



09/28/2014

“Dream It, Believe It, and Achieve It.”

Problem of Practice:

Our data indicates that our students are not successful in critical analysis which shows a multistep thinking process across all content areas.

Quote of the Week:

~~“Follow Your Passion~~ – Lead Your Passion”

Faculty Meeting October 3rd:

This Friday we will have a Faculty meeting on October 3rd focused on “Close Reading” strategies. Attached are two documents for the October 3rd training: 1) Close Reading PPT, and 2) article of 21 Anchor Charts. We are going to flip the lesson (training) for October 3rd. We’d like all teachers to study the PPT and article before next Friday so you have a better understanding of Close Reading. The focus of the training will be on practicing Close Reading, so take some time to study the two documents before Friday. This training is a part of our Problem of Practice.

New Instructional Technology Coach:

We have a new Technology Coach starting at CTMS very soon (hopefully by next Monday). Kelli Sanders is joining our Bulldog Family and is coming from Peterson Elementary as their Media Specialist/Librarian. If you have a second, send her an email welcoming her to The Trail.

Announcements:

“Hi Teachers! Hopefully this will clear up some announcement confusion!”

Intercom announcements with Mrs. Hardy will be made every day, except Thursdays when the video announcements should be shown at the beginning of your 7th period class. The video announcements are located on the T-drive. Please email all your announcements to Mrs. Hardy AND Ms. Rios throughout the week. Please do not forget to play the video announcements every Thursday in your 7th period class.

Make sure that any announcements you want on the video are sent to Ms. Rios before lunch on Wednesday! This allows time for the kids to film before Thursday!

Fundraisers:

Sponsors/Coaches: We have completed a list of all fundraisers for the 2014 – 2015 school year. If you have not submitted your request, please have it to Renee by Wednesday, October 1st.

Texas State Fair Tickets Are Here:

If you did not pick up your state fair ticket Friday, see Renee this week for your Free State Fair ticket. Teacher State Fair tickets are good Sept 26 - Oct 19.

Dr. Thornell Blog:

Take a moment to check out Dr. Thornell’s blog. We’ve been mentioned in his blog a couple of times. Great Things Happening at “The Trail.” <http://robthornell.blogspot.com/>

Thursday, October 2nd – Author Visit: Polly Holyoke

Here is the schedule for the author visit this Thursday afternoon, Oct. 2nd. I’ll have a parent volunteer that will be selling copies of the book that day during lunches (on the stage) (\$3.25 a book). If you would like more information about our author, visit <http://www.pollyholyoke.com/>

- 1:00 - 1:45 6th grade presentation
- 2:00 - 2:45 7th grade presentation
- 3:00 - 3:45 8th grade presentation
- 4:00 - 4:30 Book Signings in the Library (students need to sign-up with Pam)

Communication:

We've tried to streamline emails so you receive more information in a few emails versus receiving a lot of emails about each topic. To best meet the needs of the staff and open communication, if you have an email that needs to go out to the entire staff, please email Renee with exactly what you want sent out. She will compile the emails daily and send out a staff email at the end of each day.

Campus T Drive:

Reminder - Campus information is located on the campus T drive. See Renee Wallum folder for campus documents, such as, CTMS phone extensions, room numbers, sign-in form, etc.

Weekly Attendance Audit Signatures:

2nd Period Teachers – make sure you are submitting your weekly signed attendance reports to Marlene. She is sending you a weekly reminder on your calendar every Monday to help you. Please sign your attendance report from the prior week and submit to Marlene weekly. Thank you.

Report Card Grades:

This Friday is the last day of the 1st Six Weeks grading. All report card grades and Conduct need to be inputted and submitted by 9:00 am Monday morning (Oct. 6). Your grade verification forms will be in your mailbox by 1:00 pm, please check all grades for corrections, sign your grade verification form, and return to Lalania by 12:00 noon Wednesday, October 8. Report Cards will be emailed home Thursday evening October 9.

October is Pink Out Month:

October is Pink Out Month at The Trail. Who will win the coveted pizza prize at the end of October? Who will have the most Pink Paws outside their classroom? See the teacher attachment with Pink Out information. The attachment is different than the one sent out to students/parents.

