



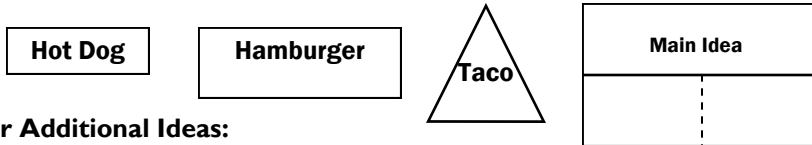
GREAT SENECA CREEK
ELEMENTARY

Best Practices To Increase Student Engagement
Thank you for sharing Germaine and Michelle

Foldable—fun interactive way to take notes

How to make foldable:

1. Determine the concept or number of words you will use
2. Choose a type of fold
3. Fold paper sections equally
4. Carefully cut slits on the foldable without cutting any of the pieces off.



For Additional Ideas:

<http://www.merga.net.au/documents/RP52008.pdf>

Willing to share a Best Practice to Increase Student Engagement at Our Next Staff Meeting on October 1. E mail Kim V.

Criteria for a Mastery Objective

States what students should know and be able to do

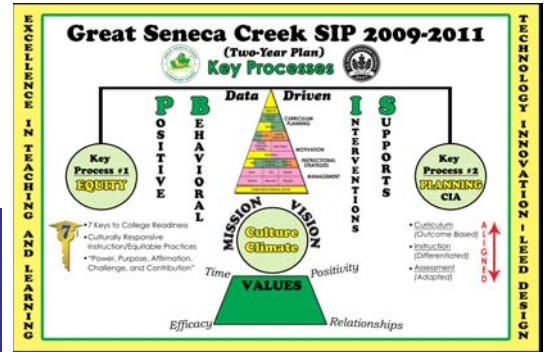
Begins with students will be able to ...

- Language : kid-friendly, specific, uses active verbs, includes assessment clues, & may indicate acceptable level of performance
- Linked to appropriate standards
- Worth knowing
- Matched to students—challenging, attainable

Indicator	Possible Mastery Objective
<p>Reading/Language Arts 2.1.1.2. Identify character, setting, problem, and solution and begin using these elements in own writing.</p>	<p>By the end of this lesson, you will be able to...</p> <p>identify the problem in a story and explain how the characters solve it</p>
<p>Math 3.1.2: Use nonstandard units to estimate and measure weight and capacity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify some examples of nonstandard units • demonstrate how nonstandard units are used to weigh objects • describe how estimation is used in measurement

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION PLANS (AIPs)

AIPs are created by content teachers when baseline data has been collected to determine a student is performing below grade level in reading, writing, and/or math. AIPs will be updated every 6-8 weeks. Paper copies of the AIPs will be turned into Chris Leibrand with report cards each marking period. This year, AIPs can be accessed on myMCPS. (There has been some challenge accessing them... more information to come.) Please see Chris if you have questions regarding the creation or implementation of Academic Intervention Plans.



Staff Development Calendar Items

9/10	ILT Meeting	7:45a.m.
9/14	After School Special	3:30 p.m.
9/17	ILT Meeting	7:45 a.m.
9/24	ILT Meeting	7:45 a.m.
10/1	Staff Meeting	7:30 a.m.

Things that make you go Hmm!

Which classrooms have the following items?
Find the classroom and have a conversation to learn about how the items align with our SIP. E mail your answers to me by October 1 to be part of a staff drawing for a gift card!



When teacher's objectives are to get the activities done, they miss the opportunities to underline the critical learnings.
Jon Saphier and Robert Gower

Reading At "The Creek"

Reading this year will continue to focus on instruction and meaningful seatwork. Engaging students is key.

90 Minute Reading Block

- 10-20 minutes (Whole Group Lesson)
- 60 minutes (Guided Reading- 3 Groups a Day/ Literacy Centers)
- 10 minutes (Closure)

Books to Read Early in the Year

The beginning of the school year is about building community. A great way to get to know one another is by telling stories. One of the best ways to elicit those stories is through good literature. *—Ralph Fletcher*

The following books invite rich conversations and can leave a class feeling closer.

- *I Had a lot of Wishes* James Stevenson
- *No, David!* David Shannon
- *Painted Words Spoken Memories* Alike
- *The Relatives Came* Cynthia Ryant

The Library of Congress Celebrates the Joy of Reading

The 2009 National Book Festival will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2009, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The festival is free and open to the public.

Math at The Creek!

The math theme for this year is **ENGAGEMENT!** Classrooms are focusing on team planning and the math block structure in order to challenge and engage **every** student.

Mathematics Instructional Block 70 minutes

- 5 minutes - Warm up
 - Connection to prior learning
 - Essential question
- 25 minutes - Focus Problem/Lesson
 - Exploration
 - Direct instruction
 - Guided practice
- 35 minutes - Independent Practice/
Evaluation
 - Differentiation/Small Group

Math Instructional Block "look fors"

- Greeting students at the door
- Materials (prepared and ready)
- Instructional Block Components
- Engagement
- Math Discourse
- Data driven
- Manipulatives
- Flexible groupings
- Written expression
- Vocabulary instruction

Cooperative Learning Classroom Rules Cards are available in T-Shared ([Math Folder](#)).

Ground Rules for Our Math Talk Community

- Every student will participate by speaking at some point.
- Every student can hear what others say.
- Every student is listening to what others say.
- Focus talk on the mathematics.

What would you like to see in our next Staff Development Newsletter?
E mail [Kim V](#), [Rebecca](#), [Karlyn](#) or [Chris](#)

Fall Testing Schedule

mCLASS Sept. 1—Sept 25
MAP- R Sept. 8— Oct. 2

Math Assessment Reminders

Upcoming Summative Unit Assessment Due Dates

Reminders:

Retest Scores: Please use the Math Teacher Summary Report to submit your retesting scores to Joe.

Pinnacle: Please enter your retest scores from the updated Measurement Topic Report that Michele W. provides for you.

Grade	Unit	Due Date
K	1	11/6
1	1	10/15
2	1	10/23
3	1	10/28
4	1	10/28
5	1	10/22
6	1	9/30
7	1	9/30

Outlook Tip:

I cannot see my Outlook Contacts. How do I get them back?

1. Go to **Tools** on the Main Menu
2. Select **Options** (near bottom)
3. Go to the **Mail Setup**
4. Click the **Email Accounts** button (at top right)
5. Click the little circle under the Directory heading that reads "**Add a new directory or address book**", then click NEXT
6. Click the little button next to "**Additional Address Books**" then click NEXT
7. Select the line that reads "**Outlook Address Book**", then click NEXT
8. Follow the directions to re-start Outlook, and your contacts lists should be activated!