

Departmental Meeting
ELA/Reading/Librarian
9/18/06

Attendance:

T. Bess-Hodges, N. Richard, J. Turnbull, N. Bennett, V. McGovern, M. Gaizo-Clinton, B. Collins, V. Zangrillo, P. Nation, S. MacDonald, M. Zay, N. Jayne

**Excused: J. Petrignani – Track Coach
B. Raebeck – Golf Coach**

Minutes:

I) The results of student participation in the summer reading program were discussed. The following represents the number of students that turned in their assignment on time for each teacher:

<u>Teacher</u>	<u>Student Participation</u>
N. Richard	100%
B. Collins	all but 2 in her class turned in assignment
M. Gaizo-Clinton	all but 2 in 12 grade classes, all but 5 of the 11th grade class – turned in their assignment
V. Zangrillo	
P. Nation	Perri reported that the blog listing was not accurate in terms of reporting the number of students who submitted a blog. Perri is communicating with the blog administrator on this issue in order to get an accurate count.
T. Bess-Hodges	two out of 19 11th grade students did not turn in their assignment, one out of the 26 ninth graders did not turn in their assignment.
J. Turnbull	All students except for one
M. Zay	All students except for one
S. MacDonald	All students

- II) Paula Liss discussed the “Turn It In” program and its capabilities regarding the detection of plagiarism, checking basic grammar, citing sources etc. Paula recommended training for all departments.
- III) Nature Richard asked the question which concerned the responsibility of the summer school teacher and the summer reading assignment. “Is it assumed that the summer school teacher will work on completing the summer reading assignment?”
- IV) John Turnbull discussed the 9th grade honors contract and the process involved with enrolling students in this class.

- V) It was discussed and agreed upon by the department that the English Regents would be offered to those students who are “doubling-up” in 12th grade who have not yet taken the Regents. The purpose of allowing students to take the Regents in January would be to give them every possibility of passing the Regents and graduating on-time.
- VI) Nathan Jayne reported to the department that during the week of January 25th, 2006, he would be distributing Senior Packets during the English periods.
- VII) Brigid Collins was asked the question regarding professional circles for Grammar with D. Barnard, and also a READ 180 professional circle. Brigid’s response was that the professional circles would be supported by the Peconic Teacher’s Center.

VII)

Training took place for the Scholastic READ 180 program today. Teachers from the elementary, intermediate and high school attended this training. The training was modified to accommodate teachers that have already used the program. I encouraged teachers to come with specific questions and any problems they may have encountered during their exposure to the program. The training included use of the READ 180 program and emphasis was placed on differentiated instruction in whole group and small group and including the ELA curriculum into the classes

I attended the National READ 180 conference this summer and was able to bring back a multitude of information and examples from the conference that I was able to carry without tearing a muscle. I actually talked the conference coordinator into giving me another READ 180 conference bag so I could fill that up too.

The READ 180 program is used at each building and each building has an “anchor video”. To safeguard any loss of this video, I have copied the anchor video and will have a copy here at the high school just in case the video is misplaced.

Questions?

Is READ 180 for non-readers?

Read 180 is a remedial reading program. If there are licenses available you may want to use the software portion with a small group instruction in an after-school program.

If my student is reading at a third grade level but they are in the 7th grade, do I need to use Stage A?

Stage A is used for students K – 4

Stage B is used for students 5 - 8
Stage C is used for students 9 - 12

Each stage is appropriate for the student's maturity level. A student at the 7th grade level would not use Stage A, they would use Stage B because the topics covered in the "R" book as well as the independent reading.

How do I determine the appropriate book for my students?

The student's Lexile levels are determined by taking the SRI evaluation. Teachers should utilize the "book pass" at the beginning of each workshop. Lexile levels are listed on the back of the books. Students can also peruse the books before their independent reading rotation. Audio books do not have a Lexile level since the Lexile levels reflect "readability."

READ 180 Needs:

Justin Gubbin's class -Justin Gubbins class needs three DVD players, two computers and an anchor video. Susan MacDonald will follow-up with Peter Wolter and Cindy Jacunski concerning their needs.

Perri Nation -Need one "r" book.

Lila Piccozzi -Need four "r" books.

Stage A software needs to be installed before the program can run in the elementary school. Materials arrived in the elementary school last week. Expected date of commencement of Stage A is the first week of October, 2006.

IX) WILSON Training will take place on January 26th and 28th, 2006. All Reading Teachers and Assistants will attend.

Respectfully submitted by,

**Susan MacDonald
Maureen Zay
Brigid Collins**