

Knowlton Academy

PDIG-Final Report for 2018-2018

Knowlton Academy teachers spent the year working on their math curriculum. We felt that this was an area that needed some improvement in order to help the teachers streamline their teaching and also to help their students succeed. We started the year by sorting through the curriculum itself and discussing what we as a staff felt was essential for all students to know, important to know and good to know. This helped us prioritize what the “must haves” for each grade level were. Once we had sorted out the curriculum we met as an entire staff and aligned the curriculum so that the essentials lined up and made sense in the progression throughout elementary school. Finally, the teachers met in their cycle groups to plan out next year’s learning goals per month. Each month had one essential concept, one important concept and a good to know concept to be taught in that order. This will allow the reorganization of students during the month to make sure that all students are at the bare minimum getting the essential knowledge. We also were able to share and organize resources for the essential concepts. This will be tremendously helpful in starting our math year off with purpose and allow for collaboration amongst teachers for the entirety of the school year. We feel that the PDIG was a huge success. It was interesting to hear each other’s ideas about what was essential to know vs. important. Not all teachers agreed at the start but by the end of the discussions we had all reached an understanding of the concepts that we were satisfied with.

The goals of our PDIG were to map out a continuum of the essential learnings in math for each cycle (k-cycle 3) and to plan a stronger PLC/RTI model. We fully accomplished these goals. We were able to pull out and discuss each math concept and place them in order of importance. We also were able to align our teaching of the concepts throughout the year in order to facilitate the reorganization of students to reach each child’s needs. Through the collaboration of teachers and reorganization of students this will lead to higher success for students. The students will be able to learn at their own pace and teachers will guarantee the learning of the essential concepts.

This PDIG was beneficial and we feel that it should be a priority for all schools to have an aligned curriculum in order to enable the full collaboration of teachers. It is only through this collaboration and alignment that RTI/PLC can be successful. In order to help other schools put in place their RTI/PLC model we would be willing to share our documents as a template. They should only be using it as a guideline as it is in the best interest of the schools to develop their own essential knowledges. The process of sorting through the curriculum was very valuable and the other schools should experience it. The math consultant will be free to share our experiences and resources with any school who wishes to see it. Our Principal will also be sharing our document with the administration from other schools.