



Accelerated Learning Academies... Schools on the Move!

August 5, 2008

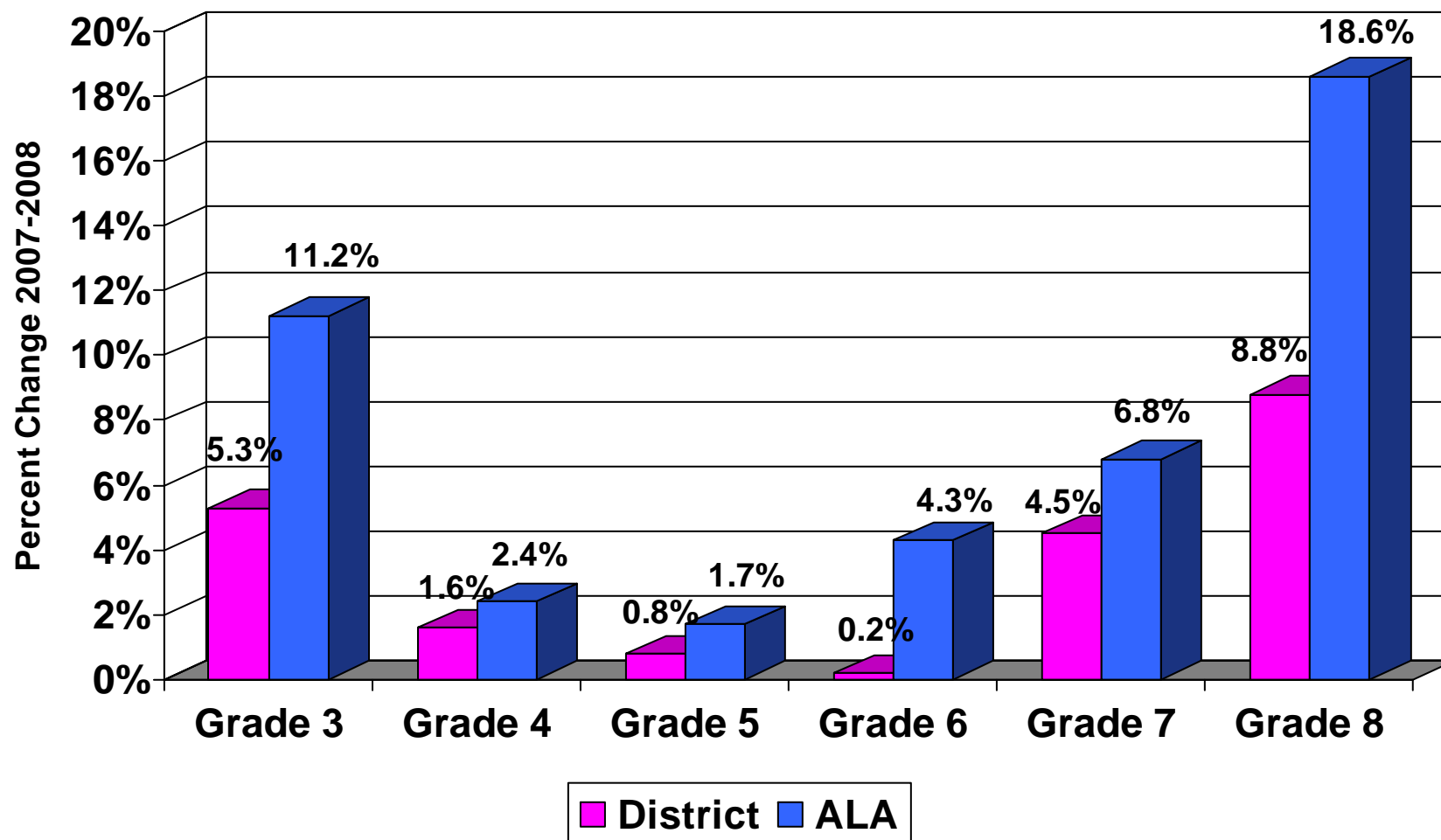
Dr. Christiana Otuwa

Dr. Cindi Muehlbauer

Ms. Jamie Kinzel

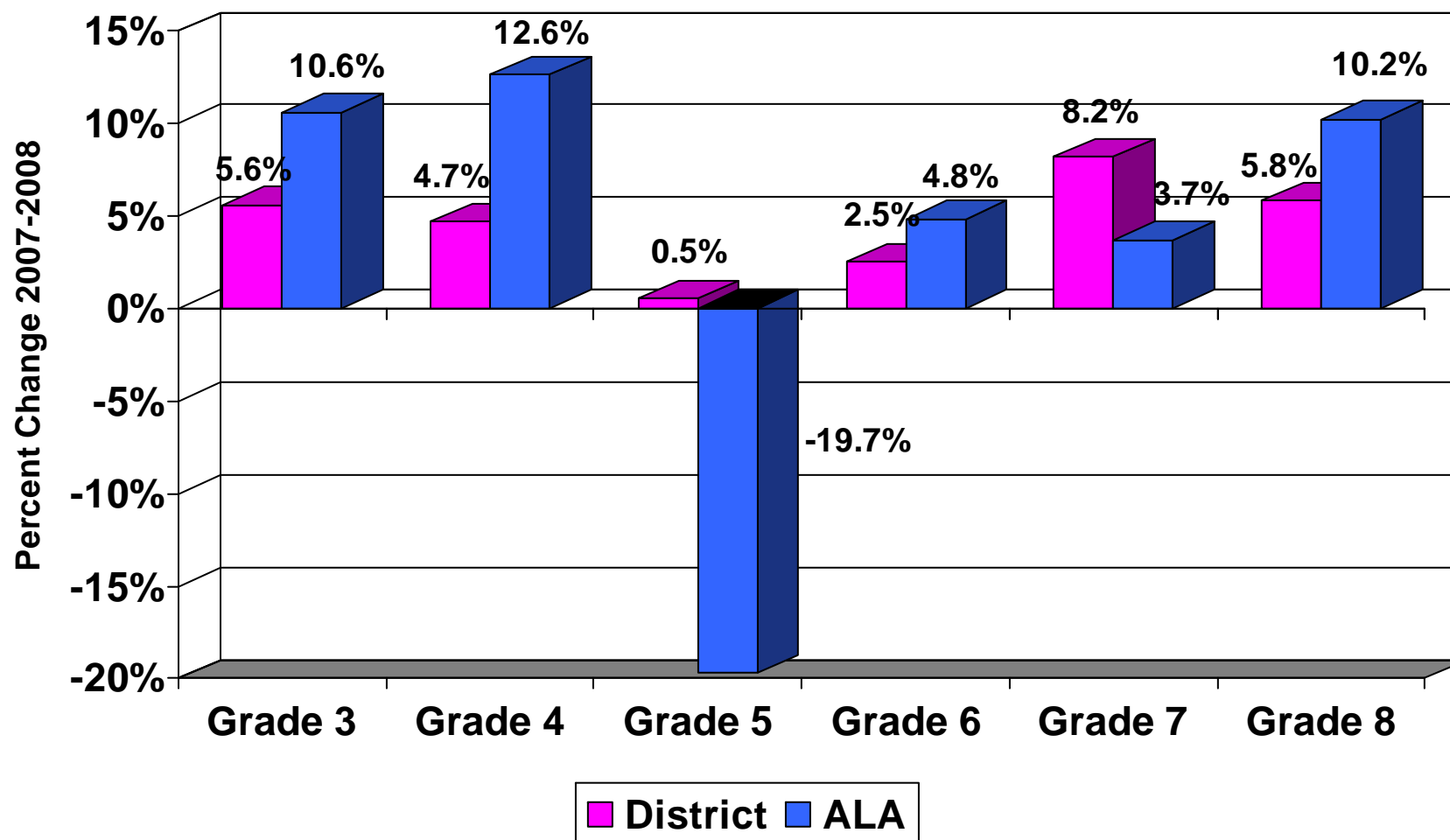


Meeting and Exceeding Achievement Targets: Reading Proficiency Comparison





Meeting and Exceeding Achievement Targets: Math Proficiency Comparison





What does it mean to be
an America's Choice
school?

