



BUILD COMMUNITIES OF ENGAGED STUDENTS • ENABLE STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL • NURTURE KINDNESS, EMPATHY, AND TOLERANCE

NPS K-5 Literacy Program 'Evaluate & Select' Summary June 2023

Team Chairs Roxanne Dorrie & Rachel Nicholas

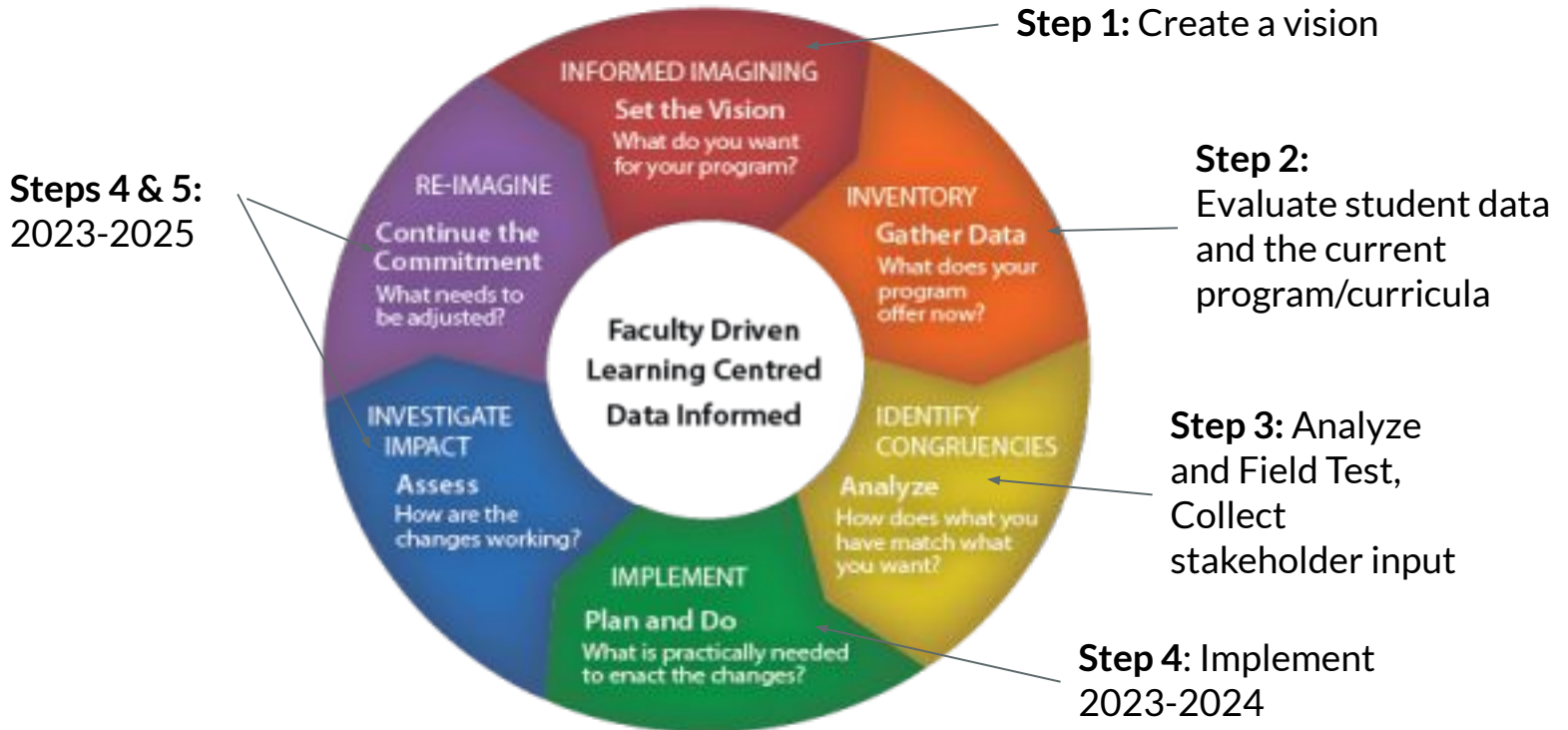
Elementary ELA Team Members: Heidi Anderson, Elizabeth Boughan, Kathleen Bredin, Sarah Carlton, Paula Cleary, Andrea Egitto, Joshua Dickson, Kira Henninger, Margaret LaRoche, Jen Lucine, Clara McCoy, Cheryl Michon, MaryBeth O'Conner, Lina Patel, Bridgit Pelis, Diana Ramsden, Sara Simmons, Katharine Walmsley, Deborah Willis

Both Wit & Wisdom and EL Education are programs that have been vetted by DESE through the CURATE process

and therefore both fully approved programs have all of the Components of the Core Literacy Block as outlined by DESE. The next few slides show how NPS will address all components to provide a comprehensive K-5 Literacy education to all students.



