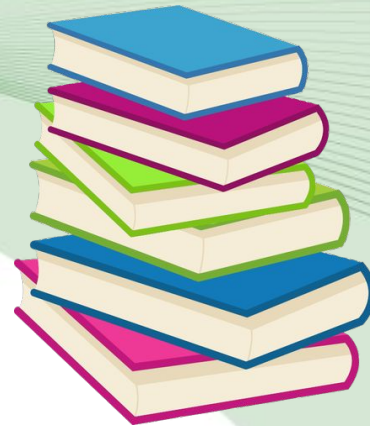
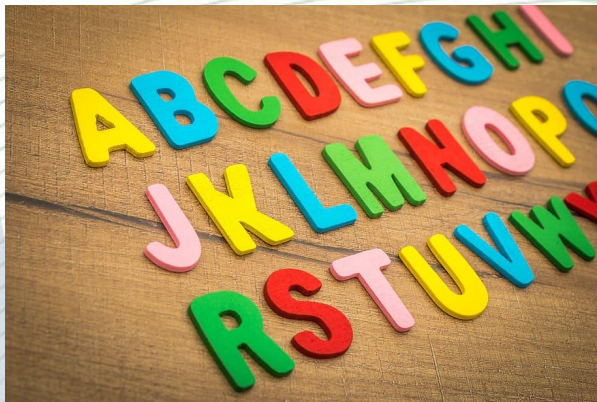




# Elementary ELA and Phonics Adoption April 6, 2022



# Welcome teachers!

Louise Anderson, 1st grade teacher at RES  
Cindy Morgan, 5th grade teacher at EES  
Jessica Smith, 1st grade teacher at SES



# Where have we been?

- eight years since we have adopted ELA resources (2014)
- *iRead* for phonics (K-2)
- *Journeys* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)– Core curriculum for K-5
- prior to the last adoption– Common Core Standards– units of study
- some resources– Words Their Way, Differentiated Reading Box



## Since the last adoption....

- two accreditations
- Instructional Framework
- Balanced Literacy Framework
- teachers have developed a deeper understanding of what “balanced literacy” entails– Phonological Awareness, Phonics/Word Study, Reading, Writing, Grammar, Speaking and Listening skills, Differentiated Reading and Writing, etc.
- the more knowledge teachers gained, the more they began to branch out and implement newly learned strategies
- several schools wrote grants to purchase resources that were needed (guided reading books) and purchased professional learning services
- other schools wanted more phonics resources and purchased their own programs



## Since the last adoption....

- teachers began to integrate the workshop models (language, reader's, writer's) which allowed for deeper connections to be made across the curriculum
- administrators noticed a major shift away from teaching parts of ELA in isolation (no longer assess this way-GMAS requires application of skills)
- one size does not fit all
- small group instruction is critical to meet the needs of students (differentiation)
- children need to read and enjoy volumes of texts across various genres
- professional learning communities (PLCs) are critical to build teacher capacity and collective efficacy





## Since the last adoption....

- teaching children how to read successfully is the most important thing we do in elementary school
- the importance of kindergarten, first, second, and third grade teachers
- gaps in reading MUST be closed by third grade to ensure a strong probability for high school graduation
- elementary teachers of reading need to be experts
- only the computer practice portion of *iRead* was being implemented- direct instruction of phonics was not consistently occurring in classrooms
- realized that teachers did not have a “one stop shop” for resources
- *Journeys* materials were sitting on shelves
- literacy survey conducted in December revealed that teachers wanted and needed resources for phonics and other areas of language arts such as guided reading, classroom libraries, and writing



# Adoption Process

- [November, 2021](#)- 1st Adoption Team meeting- reviewed the Balanced Literacy Framework, standards, and student work samples to determine critical components for a phonics program (non-negotiables)
- [December, 2021](#)- developed a scoring rubric for phonics ONLY (based on research from LETRS, Wiley Blevins, and the non-negotiables from meeting #1)
- [January, 2022](#)- completed the remainder of the [scoring rubric](#) to encompass all of English Language Arts
- four programs were chosen to fully review- *HMH Into Reading* (Harcourt Houghton Mifflin), *My View Literacy* (Savvas/Pearson), *Benchmark Workshop* (Benchmark Education), and *Fountas & Pinnell Classroom* (Heinemann)



# Adoption Process

- each school was sent an entire set of materials from each vendor (with the exception of Fountas & Pinnell (F&P)) so that all teachers could review
- a schedule was created for schools to come to the BOE to review F&P; then, the materials were rotated among the schools so that *all* teachers had an opportunity to review
- each school was responsible for creating a schedule so that all of their teachers could review the materials and provide feedback to their core adoption team
- each school was charged to complete an “initial” scoring of each curriculum





# Adoption Process

- [March 1st, 2022](#) - all four vendors presented to the adoption team members
- a survey was administered to each adoption team member
- survey results clearly showed that two of the four choices met our rubric criteria, but neither were strong enough in phonics
- each school revisited their scoring rubrics and submitted their number #1 choice— five schools voted for F&P and three schools voted for Benchmark Workshop— ALL schools wanted something more systematic and explicit for phonics although Benchmark Phonics was “okay”
- *Wilson FUNdations* was mentioned as a stand alone choice for phonics on multiple survey responses