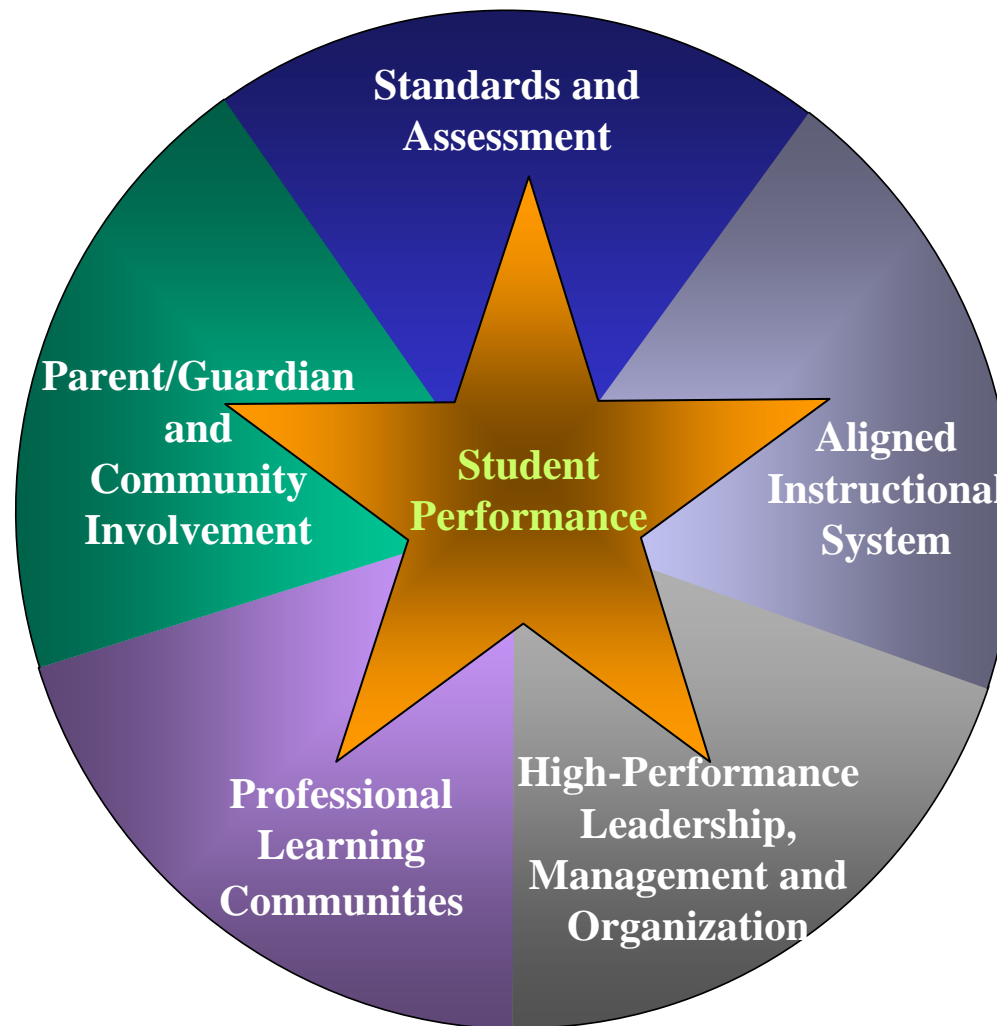


Extraordinary Schools Doing Extraordinary Things

- **Reconstituted Schools**
- **Restructured Schedule**
 - **Longer School Day** (45 instructional minutes added)
 - **Longer School Year** (10 additional school days)

America's Choice Implementation Rubric

Driven by the
DAT
(Diagnostic
Assessment
Tool)



The
Design
Tasks



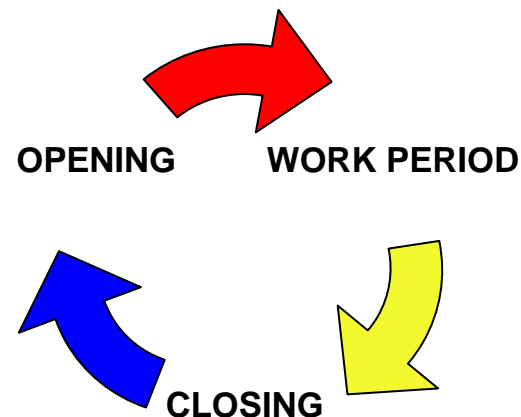
What does it mean to be an America's Choice School?