We have a *Curriculum Cycle of Review & Renewal* ...because curriculum isn't designed to be taught forever



Evaluation of our current student data & K-5 Literacy programming:

- Many first grade and Kindergarten students scored below expected levels of performance on our normed Literacy spring benchmark assessment.
- Our current ELA instruction and curriculum is not meeting the needs of ALL of our students as evidenced by scores of English Language Learners and students on IEPs.
- Our current CORE curriculum (TCRW Units of Study) does not meet the requirements of high-quality instructional materials.
- Current implementation of foundational literacy instruction is inconsistent across the district.

Our Process for selecting a new program were based on our vision statement, created by a team of NPS educators and our district priorities, identified by information collected through educator and caregiver surveys

Language and literacy learning are inseparable processes that are woven throughout all aspects of life and education. In the Northampton public schools, through experiences in reading, writing, listening, and speaking, students will continue to grow into responsible and engaged global citizens. Building on foundational literacy skills, students will engage with high-quality, diverse, and complex texts and will develop an appreciation for reading and writing to become active listeners, critical thinkers and problem solvers. Through systematic, evidence-based, differentiated, and culturally responsive instruction, all students gain confidence by learning to read across genres, writing for a variety of audiences and purposes, and communicating and collaborating effectively.



BUILD COMMUNITIES OF ENGAGED STUDENTS • ENABLE STUDENTS TO REACH THEIR POTENTIAL • NURTURE KINDNESS, EMPATHY, AND TOLERANCE

- **The Needs of our students:**
 - **Inclusive of English Language learners**
 - **Inclusive of diverse learning styles and needs**
- **Embedded differentiation**
- **Multi-modal instruction**
- **Explicit instruction**
- **ELA/Literacy Standards alignment**
- **Text quality and organization- balance of non-fiction/fiction**
- **Classroom tasks - engagement level**
 - **Active learning for early literacy (developmentally appropriate)**
- **Instructional Accessibility for all students**
- **Usability for teachers**
- **Impact on student learning**
- **Addresses all 5 areas of reading**

Features of the ELA 'select & evaluate' Process

1. Teacher team of ELA Chairs and Vertical ELA members representing all grades/levels
2. Data dives on our EL and SPED populations using normed data
3. Final 2 choices were based on CURATE and EDREPORTS program evaluations and district priorities
4. Pilot/Field Tests conducted for 5 weeks
5. 20+ Literacy Meetings throughout the year
6. Program Scorecards for all teachers
7. Teacher surveys for Pilot teachers and another for all teachers
8. Caregiver surveys for both K-5 and 6-8
9. Student surveys for both pilot programs
10. Final recommendations made by the working team of ELA Chairs and Vertical ELA members

The final choice includes all of the components of a CORE LITERACY BLOCK:

Components of the Core Literacy Block

The core literacy block in grades preK–3 includes three main components: Foundational Skills, Engaging with Complex Text, and Writing. Oral Language is the bedrock, and differentiated instruction happens throughout.

Foundational Skills

The core literacy block includes systematic instruction with active practice in foundational skills every day in grades preK–3.

Foundational Skills for All

Pre-K

Kindergarten

Grade 1

Grade 2

Grade 3

Engaging with Complex Text

The core literacy block includes reading or listening to authentic and meaningful texts every day in grades preK–3.

Choosing and Using Complex Text

Reading for Understanding

Responding to Text

Writing

The core literacy block includes systematic writing instruction with active practice every day in grades preK–3.

