CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025

TODAY'S AGENDA

- TAG Program Update

L. Werlau

- Vocabulary – Morphology Overview

B. Curiale

- Universal Pre-Kindergarten

A. White

2025 DISTRICT SPELLING BEE

1st- Sameer Zafar

(Third Time Champion!)

2nd-Kamola Tugalova

3rd- Anaiyah Mack

WINNING WORDS: vial/foyer

HUDSON VALLEY FIRST LEGO LEAGUE

QUALIFIER TOURNAMENT

JANUARY 11

JOHN JAY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Leptondale: Team 13
Ostrander: Team 9 – 4th Place
Plattekill: Team 5

Team Number	Round1	Round 2	Round 3
1	315	265	305
2	180	130	105
3	115	150	160
4	0	0	0
5	85	120	105
6	0	165	75
7	90	120	90
8	75	150	175
9	215	110	145
10	115	105	70
11	110	115	95
12	115	70	130
13	130	80	115
14	145	195	90
15	115	145	115
16	270	205	215
17	185	230	170
18	0	0	0

UPCOMING…

- **Renzulli Training**

  February 24-26

- **Odyssey of the Mind Regional Tournament**

  Saturday, March 1

- **Authors Day Events**

  April/May

- **George Steele Leptondale residency and half-day SNAP workshops**

  May

MORPHOLOGY & VOCABULARY

CURRICULUM/TAG COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 11, 2025

MORPHOLOGY

- THE STUDY OF THE "SHAPE" OF WORDS OR HOW WORDS ARE FORMED

TIMELINE

May 2023 Superintendent's Conference Day

- met with classroom teachers, reading specialists and special education teachers grades 4-6
- discussed vocabulary instruction, standards and morphology as a research-based strategy to teach vocabulary
- foundation for work in the 2023-2024 schoolyear
- **Fall 2023 Professional Development**
  - related standards, research-based strategies
  - introduced Latin and Greek to teachers
  - began to develop spelling & vocabulary units
- **Winter 2024 Professional Development**
  - continued work on spelling & vocabulary units

TIMELINE CONTINUED

Winter/Spring 2024 ***Behind the Scenes***

- vertically aligning teachers' work between grades
- editing

Spring 2024 Professional Development

- shared the spelling & vocabulary units, as well as supplemental materials, with teachers

Fall 2024 Professional Development

- modeled introductory lessons for each **elementary** 4-6 teacher
- introduced Latin & Greek morphology to **middle school** AIS Reading teachers

TIMELINE CONTINUED

Winter 2025 Professional Development

- grade level team check-ins with grades 4-6 (**elementary**)
- began vocabulary work with **middle school**
- AIS reading teachers
  - shared materials 4-6 using
  - explored materials for 7-8
  - pulled vocabulary from previous NYS ELA assessments

- **Spring 2025 Superintendent's Conference**
  - share weekly routines, best practices, successes and needs

4TH GRADE LESSONS

4th Grade Sequence
Spelling and Vocabulary Based on Latin Morphemes

Lesson	Slides	Topic	Lesson	Slides	Topic
1	2-6	Intro Prefixes & un	19	82-85	sub-
2	7-11	Intro Suffixes & ful	20	86-89	-struct-
3	12-15	-ness	21	90-93	pro-
4	16-18	Review 1: un, ful, ness (Anglo Saxon)	22	94-97	Review 4: form, de, ject, sub, struct, pro
5	19-26, 27-30	Intro Latin & -tion	23	98-101	pre-
6	31-34	-ture	24	102-105	dis-
7	35-38	-sion	25	106-109	uni-, bi-, tri-
8	39-41	Review 2: tion, ture, & sion	26	110-113	-able
9	42-45	-cian	27	114-117	-rupt-
10	46-49	ex-	28	118-121	inter-
11	50-53	-port-	29	122-125	Review 5: pre, dis, uni, bi, tri, able, rupt, inter
12	54-57	re-	30	126-129	-fact-
13	58-61	-tract-	31	130-133	-er/-or
14	62-65	con-	32	134-137	-ist
15	66-69	Review 3: cian, ex, port, re, tract, & con	33	138-141	-ment
16	70-73	-form-	34	142-145	-ous
17	74-77	de-	35	146-149	in-
18	78-81	-ject-	36	150-153	Review 6: fact, er/or, ist, ment, ous, in

*First 3 lessons introduce concepts of prefixes and suffixes using affixes that are most likely familiar to students. Then Latin lessons begin at Lesson 5.
**If time becomes an issue, teachers may choose to omit review lessons.

