

Fifth Grade Leveling Pilot Project

Philosophy: Our goal is to help students grow and develop in Math, Reading, and Language Arts by providing instruction to differentiated groups of students at their own skill levels.

Goal: Every child will achieve growth in all areas, measured by MAP Assessment scores and in-class assessments.

The fifth grade teachers are proud to be a part of a new program for Math and Reading. We are acting as “pilot” teachers for the district on a plan to increase our students’ skills in Math and Reading by arranging classes so that students can work at their own skill level, with the expectation that this will lead to increased understanding.

In Reading, each of the fifth grade teachers will take a group of students of a similar skill level. These Reading classes will remain the same for the year, with an opportunity to re-assess at the end of First Semester. We will use information from the MAP assessments to determine students’ skill levels.

Because Math is based on a wider range of specific skills, groups for math will be reassessed every four to five weeks. For example, all three groups will spend the rest of first quarter working on the concepts of Place Value and Addition and Subtraction of Whole Numbers. The first of November, students will be assessed on the next set of skills, Decimal Concepts, and the groups will be rearranged based on these results. Every fifth grader will cover the same topics, but some will work at a more basic level and others will be more challenged. Ideally, this will allow all students to show growth, which is our goal.

We are excited about the potential of this project. In addition to better meeting the academic needs of the students, this program will also give us the opportunity to better get to know more of the fifth graders, as it is possible that each student would have each of the three teachers at some point during the year. This will also be good preparation for middle school, as will the moving between rooms for the different classes.

The new Math and Reading classes will begin on Monday, September 24. We will appreciate your input throughout the year as we strive to make this year the best possible.