

Field Work Daily Logs – Week 2

Date: 6/20/16

Site: Paramount Unified School District Office

Time: 8:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Cumulative Total hours: 6.5 hours

Topic: Curriculum and Development Team (CADT) meeting

Activity: Today we began the creation of the Curriculum Guide. I worked on the Unit 1 Curriculum Guide for grade 3 along with a 3rd grade teacher. We worked on developing a Unit Overview and the weekly pacing for the unit. For the Unit Overview, we used the template from last year and made appropriate changes to fit the needs of the new ELA program. We had to create a new weekly pacing template since last year's template would not work well with the new program.

Reflection: We began with the Unit Overview because we felt it would help establish the expectations for the weekly pacing. The purpose of the Unit Overview is to determine what the students are expected to understand, as well as the knowledge and skills that they should learn by the end of the unit. We also list essential questions that the teacher should cover in order for students to learn and master the standards taught throughout the unit. It was easier to complete to Unit Overview because we had spent the previous days delving into the standards. Although it took a long time and didn't quite finish, I feel that we really did a great job in making sure that we matched the standards with what is going to be taught.

Date: 6/21/16

Site: John G. Whittier Elementary School

Time: 8:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Cumulative Total hours: 6 hours

Topic: Library – Dewey Decimal System, Behavior management

Activity: Today various grade level classrooms visited the library. When the kindergarten classroom came, Ms. Patterson read them three books that were related to gardens. The first through third grade students are able to check out two books, one fiction and one non-fiction. She also spent a few minutes reading a chapter of "Fantastic Mr. Fox." The two fourth grade classes that come in can check out 3 books, with at least one fiction and one non-fiction book. She also told them the story "Dewey and the Alien" and had the complete an activity about the Dewey decimal system. Today I also helped Ms. Patterson with the check-in and check-out of books for the first time.

Reflection: One thing that I noticed today was the behavior patterns of students. About eight classes visit the library each day, and each class is completely different. It is difficult to establish a behavior strategy when you see so many students in one day from various grade levels. Ms. Patterson has done a great job of managing behavior in her library by establishing routines for the students. The check-in and check-out process is quick and efficient. It is evident that students know where to look for the grade level appropriate books, as well as the different genres of books. She also uses a bell when she needs attention of students or when the voice level gets too loud. With these routines in place, students are able to gain the most out of the time they get to spend in the library.

Date: 6/22/16

Site: John G. Whittier Elementary School

Time: 8:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Cumulative Total hours: 6 hours

Topic: Library – Web Evaluation

Activity: Today there were a total of 9 classes that went into the library. There were two kindergarten classes, one first grade class, one second grade class, two third grade classes, and two fifth grade classes. I continued to assist with the check-in and check-out of books and shelving them. Ms. Patterson read to the students in Kindergarten through second grade. Ms. Patterson showed the fifth grade students a PowerPoint presentation titled “Website Evaluation.”

Reflection: I was very impressed with the PowerPoint presentation on website evaluation. It is never too late to teach students about the importance of conducting effective research. With the development of many search engines, such as Google, many students do not know how to identify the good and legitimate websites over questionable ones. The presentation was a good resource to help students make better choices when it comes to website evaluation. It was also grade-level appropriate, while rigorous at the same time. All students seemed engaged in the lesson and there was good group discussions happening. The next step would be to do a hands-on activity in which students look at a website and check for the components of a good website.

Date: 6/23/16

Site: John G. Whittier Elementary School

Time: 8:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Cumulative Total hours: 5 hours

Topic: Library – Locating books

Activity: Today is an early release day so there were only 7 classes who came into the library. There were two 4th grade classes, three 2nd grade classes, a first grade class, and a 2nd/3rd grade combination class who came. I assisted with the check-in and check-out of books, as well as with putting them back on the shelves. One additional activity that I began today was helping students find books on topics that interested them.

Reflection: The use of the online public access catalog, or OPAC, that the school uses to look for books was very easy to use. I was able to locate books for students quickly and easily using the call number. I used what I have learned about the Dewey Decimal System from the last week to locate the books for students. I noticed that many students, especially the younger ones, do not know how to find books that are interesting to them. Most of them only know how to find the fiction and non-fiction books, but not specific books in each of the area. I noticed that many students pull out a book, look through the pages, put it back if it doesn't seem interesting, and then repeat the process again with the next book until they find one they like. At this school site, students do not have access to computers so that they may be able to use the catalog on their own. It would be very beneficial, and a lot faster, if students had the opportunity to use the catalog to locate their own books.

Total hours for the week: 23.5 hours