- Standards-based classrooms that use data walls and data binders to monitor student achievement
- Professional Learning Communities
 - ALA Professional Development Team (Lead Teachers attend Literacy Institutes)
 - Design Task Committees
- Engagement of Parents and Community
 - Parent Engagement Specialists

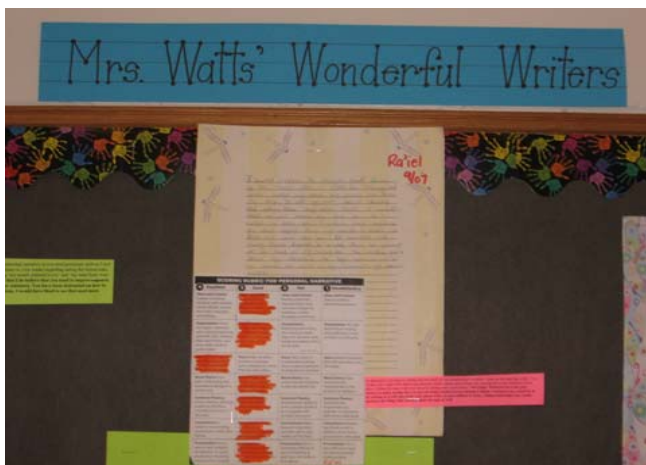
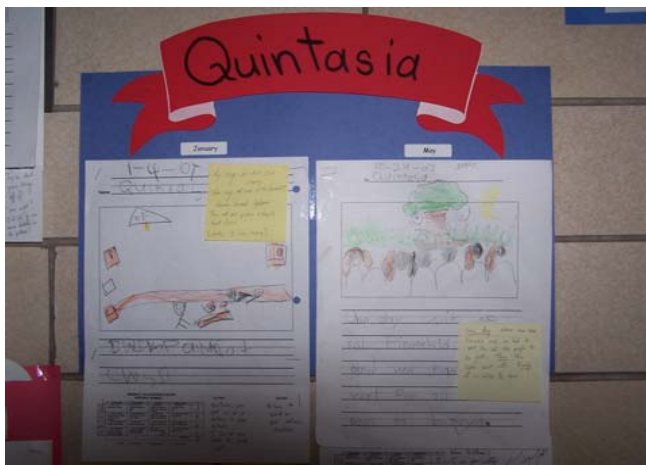


Components Helping Us Become Successful

- **Rituals and Routines**
- **Relationships**
 - **Student-Centered Classrooms**
- **Workshop Model**



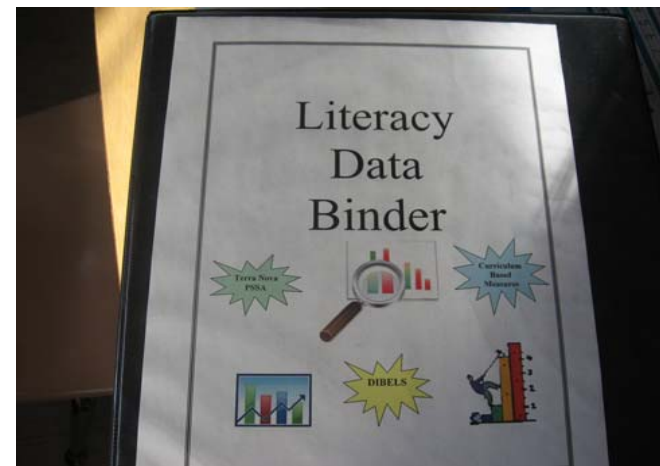
Components Helping Us Become Successful



- **Standards-Based Teaching and Learning**
- **Teacher Commentary**
- **Analysis of Student Work**

Components Helping Us Become Successful

- Data Driven Schools
 - Data Walls
 - Leadership Teams track progress of all students
 - Data Binders
 - Supports data analysis and documentation for data driven instructional plans



Components Helping Us Become Successful



Exploring Safety Nets

Literacy Interventions

Intervention	Colored TAB
IST (Instructional Support Team)	ORANGE
Differentiated Instruction (small group)	YELLOW
VAV Tutoring	BLUE
Reading First Intervention Groups	PINK
Triumphs / Ramp-up Instruction	GREEN

- **Differentiated Instruction (skills block)**
- **Intervention Periods (supported by extended day)**
- **Safety Nets**

Components Helping Us Become Successful

■ Writer's Workshop

- Daily Writing Instruction
- Workshop Model
- Tied to Writing Standards

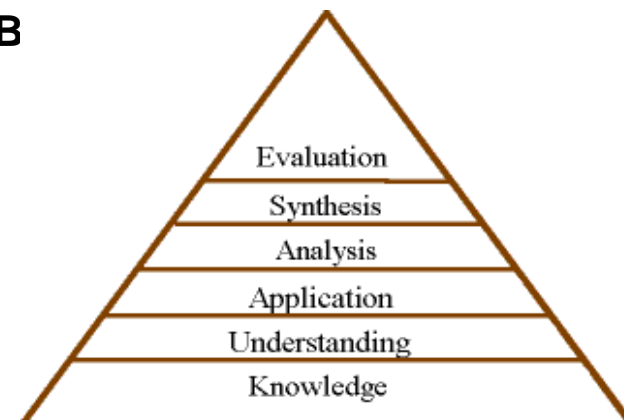
“Reading and Writing, in combination, contribute hugely to critical intelligence.”