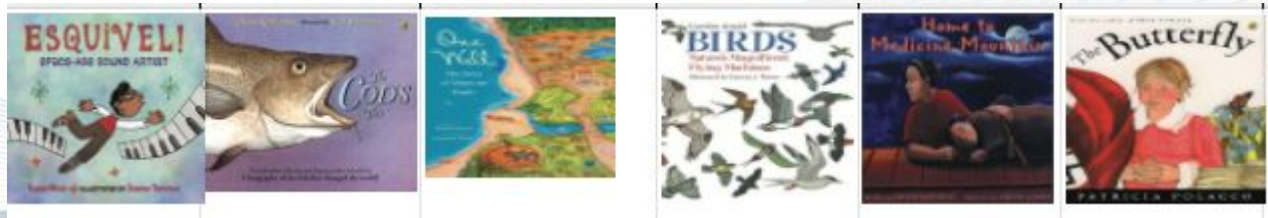


# Adoption Process

- majority vote was for Fountas & Pinnell Classroom (F&P) but wanted more consensus
- **March 14th**- Dr. Pijanowski led the adoption team to take a deeper dive into F&P and Benchmark Workshop (no dog in the fight)
  - lens of what is best for children
  - aligns with our Balanced Literacy Framework (Language, Reader's, Writer's Workshops)
  - SES presented Wilson FUNdations (pilot)
  - compared Benchmark Phonics with Wilson FUNdations
  - came to a universal consensus to adopt F&P and include the word study component for fourth and fifth grades; adopt Wilson FUNdations as a stand alone phonics program for K-3



# F & P High Quality Literature





# Wilson Foundations

Kindergarten Kit



3rd Grade Kit







# The K-2 Perspective

- Digital vs. Handheld
- Shared reading with listening center
- School developed library resources
- Guided reading books with built in lesson plans
- Book Club opportunities for extended learning
- Most importantly
  - Student differentiated opportunity
  - Teacher autonomy
  - Fits perfectly with ECSD Balanced Literacy Approach





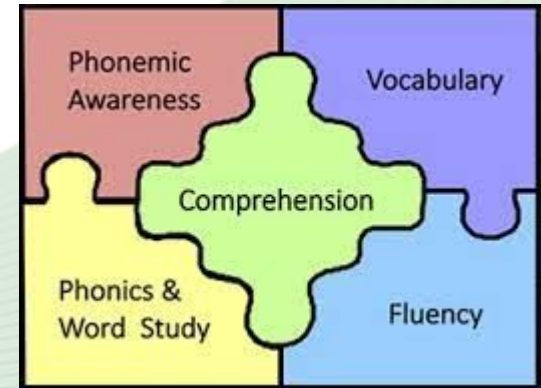
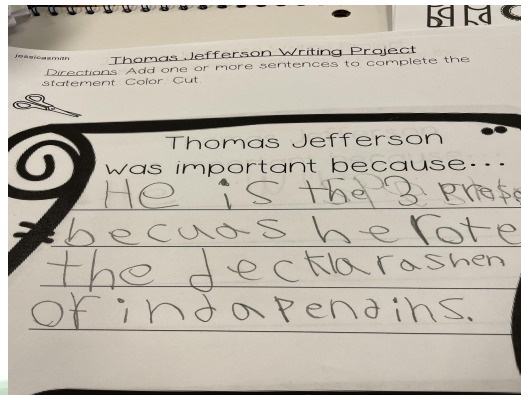
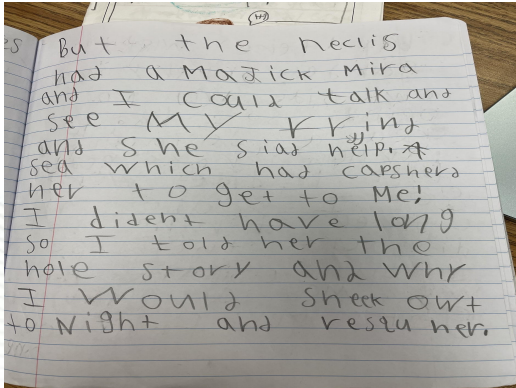
# Fountas and Pinnell in the Upper Grades

- Offers authentic texts for our classroom
- Aligns with the balanced literacy framework
- Offers options for students who are beyond guided reading - Book Clubs
- Reading and Writing mini lessons align with our instructional focus
- Strong Word Study piece aligned with fourth and fifth grade study - builds vocabulary



# Wilson's FUNdations - Phonics

- FUNdations supplies explicit and systematic phonics instruction for students
- LETRS and FUNdations go hand in hand
- FUNdations is FUN and engaging for students





# Quotes

FOUNTAS & PINNELL; WILSON FOUNDATIONS

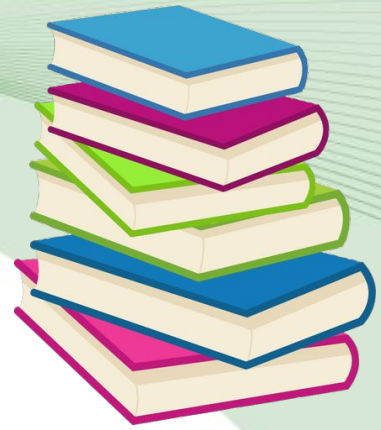
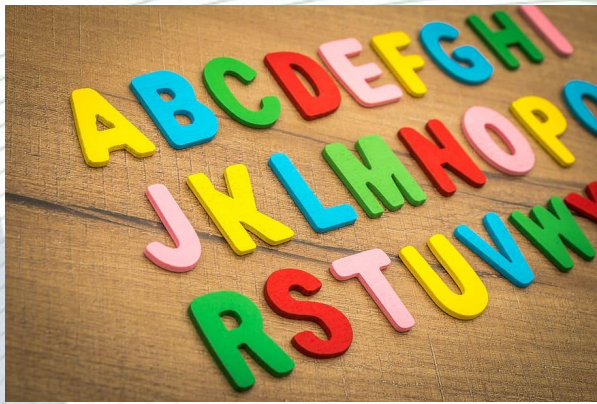
CLASSROOM INDEPENDENT READING LIBRARIES

Next Level Libraries

Steps To Literacy

Book Source

WILSON FOUNDATIONS



Thank you!