Twitter:

If you have not joined Twitter, I'd like for you to create an account and follow me (@TRogers2) and CTMS (@CTMSBulldogs). Twitter is a great way to learn and grow as an educator.

Friday, October 10:

Friday, October 10th is an early release day for students (2:00 pm). This is a regular workday for staff. As a staff, we all have Monday, October 13 off.

Updated Instructional Planner:

Attached is our updated Instructional Planner. Reminder – delete your old instructional planner and save this new planner to your Bulldog Nation 2014-2015 folder on your desktop.

NEF Grant:

If you are writing an NEF grant or are thinking about writing a grant, please let Matrice know. We are here to help and support your grant writing process.

<https://nisd.eformsolutions.com/nisd/grants>

2014-2015 Grant Deadline

**Applicant Deadline to Submit Grant to Principal is
Monday, October 20, 2014 at 6 PM**
**Principal Deadline to approve the grant is
Monday, Oct 27, 2014 at 6 PM**

Collaboration Areas:

7th and 8th grade teachers – you might have noticed that we have created three collaboration areas in the 7th grade hallway and three collaboration areas in the 8th grade hallway. These areas are designed for students to work and collaborate together on rigorous learning. In the future we hope to add digital screens and charging stations to the 6 collaboration areas. These areas are a privilege and students should know the high expectations expected when utilizing the collaboration areas.

Advisory Schedule This Week

Since we have a Pep Rally this Friday, Advisory will only be on Tuesday. We will have Pep Rally Schedule this week on Tuesday and Friday. Thursday will be a normal schedule with the three assemblies happening at 1:00, 2:00, and 3:00 pm.

Tuesday – Digital Citizenship and ePortfolios (See your Team Leader if you need help)

Thursday – Author Assemblies

Friday – Pep Rally

Advisory Teachers (8th Period):

It's important that you lead your Advisory students in digital organization. If you have not completed setting up your students, take some time this week to finish setting up:

- ✓ Quick link to checking grades on student desktops
- ✓ Quick link to student ePortfolio
- ✓ Student email set up and easy access on desktop

“What’s Happening at CTMS” Boards:

Thank you everyone for creating a space in your room to keep students informed about upcoming events at CTMS. Please use the following resources to keep your board updated: 1) Campus Calendar, 2) CTMS Campus Email News, and 3) Bulldog News.

Campus Calendar

Attached is our campus calendar. Reminders –

- If you have anything to add to the campus calendar, email Ann Pena.
- Use the Campus Calendar to update your “Campus News” board located in your classroom.

Last Week of the 1st Six Weeks:

We've had a great start to school and we're ending the last week of the 1st Six Weeks, let's have some fun. Let's do an extra couple of days of jeans this week. How about:

- Wednesday – Jeans and College Shirt
- Thursday – Jeans and CTMS Collared Campus Shirt
- Friday – Jeans and CTMS Spirit Shirt – Also let's dress in Pep Rally theme. I'll let you know the theme tomorrow.

Sad News:

This Friday will be Ann Pena's last day at The Trail. Please stop by and let Ann know how much we appreciated her and how much she will be missed.

Lesson Planning Process:

Reminders about our CTMS Lesson Planning PLC Process –

- Grade Level Departments will PLC on Monday on lessons for the following week.
- They will meet about on Thursday to finalize details for designing dynamic learning experiences.
- Problem of Practice will be a focus during all planning and all PLCs.
- Individual Lesson Plans are submitted on the “T” drive by 5:00 pm Friday.

Reminders –

- ✓ Thursday is our 2014 – 2015 campus collared shirt day.
- ✓ Friday is CTMS Spirit Day, CTMS shirt with jeans.

Happy Birthday:

Sept. 28	James McKenna
Sept. 29	Leslie Chandler
Oct. 02	Nikki Brant
Oct. 06	Lisa Lundin
Oct. 12	Shellie Kiedrowski
Oct. 19	Jeremy Aguirre
Oct. 27	Helen Wright