--National Writing Commission 2003

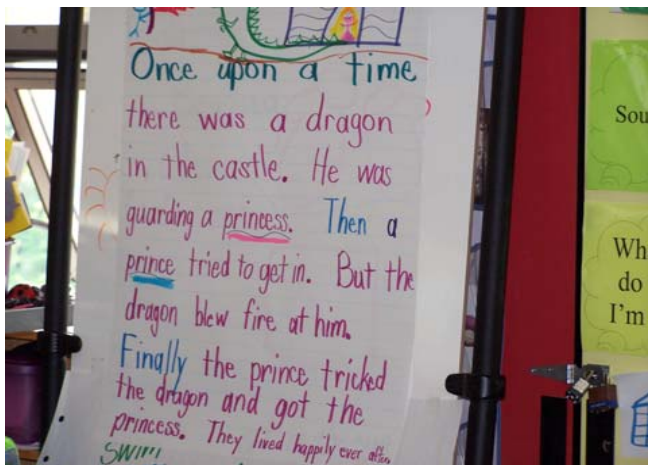
“Writing is the means by which students develop **metacognitive** awareness.....and thus assume control over it. Control over the logic and quality of their thoughts. **The upper reaches of the Bloom’s taxonomy could not be reached without the use of some form of writing.”**

-B

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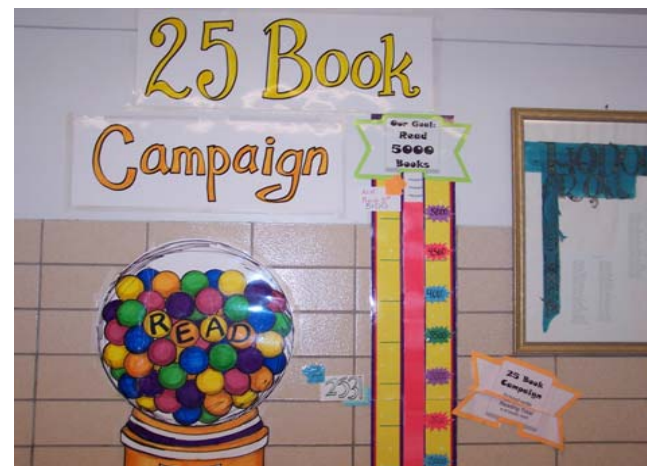
Components Helping Us Become Successful



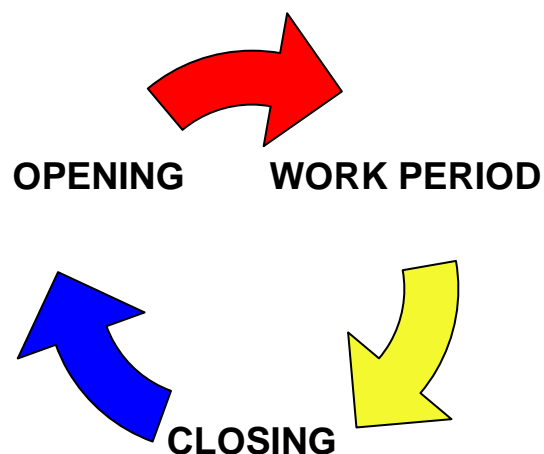
- Additional Literacy Support
 - Ramp-up to Literacy Course (Middle School Students)
 - Cross-age Tutoring
 - Reading & Writing Connection
 - Authentic Artifacts created with students

Components Helping Us Become Successful

- Additional Literacy Support
 - Book of the Month Initiative (school-wide)
 - Monthly Writing Tasks
 - 25 Book Campaign (Read 1 million words)
 - Classroom Leveled Libraries
 - Access to varieties of genres and levels
 - Supports meaningful independent reading



