

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LaGrange, GA., March 3, 2023 – Every week until the end of the 2022-2023 school year, The Troup County School System highlights a Professional Learning Community from a different school.

The Professional Learning Communities aims to meet regularly and discuss standards-based approaches, common assessments, student work, student-level data, interventions, and instructional improvement strategies.

This PLC highlight is from **Hogansville Elementary School, written by Dr. Hanna Beall, Principal of Hogansville Elementary School.**

Four guiding questions have driven the work of both teachers and students at Hogansville Elementary School this year. These guiding questions ask what students should know and be able to do, how students will demonstrate mastery, and what work will be done with students that need remediation and/or acceleration beyond the standard. First-grade teachers at Hogansville Elementary practice this process each week at their PLC, focusing on phonics instruction and critical reading skills.

Team members of the first grade PLC, Laurie Burkett, Ansley Callan, Hollie Palmer, and Mary Kate Tucker, have assigned roles to keep these meetings data-driven and student-focused. Each weekly meeting begins with a review of the first-grade SMART goal and the highlighted standards of focus for this goal. The team then works collaboratively to review and analyze student data from common assessments given to measure student progress toward the SMART goal. As the student data is analyzed, a plan is made for each group of students and tailored to their specific learning needs.

For students who need additional support, EIP support teachers Amanda Howse and Abby Hunt pull flexible groups of students based on the recorded assessment data in shared spreadsheets. EIP teachers consult with grade-level teachers for specific areas of focus for remediation and then provide targeted instruction and assessments as students work toward standard proficiency. As common themes across the grade level emerge, teachers have dedicated a spiral review time through hands-on and engaging activities for all students, including “Write the Room” and the “Wheel of Wow!”

For students who show mastery of the standard, teachers are accelerating the pace of learning, using partnering strategies, and having students apply their skills in texts. Additionally, whole group reading instruction highlights key skills to reinforce learning for all students and help students make connections across all reading components.

As these teachers work through this process continuously, they are also reflecting on their teaching practices as a whole and having dynamic conversations about pacing, scheduling, and best practices within the classroom. Consistent improvement can be seen across the grade level, and the future is looking bright for these awesome Greenwave teachers and students!

Photo: Ansley Callan, Mary Kate Tucker, Hollie Palmer, Laurie Burkett

About Troup County School System

Troup County School System is an accredited educational system with over 12,200 students in grades K-12. TCSS does offer a free Pre-K program at each elementary school. The system is comprised of eleven elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools, one college and career academy, and one alternative learning center. Students within the school system are taught a rigorous and relevant curriculum that helps them make college and career choices beyond graduation. The system 2022 graduation rate is 85.9 percent. To learn more about Troup County School System, visit troup.org and the Troup County School System Facebook page.

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