BCS PLC

May 16, 2014

Present: Ely Freedman, Richard Fakhari, Mariano Rodriguez, and Erica Dibello-Hitta

Agenda

1. Common Core Alignment - Wrap Up

2. Mariano’s Presentation

3. Richard’s Presentation

4. Ely’s Presentation

Michelle Dulea welcomed everyone and reminded us that the focus of this meeting is to align what we currently do with elements from the Common Core.

Everyone worked on aligning our Course Outline to the CC.

Grades K-6 to prepare students for ABE (7-8) and HS subjects (9-12)

 Next year we will align with CC Performance Tasks.

2. Mariano - shared with us the Future 4 Unit test log .

Erica - I go over the test with the class and give them an opportunity ...

Michelle - I even gave group tests and students helped each other.

Ely - my students played grammar “Jeopardy” - they could call consult and discuss the answer- 10 different catergories - 50 questions

Mariano - worksheets that he gave to students (write the title, author, main idea, details, and conclusion) as homework. His students read at home and were diligent returning the books to him. In class students discussed their book in groups of 3-4. Everyone had to retell their story chronologically and then answer questions. Students became interested in reading other students’ books. They became engaged.

Michelle wondered how the book club model would work - giving everyone the same book to read. Mariano shows his students the trailers of the Penguin books as a teaser. After a few weeks the students get to watch the whole movie.

Michelle - we will get more non-fiction Penguin Readers in the fall.

Michelle - what you do covers all the four areas … listening, reading, speaking, writing.

3. Richard - Steven Krashen (linguist) children do better with his Free Voluntary Reading than with the programs that provide rewards for reading. The teacher read with the students and Vocabulary increased with the free-reading model. Richard’s students created a reading habit.

 Ely’s students enjoy reading in class. I would have them read for pleasure first and then tell them that filling out this form will facilitate your group conversation.

Erica - mentioned that Burlington English includes a section

Richard - How to Write an Introductory Paragraph -Power Point lesson - created by Jose Gonzalez Gives 3 ways of writing an introductory paragrtaph.

4. Ely - Writing prompt - if you could visit any place on earth, where would you go and why? Group project for a large class. Power Point Presentation based on the propmt. She gave students a couple of weeks to finish but gave them deadlines to keep them on track.

Erica - over the summer finish Prepositions “booklet” and share with the other teachers.

Teachres send me “evidence” for WASC - Power Points, etc.

Ely - For a future meeting let’s look at the placement test for BCS. Students are placed in BCS that don’t belong there.

Mariano - there could be a writing test - it wouldn’t have to be graded line by line (more wholistically)

Ely - CVA will offer a one hour grammar class for students who can communicate well.