

AIS Program during COVID-19 – September 29, 2020

Elementary School

Due to the COVID Pandemic, SWES has had to adjust AIS services. For example, it was impossible to group students by skill level due to cohorting restrictions with our re-opening plan. The current AIS plan at SWES was reviewed by administration, the SWES reopening committee, student support team, grade level chairs and AIS providers. The following process is currently in place:

Reading:

Students are being serviced based on data when school closed in March 2020. A diagnostic benchmark (*iReady*) had been completed in late February. These results have been used to assign groups to start the 2020-21 school year. All students receiving Title reading services are grouped within their classroom cohort. Students are seen 2-3 times per week for 30 - 40 minutes in-person by a reading specialist. Groups are 6 or less students. Reading specialists are assigned to specific classroom teachers at each grade level. Reading specialists requested and have been provided with a different reading support program (*Raz-Kids Connected*) since skill grouping is not an option at this time. *Raz-kids* is reinforced at home on students' virtual days.

In order to assess students, the *iReady* benchmark was given in September 2020 and the *Fountas & Pinnell* running records assessment is given to students in Title I Reading. Data team meetings will continue as in previous years.

Math:

Students are being serviced based on data when school closed in March 2020. A diagnostic benchmark (*iReady*) had been completed in late February. These results have been used to assign groups to start the 2020-21 school year. Students with the most significant math skill deficits are receiving services at this time. Some students that received AIS math services last school year were exited out of the program if their needs were not as significant as other students. All students receiving math AIS services are grouped within their classroom cohort. Students are seen once a week for 30-40 minutes in person, with the exception of students that are 100% remote; those students are seen virtually once a week. Groups are 5 students or less.

All students grades K-5 have completed the *iReady* math benchmark in late September 2020. In addition, all students grades 1-5 will complete the *HMH Math Inventory* assessment. Students in kindergarten that have been identified by classroom teachers will also complete the *HMH Math Inventory*. Due to the reduction of AIS math service time, the AIS math teacher is supporting classroom content instead of utilizing the *Do the Math* intervention program.

Middle School:

Reading and Math – Frequency and duration of AIS remains the same as previous years. Students are grouped based on need and grade level. Students that were identified based on the Winter *iReady* benchmark and current AIS placement. The *iReady* benchmark diagnostic was given in reading and math in late September. Data meetings will occur October 1st; some students will be exited and some will be entered based on *iReady* benchmark and past *iReady* data. One barrier identified by AIS providers in the middle school is providing AIS services to virtual only students. It is the opinion of the providers that in-person AIS is much more effective and motivating for current students. Students in the hybrid model are seen in-person for AIS services.

High School:

Service delivery has not changed due to COVID, however, due to no state tests for 2019-20, it has posed a challenge to determine which students need AIS. Current 9th grade students' *iReady* benchmark data, prior academic performance, and current grades are in review to determine what students qualify for AIS. The Student Support Team is consulting with the 9th grade ELA and Math teachers to finalize AIS groups for these content areas.