

The Texas Literacy Initiative Grant

Purpose of the Texas Literacy Initiative Grant

The purpose of the Texas Literacy Initiative (TLI) grant is to improve school readiness and success in the areas of language and literacy for disadvantaged students in targeted school districts. It is a “birth to baccalaureate” federally funded initiative geared at creating systemic and sustainable change by building capacity and implementing strategic design changes within the staff of Greenville I.S.D. to create a viable learning organization. All five elementary campuses, Greenville Sixth Grade Center, Greenville Middle School, Greenville High School, Greenville I.S.D. Alternative School, Greenville Head Start and the W. Walworth Harrison Public Library participate in this Initiative.

Texas Literacy Initiative Grant Goals

1. Increase the oral language and pre-literacy skills of participating preschool children.
2. Improve the performance of participating K-2 students on early reading assessments.
3. Increase the percentage of participating students who meet or exceed proficiency on the state English language arts assessments in grades 3 through 12.
4. Increase the use of data and data analysis to inform all decision making in participating districts, campuses, classrooms, and early learning settings.
5. Increase the implementation of effective literacy instruction through Literacy Lines.

Texas State Literacy Plan

The goal of the Texas State Literacy Plan is to ensure that every Texas child is strategically prepared for the literacy demands of college and/or career by high school graduation. To achieve this goal, the plan centers on the integration and alignment of early language and pre-literacy skills for age 0 to school entry and on reading and writing instruction for students in grades K-12. The TSLP is a framework of six essential components: **L**eadership, **A**ssessment, **S**tandards-based Instruction, **E**ffective Instructional Framework, **R**eporting and Accountability and **S**ustainability (**LASERS**). Each LASERS component consists of a Summary Statement and Key Action Steps.

Greenville High School and the Texas Literacy Initiative Grant

The Campus-Based Leadership Team

The Campus-Based Leadership Team meets to study the elements of the Texas State Literacy Plan and to plan the next steps to accomplish goals. The 2015-2016 CBLT members are: Debra Gossett, Assistant Principal for ELAR and Social Studies; Carol Anne Johnson, English and Writing Teacher; Anne Thornton, Science Teacher, and Rita Petty, TLI Literacy Coach.

In July, Nathan Compton, Assistant Principal for Math and Science, Carol Anne Johnson, Anne Thornton, and Rita Petty represented GHS at the Texas Literacy Initiative Institute in Fort Worth, learning best practices and goal implementation strategy.

Recent Initiatives

Academic Vocabulary

In the 2014-2015 school year, the staff of GHS received training in vocabulary instruction. Joan Nelson and Mark Fake presented successful vocabulary strategies during the training, and Rita Petty presented the TLI vocabulary instructional routine. Increasing academic vocabulary instruction is a continuing literacy goal of the CBLT.

Assessment

In the fall of 2015, the CBLT will focus on an initiative for student assessment. The team will review data and current systems to choose an area of focus and then implement a plan of action.

The Literacy Coach

The TLI grant provides the campus with a Literacy Coach whose purpose is to assist the instructional staff in accomplishing the goals of the grant through instructional best practices. The literacy coach is able to plan with teachers, to model or co-teach lessons, to observe and provide feedback on instruction, and to assist the CBLT in its initiatives.