Components Helping Us Become Successful



■ Mathematics

- Workshop Model
- Math Navigator
- Ramp-Up Mathematics

Components Helping Us Become Successful

- Leadership Team
 - Comprehensive collection of people from leadership team
 - Weekly leadership meetings
 - Conduct focus walks focusing on areas of design
 - Analyze data
 - Formulate decisions about next steps and professional development

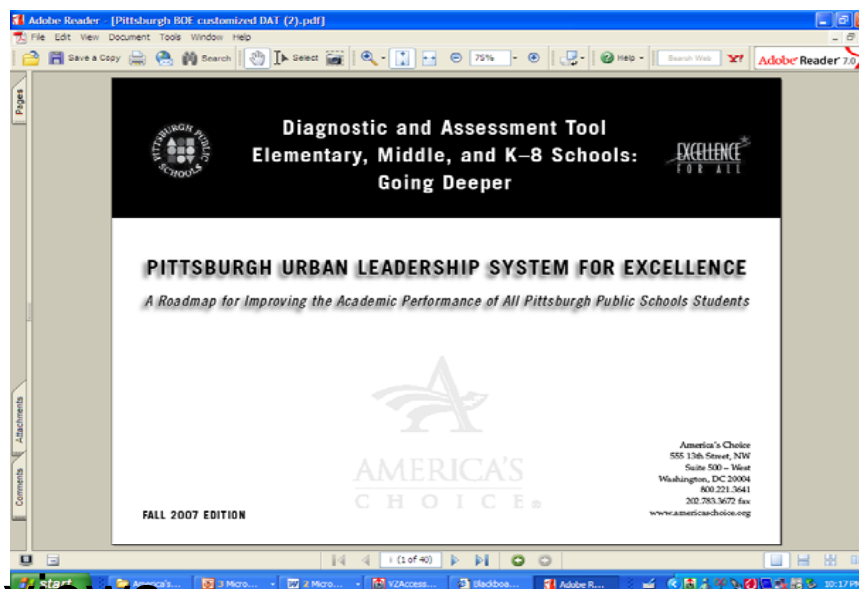
The screenshot shows a Microsoft Word document titled "Focus Walk Form". The form is structured as follows:

Literacy:		GRADE:		DATE:	
FOCUS WALK EXPECTATIONS					
EVIDENCE EXPECTED TO SEE			QUESTIONS TO ASK		
			STUDENTS		
			STUDENT RESPONSE:		
EVIDENCE SEEN			TEACHERS		

The form is displayed within a Microsoft Word window, with the Windows taskbar visible at the bottom showing the Start button and several open applications including "Focus Walks", "Microsoft PowerPoint", and "Focus Walk Form - MS Word".



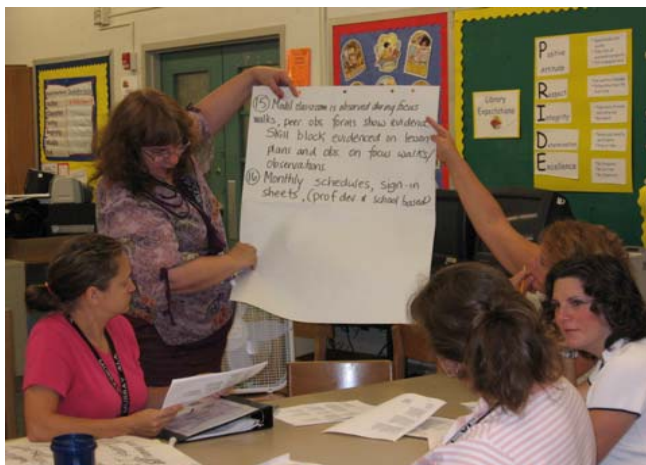
Components Helping Us Become Successful



- Quality Reviews
 - Two quality reviews conducted each school year (mid/end)
 - Executive Director and AC support staff assist leadership team with review
 - Diagnostic Assessment Tool utilized



Components Helping Us Become Successful



- Coaching Model
 - Literacy Coach
 - Math Coach
- In-house Professional Development
 - In-class support
 - ESEP PD sessions
 - Study Groups
 - Teacher Meetings



Components Helping Us Become Successful



- Parent Engagement Special
 - Curriculum Nights, Publishing Parties, Book Bingo, Guest Readers
- PBIS – Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (School-wide Behavior Plans)



Components Helping Us Become Successful



- Support for all Accelerated Learning Academies
 - Executive Director, Dr. Christiana Otuwa
 - America's Choice Cluster Leaders (Reading & Math)