REVIEW

WEEKLY REVIEW OF PREVIOUS SKILLS

suffix

-cian

/shun/

magician: a person who

Latin

prefix

ex-

exit: out or away

Latin

root

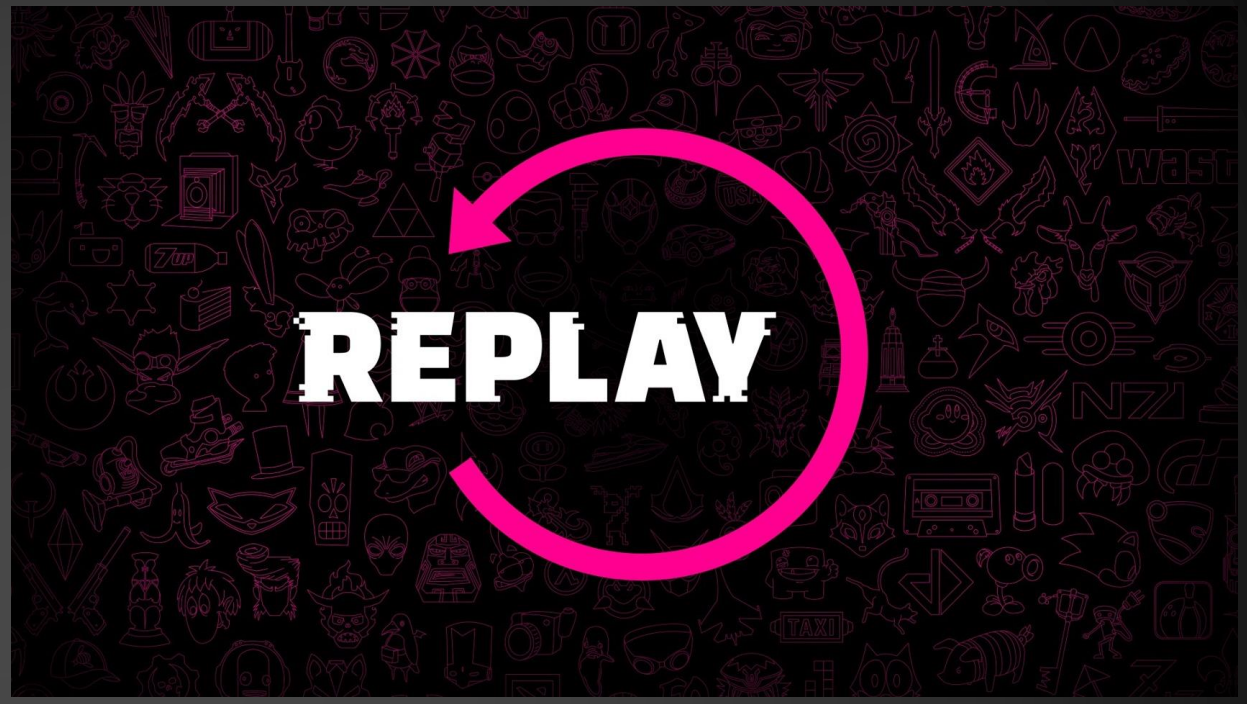
-port-

portable: to carry

Latin

prefix

re-



replay: back, again

Latin

-tract-

root

-tract-

tractor: to pull or drag

Latin

-tract- Words

subtract	distraction	contract
attract	extract	detract
tractor	protractor	retractable
abstract	attractive	contractor
traction	contracting	subtraction

-tract- Sentences

1. The farmer used the tractor to clear the field.

2. We begin to learn about subtraction in kindergarten.

3. Magnets attract metal objects.

4. The squirrel outside the classroom window was a distraction to the students.

5. The contractor managed the projects required for the renovation of our house.

Spelling lists start with words that are easier to spell and understand. The words get more difficult further down the list. This allows teachers to have students who struggle focus on the words at the beginning of the list and students who excel to focus on words at the end of the list. Students are exposed to the same words and are learning the same concepts but they are responsible for spelling different words.

