



Reading and Writing Workshop

Welcome





What is/isn't Workshop?

It is:

A philosophy of
teaching

Individualized teaching

Research based

Structured

It isn't :

Just another reading
program

Script driven

An excuse not to teach



Why Change?

- Our TAKS scores are great but is TAKS enough?
- We want passionate readers and writers
- We want lifelong readers and writers
- The world is changing and we want our kids to not just be ready but to be successful



Curriculum

- Still covering the HISD mandated curriculum
- Grammar, writing and comprehension skills are still taught but in context which is a research-based, best practice
- The teacher decides what needs to be taught based on the students in each class
- Teacher will hold individual student conferences as a form of assessment

Physical Set Up of Classroom

- We must have a meeting area
- We must have individualized work areas around the room
- We want the room to encourage the work-
Do you read at a desk with a hard back chair?



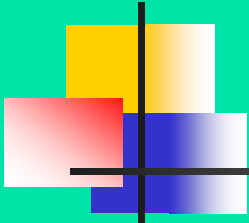


Gathering Area

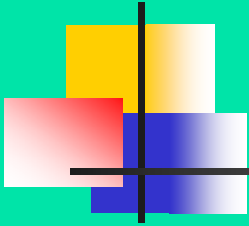


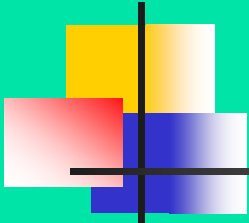
Mini Lesson













Mental Shift



- Instruction is strategy based –not skill based
- Students are given choice within set parameters
- Work is student created
- Not all students do the same thing at the same time



Grading

- Reading and English grades will be averaged together but will still appear as two grades on report cards
- Assignments will be evaluated on both reading and writing skills
- Rubrics will be used and will be shared with students so expectations are very clear



Important Vocabulary



- Meeting area
/Gathering area
- Literacy Notebook
- Writer's Notebook
- Mini-lesson



How Can You Help?

- Be transparent with your kids about your reading and writing
- Ask your children what they are reading
- Donate books, magazines, comfortable furniture, large pillows, rugs, lamps
- Be patient as we develop this work here at Pershing