



New Approaches to Literacy Instruction

Principal's Coffee Hour

Lynbrook South Middle School

January 14, 2019



Your Middle School Experience May Have Been Different

- Name one (or more) book you read in a middle school English class that you LOVED.
- Name one (or more book) you read in a middle school English class that you HATED.
- How did your middle school English teachers encourage you to read?
- How did your middle school English teachers know if you read?
- How did your middle school English teachers teach you to be good readers?



How Much Should A Young Adolescent Read?

- 1 million words per year
 - Approximately 25 novels per year
- How many novels did you read with your class in middle school?
 - $4 + 4 + 2$
- How do we encourage kids to read at this pace?
 - Make reading social
 - CHOICE
 - Variety
 - Accountability



New to South This Year: TCRWP

- Teachers College Reading & Writing Project
- Research and practice based
- Focus is:
 - Skills based
 - Modeling
 - Student choice
 - Practice thinking and reading behaviors
- Conferences
- Assessment vs. Evaluation



What Are We Asking Kids to Do?

- Think critically, analyze, make connections, make predictions
- Why did the writer choose to include the scenes in the novel? What didn't she show you?
- How are characters representatives of humanity?
- How does an author develop characters? (author study)
- Analyze a change in a character over time
 - Complexity



What Are We Asking Kids to Do?

- ▶ Set realistic reading goals
- ▶ Hold one another accountable
- ▶ Journal
 - ▶ NOT reading logs or summaries



TCRWP Year 1 Implementation

- Two units of study per grade level
 - 6: Social Issues
 - 7: Historical Fiction, Author Study
 - 8: Dystopian Literature, Literary Non-Fiction
- Ongoing support for teachers
- Building classroom libraries
 - THANK YOU to administration and BOE



Another Instructional Tool: LLI

- Leveled Literacy Intervention
- Research Based
- Practicing necessary skills:
 - Vocabulary development
 - Phonics
 - Prereading & rereading
 - Using text features
- Short books each class period to practice skills



Continuing to Spread the #Booklove

- Every Friday when not in a TCRWP unit
 - Protected Practice
 - CHOICE
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