Moving to Year 3:
Checklist to Commitment
to Achieve
Excellence For All
2008-2009

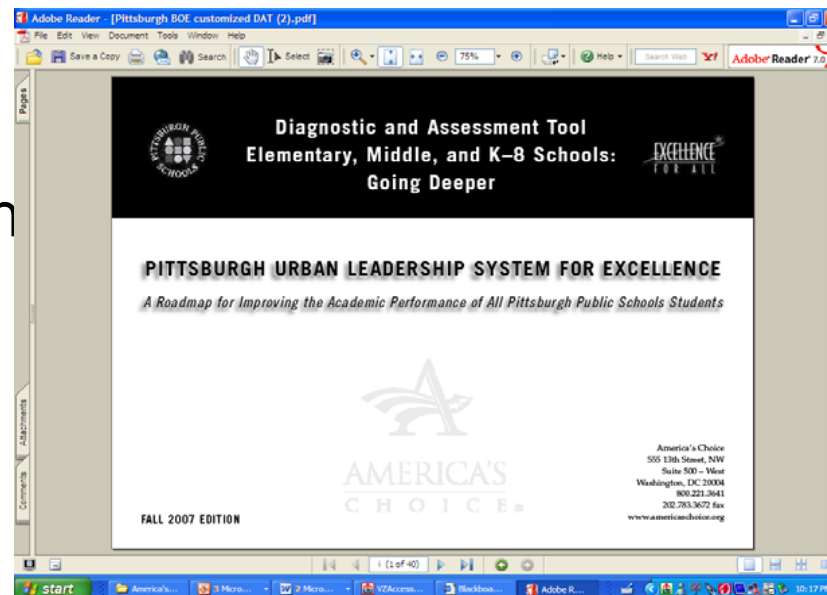
“If student achievement goes up and engagement doesn’t deepen, improvement will be superficial and unsustainable.”

-Michael Fullen, *Change Forces*

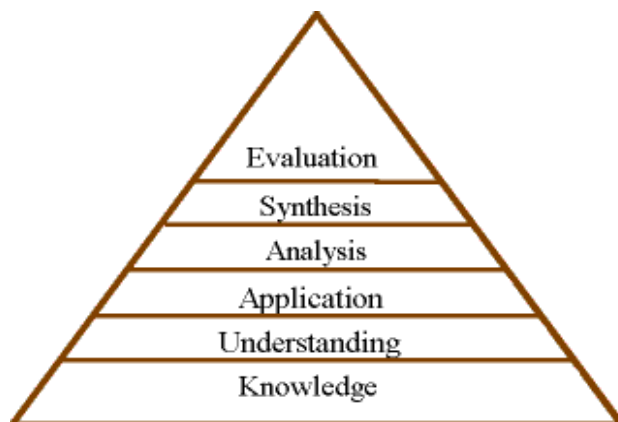


Excellence for All: Strategies to Meet Our Goals Year 3 Implementation

- Continue full implementation of America's Choice Intensive School Design
- Increase Principal observations/support in classrooms from 2 to 3 hours daily
- Continue to Develop Leadership Capacity
 - Leadership Team
 - ALA Professional Development Team (Lead Teachers)



Excellence for All: Strategies to Meet Our Goals Year 3 Implementation



- Deepen Classroom Connections
 - Strengthen Routines and Rituals
 - Increase Engagement in Classrooms
 - Increase Accountable Talk
 - Monitor planning of rigorous text discussions
- Deepen professional learning communities
 - Increase sharing of professional practices (Distance Learning)

Excellence for All: Strategies to Meet Our Goals Year 3 Implementation

- Implement strategies from Readers Workshop
 - Implement study of 7 Habits of Proficient Readers
- Foster Reading & Writing Connection
 - Writing Alignment with Macmillan and CORE
 - Diagnostic Writing Assessment Alignment with District Curriculum
 - Develop examples of student writing for classroom use



Excellence for All: Strategies to Meet Our Goals Year 3 Implementation

- Monitoring of Data
 - Expand use of Data Wall and Data Binders
 - Ensure Differentiated Programming
 - Intervention periods (all ALA's)
 - Move our BB > B > P > A students
- Institution of ALA Coach to provide support to Academies





2008-09 Goal:

Deepen our work by improving
teaching and learning to achieve
excellence for all students

*"Keys to achieving excellence and equity: monitoring,
evaluation, values, beliefs, and implementation."*

– Douglas Reeves 2006