TTSD Best Practices in English Language Arts

In TTSD, we believe that quality English Language Arts is characterized by…

A curriculum that…

- is research validated
- explores artistic value of literature and writer's craft
- is flexible, adaptable to the needs of diverse learners, and includes student choice
- reflects the global world through multiple mediums, such as literature, informational text, and visual and auditory resources
- supports the development of critical reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through traditional methods and 21st century media
- supports the development of student voice and identity
- requires students to create writing for multiple purposes

Instructional practices that…

- support the development of students' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills
- engage all learners through a variety of interactive strategies using appropriate differentiation and scaffolds that are both consistent and progressive from 6th through 12th grade. (i.e. small groups, gradual release of responsibility, collaborative conversations, language frames)
- celebrate diversity
- develop perseverance and student pursuit of rigor
- expect high achievement for all students
- provide transferable skills

Assessment practices that…

- encourage students to articulate their unique ideas and perspectives
- expect demonstration of knowledge at a high level
- offer multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate knowledge of standards
- include multiple modes of assessments throughout the year that cover reading, writing, speaking, and listening
- provide personalized, ongoing feedback in a variety of meaningful ways (i.e. peer to peer, teacher to student, self-assessment with rubrics, technology)
- inform instruction on an ongoing basis