

Dodge City Middle School Motivate to Read

Starting the Second Nine Weeks "The Motivate to Read Plan" will include;

- Students will conduct book searches using the lexile book finder to select books from the library. A parent academy night will be held to establish the importance of reading at home and how to use the lexile book finder. This information will also be placed on our website for an easy reference for parents.
- Lexile reading posters will be made available in every advisory class.
- Students will keep a reading log as a part of their portfolio.
- The "Read to Write" class will start second nine weeks to help eighth grade struggling readers.
- 20 minute independent reading time on Thursday during advisory.
- After School Speech and Drama Reading Club
- A Motivate to Read Mentor Program will be developed through Dodge City Community College.
- Motivational speakers

Vocabulary Development

- Students will be exposed each day during extension time to a new vocabulary word using a word ahead. A potential next step in the process is to provide students with an opportunity to take an online assessment to earn points for prizes.
- Each team will provide a list of 2 to 5 content vocabulary words each week that will be posted in all core and elective classrooms.

SIXTH GRADE

Each 6th grade student will read 5 evenings per week for 20 minutes. They will record their reading time on a Reading Log which will be available from their advisory teacher. The reading log contains space for the student to write 1 or 2 lines explaining one of the features listed on the log each time they read.

- Parents will sign the Reading Log on Thursday evening and the student will return it to school along with their signed agenda which are checked each Friday in Advisory.
- If the student doesn't do their home reading, they will spend the appropriate amount of time after school with their advisory teacher to make up the reading.
- Students will also be expected to read each Thursday during advisory and twice a week in their ELA classroom.
- According to research, a student should read from 50 points above to 100 points below their lexile level. This will be accomplished by cooperation between classroom teachers and the librarian.

GRADE EIGHT

- Each 8th grade student will have the opportunity to receive extra credit by reading a total of 50 minutes a week outside of school. They will record their reading time on a Reading Log given to them by their ELA teacher.
- Parents need to sign the Reading Log on Tuesday evening and the student will return it to school the following day (Wednesday).
- Students can earn up to 10 extra credit points per week for having their Reading Logs signed and focus questions answered.

Grade Seven

- The 7th grade reading teachers are requiring students to read at home 150 minutes a week. This is documented through a reading log signed by parents and is a weekly grade.
- We are also having students discuss what they are currently reading in the classroom on a weekly basis.
- Finally, we are looking into some type of reward or celebration after the January retest.

FINE ARTS

The discussion surrounded the development of a reading action plan for increasing lexile scores, building-wide. Many good ideas came up and they are listed below.

- Our PLC compiled a cross-curricular vocabulary list at our September 24th meeting. Everyone was encouraged to have that vocabulary out so we can remind ourselves to use it!
- We need to model good reading by actually reading to the kids. We need to model proper pronunciation of vocabulary and expression. This can be articles, newspapers, books or something relevant to content.
- Ms. Schaeffer volunteered to make “reading signs” for every teacher. This will exhibit what book the teacher is currently reading and hopefully spark discussion with students that we love to read all kinds of literature.
- A possibility of using the silent reading Thursday during advisory to read aloud and encourage reading.
- Combine advisories or classes and form a literary club, using reading circles, partner reading etc.
- The library has a collection of audio books. Play them in advisory or class and have a copy of the book. If a teacher has a document camera, then the students could read along as the book is narrated.
- Use picture books to reinforce vocabulary. It is documented that a picture along with a word greatly increases comprehension and vocabulary-building. The use of graphic novels could also be beneficial.
- Plan a “field” trip to Soule or Northwest and read to younger grades. The suggestion of being in “costume”, for Halloween or Christmas brought up also.
- Most of all, students need to be encouraged to read for enjoyment. So much time is spent on content (and necessarily so) that some kids may get turned off from more reading. The more teachers can make reading enjoyable and model positive reading habits, the better it will be for the students.