Sentence Structure & Conventions

Craft of Writing

Writing Process



Sign out

Jun 1

2:43

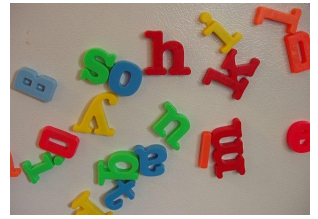
1

US





Foundational Literacy Skills



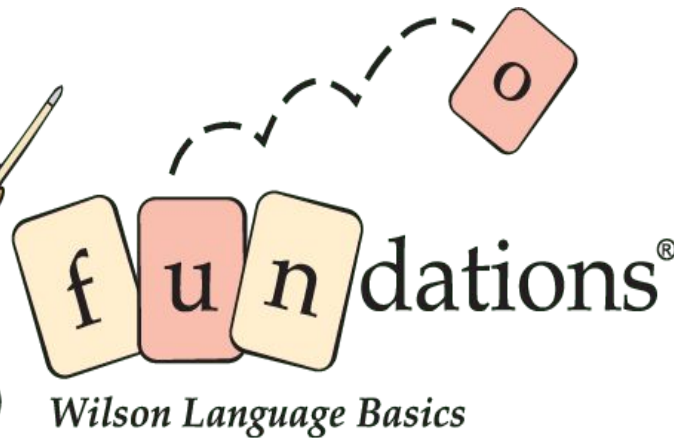
The literacy block will include systematic instruction with active practice in foundational skills every day in grades K–3 and will include:


- Phonics lessons that align to the district’s Foundational Skills Scope & Sequence (using Fundations as the main program)
- Heggerty phonological awareness lessons
- 30 minute daily skills lessons taught in a Structured Literacy format using **Wit & Wisdom’s Geodes** and other decodable texts that match taught skills



A bug or rat
is no pal to this cat.

No bug or rat
can whiz by this cat!

 **foundations**[®]
Wilson Language Basics
Fundations[®] Alignment
82% Decodable at Level 1, Unit 3
Focus Concept
Consonant Digraphs (*wh, ch, sh, th, ck*)

Books contain a minimum of 80% of new and known sound-spelling patterns taught through a specified Fundations Unit. Organized into topical modules that build background knowledge, and with direct instruction in content words, these authentic texts become "readable" and accessible to emerging readers.

Geodes (from **Wit & Wisdom**) + Heggerty + Fundations

□ A thorough approach to teaching K-3 Foundational Skills!



Engaging with Text

The core literacy block includes reading or listening to authentic and meaningful texts every day in grades preK–3.

- Daily skills lessons taught in a Structured Literacy format will include instruction using decodable texts that match the skills taught
- Daily instruction using the **EL Education module lessons** to teach:
 - Reading comprehension using complex, grade level texts
 - Responding to text and citing evidence



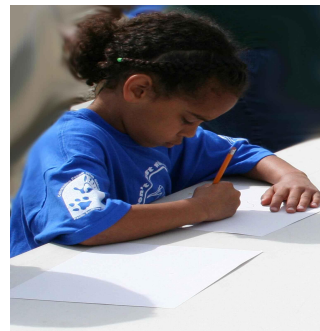


Writing

The core literacy block includes systematic writing instruction with student practice every day in grades K-5

- The **EL modules** include writing lessons on
 - Sentence structure & conventions
 - Craft of writing
 - Writing process

- Teachers will continue to implement Writing Workshop to offer opportunities for students to engage in extended writing, beyond the EL writing lessons.





Oral Language:

Oral language develops through speaking and listening interactions, engaging with text, and explicit language instruction across all components of the literacy block. Both fully vetted and state approved programs have lessons that help students develop their oral language skills.

LISTENING

SPEAKING



2023-2024 Implementation Plan Rough Outline

- ★ This summer a core team will engage in Phase 3: LAUNCH action planning as outlined by DESE. Here is an outline of the implementation plan which will be refined through the Phase 3 process:
 - Next year K-5 classroom teachers will implement 2 of the 4 **EL modules** and use monthly grade level planning time (and additional release time, if provided by the district) to unpack lessons together, with attention to addressing all of the Massachusetts ELA/Literacy standards.
 - This summer, the Curriculum Office will develop a district Scope and Sequence for K-3 Foundational Skills and a district K-5 Literacy Block Schedule
 - Next year K-3 classroom teachers will follow the district Scope and Sequence using **Fundations** as the main program and **Geodes decodables** will be used so that students can practice the taught skills in the context of reading
 - PD on **EL modules** will be provided on our August 29th district PD day and on our November 8th PD day as well as during the [2] spring 2024 3 hour PD afternoons.
 - Our literacy coach will provide in-class PD /support in all K-5 classrooms on structured literacy using **Geodes decodables and other decodables**.
 - 2024-2026: Implementation will be scaled up to include all 4 **EL modules**, and K-5 ELA/Literacy Curriculum Maps will be rewritten to reflect the updated curriculum.