

Coronado Schools Foundation Block Grant Spending Plan Village Elementary School 2007-2008

Village Elementary School is proposing a spending plan from our allocated CSF Block Grant of \$31,372.00 for the 2007-2008 school year. These funds would directly support our Site-Strategic Plan as it applies to Language Arts: Reading Comprehension, as well as our Visual and Performing Arts program (VAPA).

Funding

The CSF Block Grant would assist teachers in deeper learning and application of best practices in reading comprehension, using an inquiry-based approach. Teachers would build on the past two years of staff development in this area, further improving their instruction to build students' competence in reading comprehension.

This funding would:

- provide research-based professional literature for Village teachers
- provide classroom libraries, leveled books, trade books and other supplemental materials to support reading comprehension, exposing students to a wide, rich range of literature
- provide time for staff development on specific reading comprehension strategies and instruction throughout the 07-08 school year
- provide release time for teachers to observe colleagues in the active classroom, as well as peer modeling and coaching
- improve assessment methods for reading comprehension

Outcomes

All Kindergarten through Fifth Grade students would benefit directly from the CSF Block Grant. As a result of teachers' improved practice to provide outstanding reading instruction across the curriculum, students will:

- become more independent readers
- become more critical, analytical thinkers, readers, and problem solvers
- become more motivated to read
- effectively read a variety of text
- have deeper level conversations with peers and teachers about what they read
- be able to identify universal themes in the text

Other outcomes could include continuing to achieve high standardized test scores, narrowing of achievement gaps, and teachers being able to use collaboration time differently and more effectively to improve and differentiate instruction for students.

Assessment

Assessment of students' progress in reading comprehension would be ongoing both formally and informally. Assessment guides the teachers' instruction based on individual student needs. Formal assessments include: QRI/DRA, STAR, SALLI, Houghton Mifflin (adopted reading text) weekly, theme/unit assessments, and Making Meaning assessments of specific reading strategies. Informal methods include teacher observations, anecdotal notes, running records, etc. via read alouds, shared reading, guided reading, and independent reading conferences.

Budget

The CSF Block Grant would fund the following:

- \$10,000 toward a Literacy Support Teacher, who would serve two roles in supporting our Site-Strategic Plan. This teacher would work directly with all students throughout the school year around reading comprehension in grades Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. She would also provide release time for the teachers as part of our Specials, in order for the teachers to collaborate weekly.
- \$12,000 toward our VAPA Teacher, who would serve two roles in supporting our Site-Strategic Plan. This teacher would work directly with all students throughout the school year around visual and performing arts in First through Fifth Grades. She would also provide release time for the teachers as part of our Specials, in order for the teachers to collaborate weekly.
- \$9,372.00 to be used to supplement student books, professional books, and substitute teachers to allow teachers to visit other model schools. For example, it costs \$100.00 per day for a substitute teacher. In order to take our 37 classroom teachers from each grade level to visit a model elementary school twice this school year, it would cost \$7400.00. To purchase just one professional book for each teacher can cost up to \$1850.00. Student books vary in cost, depending on what teachers needed for their classrooms to support reading comprehension.

Total Proposed CSF Block Grant Spending: \$31,372.00

Research

The above proposal is based on the research of the following leaders in reading comprehension instruction:

- Harvey, Stephanie. Strategies that Work
- Miller, Debbie. Reading with Meaning
- Griffiths, Ro. Reading for Life
- Making Meaning series, Developmental Studies Center (a non-profit educational organization)
- Keene, Ellin and Zimmerman, Susan. Mosaic of Thought
- Caulkins, Lucy. The Art of Teaching Reading
- Fountas and Pinnell, Guiding Readers and Writers
- Hornsby, David. A Closer Look at Guided Reading
- various other professional literature and videos