Name _____ Date _____

4th Grade

Spelling List

Prefix:

Root: **tract: tractor: to pull or drag** (Latin)

Suffix:

1. extract
2. contract
3. retract
4. subtract
5. distract
6. abstract
7. attract
8. tractor
9. detract
10. traction
11. contraction
12. distraction
13. subcontract
14. extraction
15. subtraction
16. attraction
17. protractor
18. retractable
19. attractive
20. contractual

5TH GRADE LESSONS

5th Grade Sequence
Spelling and Vocabulary Based on Latin Morphemes

Lesson	Slides	Topic	Lesson	Slides	Topic
1	2-6, 7-10	Intro & -ible	19	79-82	-vid-/-vis-
2	11-14	ad-	20	83-86	-ped-/-pod-
3	15-18	-ive	21	87-90	Review 3: per, gress/grad, mit/mis, pend, vid/vis, & ped/pod
4	19-22	-spect-	22	91-94	-ence
5	23-26	super-	23	95-98	-ize
6	27-30	-flex-	24	99-102	ob-
7	31-34	Review 1: ible, ad, ive, spect, super, & flex	25	103-106	-aud-
8	35-38	-us/-ius	26	107-110	-ical
9	39-42	-scrib-/-script-	27	111-114	-ity
10	43-46	quad-, pent-, oct-, deca-	28	115-118	Review 4: ence, ize, ob, aud, ical, & ity
11	47-50	-cred-	29	119-122	-ify
12	51-54	-duc(t)-	30	123-126	-tude/-ment
13	55-58	ab-	31	127-130	-cial
14	59-62	Review 2: us/ius; scrib/script; quad, pent, oct, deca; cred; duc(t) & ab	32	131-134	-fer-
15	63-66	per-	33	135-138	-ate
16	67-70	-gress-/-grad-	34	139-142	-ply-/-plic-
17	71-74	-mit-/-mis-	35	143-146	Review 5: ify, tude/ment, cial, fer, ate, & ply/plic
18	75-78	-pend-			

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5th Grade Spelling List

Root: **ped/pod: pedal: foot** *(ped is a Latin root/ pod is a Greek root)*

1. pedal
2. peddler
3. moped
4. tripod
5. biped
6. podium
7. pedometer
8. impede
9. impediment
10. podiatry
11. pedicure
12. expedite
13. pedestal
14. centipede
15. millipede
16. quadruped
17. expedition
18. pedestrian
19. podiatrist
20. cephalopod

("head foot" – octopus & squid are in this type of animal)

6TH GRADE LESSONS

6th Grade Sequence
Spelling and Vocabulary Based on Latin Morphemes

Lesson	Slides	Topic	Lesson	Slides	Topic
1	2-6, 7-10	Intro for Latin & -ize	19	85-91	Review 2: ism, cycle, photo, therm, path, graph, sphere, tele, scope
2	11-14	-age	20	92-95	auto-
3	15-18	-tend-	21	96-99	geo-
4	19-22	- gen-	22	100-103	-hydro-
5	23-26	- cur-	23	104-107	-ped-/-pod-
6	27-30	-tial	24	108-111	-bio-
7	31-34	-stat-/-sist-	25	112-115	-ology
8	35-38	-sion /zhun/	26	116-119	micro-
9	39-45	Review 1: ize, age, tend, gen, cur, tial, stat/sist, sion /zhun/	27	120-123	-man-
10	46-48, 49-52	Intro for Greek & -ism	28	124-127	arch-
11	53-56	-cycle-	29	128-134	Review 3: auto, geo, hydro, ped/pod, bio, ology, micro, man, arch
12	57-60	-photo-	30	135-138	-path-
13	61-64	-therm-	31	139-142	mono-
14	65-68	-cir-	32	143-146	chrono-
15	69-72	-graph-	33	147-150	-meter-
16	73-76	-sphere-	34	151-154	-phobia
17	77-80	tele-	35	155-158	Review 4: path, mono, chrono, meter, phobia
18	81-84	-scope-			

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Prefix:

Root: **graph/ gram: autograph: to write or draw** (Greek)

Suffix:

1. graph
2. paragraph
3. biography
4. monogram
5. diagram
6. geography
7. graphite
8. phonograph
9. Instagram
10. telegraph
11. telegram
12. autograph
13. autobiography
14. cartography
15. topography

