and transfer what they have learned to the materials they read independently and the pieces they author, always working at the edge of their competencies and growing as 21st century readers and writers.

Kindergarten Literacy:

- Reading:
 - [*Units of Study for Teaching Reading, Grade K: A Workshop Curriculum*](#) by Lucy Calkins
 - For a brief (3 minutes) overview of the 4 reading units, visit <http://www.heinemann.com/unitsofstudy/reading/#components>
- Writing
 - [*Talking, Drawing, Writing: Lessons For Our Youngest Writers*](#) by Mary Ellen Giacobbe and Martha Horn
 - [*Units of Study in Opinion, Information, and Narrative Writing, Grade K: A Workshop Curriculum*](#) by Lucy Calkins
- Phonics, Spelling, & Word Study Progression
 - Progression built from a variety of research and resources including, but not limited to...
 - [*The Fountas & Pinnell Literacy Continuum, Expanded Edition: A Tool for Assessment, Planning, and Teaching, PreK-8*](#) by Irene Fountas, and Gay Su Pinnell
 - [*Spelling K-8: Planning and Teaching*](#) by Faye Bolton and Diane Snowball
 - [*Literacy Beginnings: A Pre-Kindergarten Handbook*](#)
 - [*Words Their Way for Pre-K – K*](#)
 - [*Words Their Way: Word Study for Phonics, Vocabulary, and Spelling Instruction \(5th Edition\) \(Words Their Way Series\)*](#)
 - [*Phonemic Awareness In Young Children*](#) by Marilyn Jager Adams, et al
 - [*The Fountas & Pinnell Literacy Continuum, Expanded Edition: A Tool for Assessment, Planning, and Teaching, PreK-8*](#)
 - [*Phonics and the Teaching of Reading*](#) by Delores Durkin
 - [*What Really Matters in Spelling: Research-Based Strategies and Activities*](#) by Patricia Cunningham

Kindergarten Literacy Assessments:

- **Fall**
 - [PALS \(Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening\)](#)
 - Snap Words (high frequency words readers recognize in a *snap*)
 - Narrative Writing Pre On-Demand Writing Assessment
- **Winter**
 - [PALS \(Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening\)](#) - optional
 - Snap Words (high frequency words readers recognize in a *snap*)
 - Narrative Writing Post On-Demand Writing Assessment
- **Spring**
 - [PALS \(Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening\)](#)
 - Snap Words (high frequency words readers recognize in a *snap* which is part of [Units of Study for Teaching Reading, Grade K: A Workshop Curriculum](#) by Lucy Calkins)
 - Fountas & Pinnell Running Records
 - Information Writing Pre & Post On-Demand Writing Assessments
 - Opinion Writing Pre & Post On-Demand Writing Assessments

Resources:

- [Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?](#)
- [Reading Together with Your Child: Tips for Parents](#)
- [The 50 Best Books for 5- and 6-year-olds](#)
- [8 Brutal Truths of Raising A Book-Loving Kid](#)
- [Selecting Books for Your Child: Finding 'Just Right' Books](#)
- [Creating A Home Library](#)
- [Award-Winning and Notable Kids' Books](#)
- [Tips for Helping Readers and Writers Read and Spell Tricky Words](#)

Contact Information:

Would you like me to share this information with you electronically? No problem! Just leave me your name and email address on the sheet provided.

Questions? Please feel free to give me a call or send me an email at any point in time!

Looking forward to a great year!

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