TEAMS

MATERIALS AVAILABLE BY GRADE LEVEL

COMMENTS

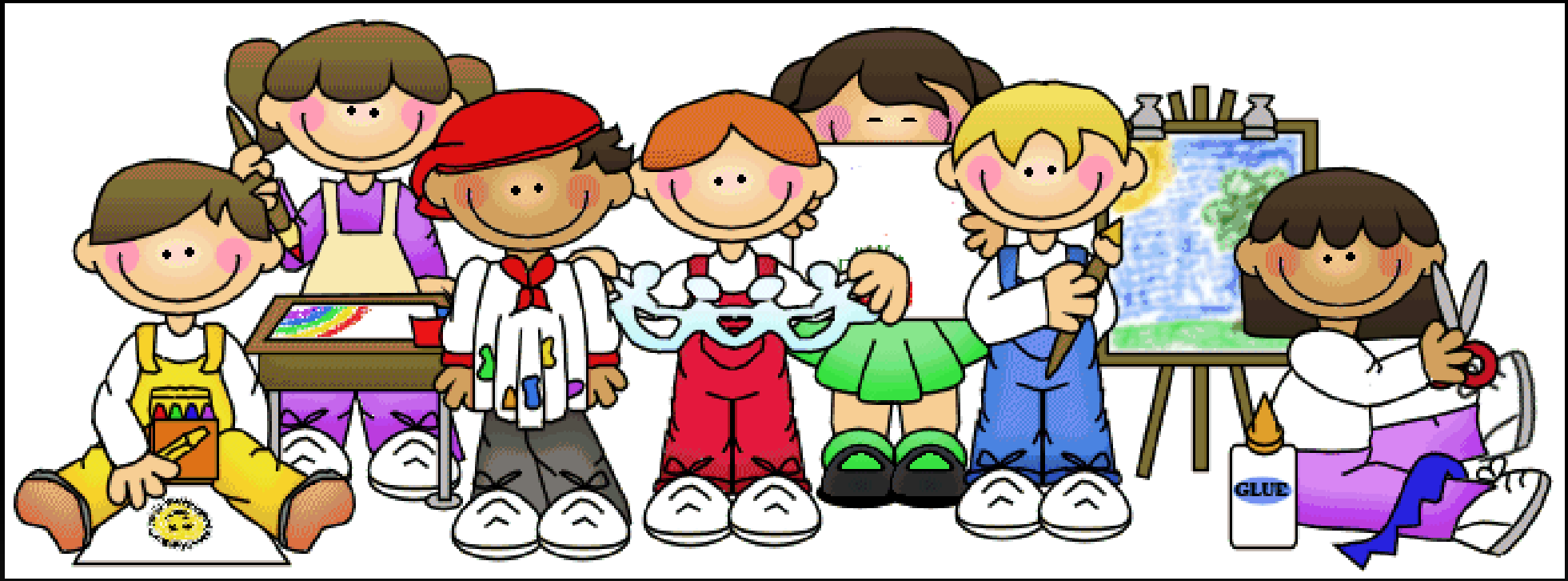
CONTENT/TEACHING

- So much better than traditional spelling
- It was a lot at the beginning of the year (exhausting)
- A big change but going well
- Appreciate that the instruction is systematic, not random words on a list
- It just all makes sense

STUDENTS & PARENTS

- Students are making connections in other subjects
- Students are applying
- Students are enjoying routine
- Students doing well on weekly tests
- Parents are invested and "super" happy

Our students are becoming word detectives! They are not trying to memorize a list. They are learning morphemes (small parts of words with meaning). When they see an unfamiliar word, they can use the parts they know to help them figure out the meaning.



UNIVERSAL PREKINDERGARTEN (UPK)

UPDATE ON THE 2024-2025 UPK PROGRAM

- Two (2) sections of In-House UPK with eighteen (18) students in each section. One (1) section is at Ostrander Elementary School and the other section is at Plattekill Elementary School.
- We have contracted with two (2) outside agencies; Building Blocks Childcare, Inc. and Most Precious Blood (MPB)
  - Building Blocks has eight (8) students
  - MPB has forty (40) students
- Teachers are using Play Based Learning to teach the focus skills (standards) for prekindergarten in the following developmental domains:
  - Character Education/Communication, Language and Literacy/Cognition and Knowledge of the World/Physical Development

2025-2026 UPK TIMELINE

- Applications for the 2025-2026 UPK lottery will be available on April 25, 2025, and are due by Friday, May 23, 2025.
- The district will hold a random lottery to determine enrollment on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. Any student not selected in the lottery for a seat will be placed on a waiting list.
- District transportation **WILL NOT** be provided for the program.
- The aid that the district receives does not cover the full cost to run the program.
- The UPK program is contingent upon the passing of the 2025-2026 school budget on Tuesday, May 20, 2025.