




# PDI POST

FEBRUARY EDITION 2022

## INSTRUCTIONAL FEEDBACK REMINDER

MARQUES STEWART

One of the primary goals of the Department of Teaching and Learning is to be able to provide helpful feedback that is aimed at improving student outcomes. Beginning Monday, January 10, 2022, the PDI team of coordinators and strategists will begin to provide written observation feedback when visiting classrooms. Upon completion of the observation, the feedback will be placed on a message pad and the team member will leave a copy on teacher's desk prior to leaving the classroom. Please take a moment to review the feedback and if there are any questions or concerns regarding the feedback, please find time to schedule a conference with individual who provided the feedback at the link listed below. Upon requesting the feedback conference, please allow the coordinator or strategist 48 hours to respond to your request. As stated earlier, the goal of these visits is to ultimately provide feedback that is bite-sized and actionable that will assist with improving student outcomes



[Click Here](#)

## SPELLING BEE RESULTS CHRISTELLE HARDING

Congratulations to the 2022 DPS Spelling Bee Representatives who will be competing in the Macon County Spelling Bee at Richland Community College on February 15, 2022.

Evan Frye – Baum

Sophia Jordan – ADSA

Lincoln Williams – MAP

Alexis Rohrer – Baum

Gavin Crim – Dennis

Ahmir Robb – JHMS

Eva Flores – Dennis

Nate Bivens – MAP

Meadow Stewart – SDMS

Brady Clemens – Dennis

Tyler Jenkins – SDMS

Jordan Dignan – SDMS

A special thank you to principals, teachers, PDI staff, and parent liaisons who made the school and district school bees a success!

# ENCORE

RHONDA COX

## Encore IAR READING SUPPORT

Throughout February elementary and middle school Art, Music and PE 3rd-8th grade teachers will continue to support IAR Reading. Once a week in their 3rd-8th grade Encore classes students will be given the opportunity to practice reading for their IAR tests. Students will be given a short reading assignment with 3 questions to answer. The readings and questions are designed to mimic what students will see on their IAR tests. Our goal is to assist teachers in raising their students IAR scores in reading.

Thank you to the Encore teachers and building administrators for their support in encouraging reading with our students.



# MATH

KELLI MURRAY

Information for all 4-6 grade Math Teachers. Click below for all of your Contig needs. You will find rules, scoreboards, an info video and more!

[Contig Info](#)

Click below for the Contig participation form.

[Participation Form](#)

Contig participants' names must be submitted by March 25, 2022 to:

Jewel Grady  
1690 Huston Drive  
Decatur, IL 62526

What makes MATH fun and engaging in your classroom? I would love to visit!

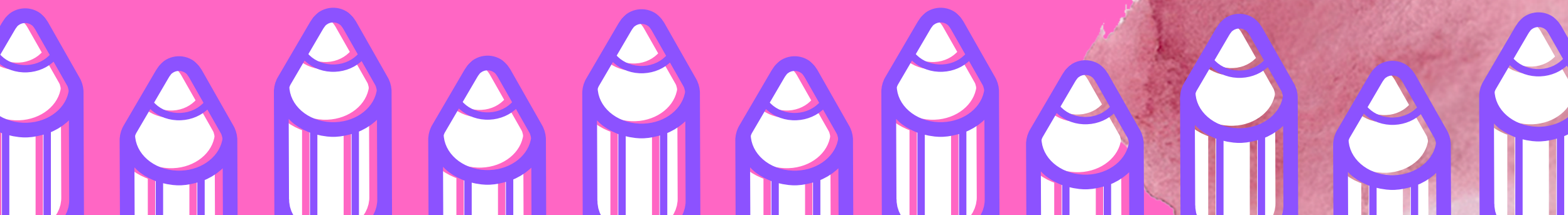
What resources are you still needing to find to meet your students' needs? I would love to visit!

Have a help request, but you are not sure which coordinator can help YOU? Follow the link below to submit a help request, and the appropriate coordinator will get back to you ASAP.

[Help Request](#)

Interested in learning about the development of Mathematical Reasoning? Check out this article.

[Article](#)





# SOCIAL STUDIES

**BRENNA TRIPP**

A Social Studies fair will be held during the Spring this year! Please contact me if you would like to be part of the planning process for this event.

Textbooks for McGraw Hill should all be delivered. Please contact me if you still do not have your texts.

We will be working to develop a 6-8 Civics curriculum to align with state mandates. Please contact me at [bjtripp@dps61.org](mailto:bjtripp@dps61.org) if you'd like to assist in this process.

# INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY

**MIKE COZIAHR**

Dedicated Building Professional Development

Hey all! I just wanted to let you know that I will be spending entire days in buildings to provide any professional development that you may need! A survey was sent out to all Principals asking for the specific needs of your schools. I will be available for support before school, during your planning, and possibly after school if needed. Whether it be HMH, McGraw, Google Classroom, or any other classroom apps, I would be happy to provide some quick PD on whatever you need! As always, I will still be able to assist with any concerns you may have even if I am not in your building, so please reach out! An email will be sent to you the morning that I am in your school, so be on the lookout for that!

# ELA

**YOLANDA MINOR**

Upcoming PD opportunities:

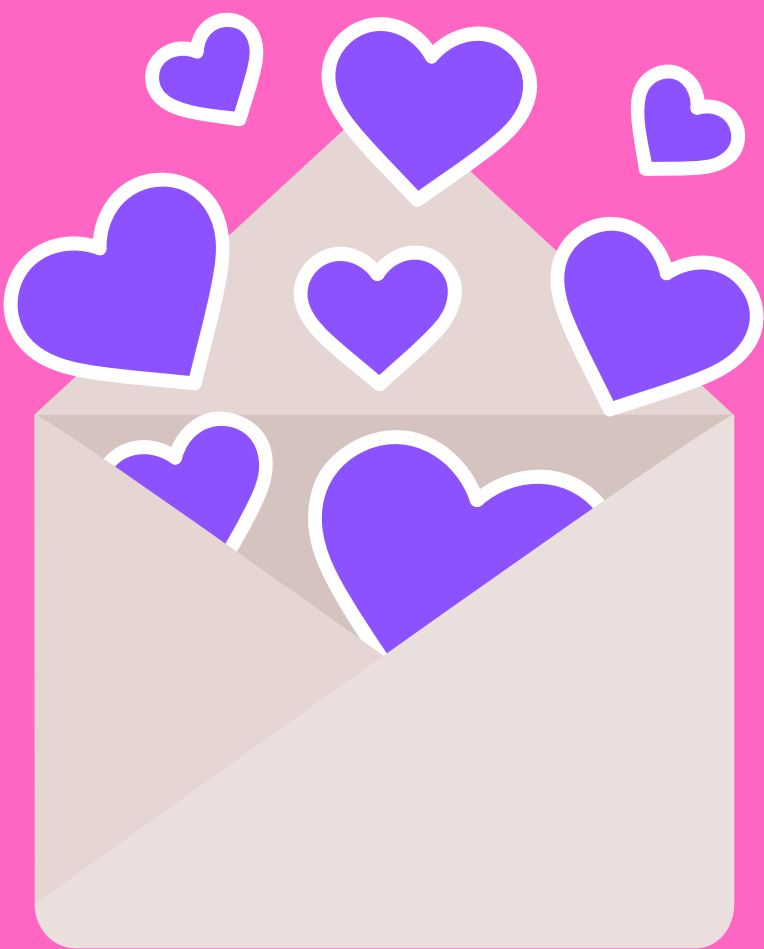
*\*Online\**

- 1. HMH Into Reading Model Lesson: Writing (K-1) 2/8/22, 6:00pm-7:00pm
- 2. HMH Into Reading Model: Small Group Differentiation 2/9/22, 4pm-5pm
- 3. HMH Into Reading Model Lesson: Writing (3-5) 2/15/22, 6:00pm-7:00pm

You must register on My Learning Plan and on HMH Live Events

What Makes a Good Decodable Text?

[Click Here](#)



# MENTOR/NOVICE TEACHER COORDINATOR

**MARIA WIGGINS**

Hello! Hola! Bonjour! Ciao! Shalom!  
Greetings! Xin Chao! Bonjou! Aloha!  
Dia Duit! Ya'at'eeh! What's up!!!

Have you ever thought about being a  
mentor to a new teacher?

Are you a new teacher and would  
like to have the support of mentor?  
If you answered YES to either of  
these two questions...

Drum roll please...

Then you have arrived at your  
destination!!

By the way...my name is Maria  
Wiggins

Educator Mentor/Novice Teacher  
Coordinator

PS...Fresh from 2nd grade at ADSA  
I am so excited to grow and learn  
with you.

Please feel free to reach out to me  
at [mwiggins@dps61.org](mailto:mwiggins@dps61.org) with  
questions and concerns

We are stronger and better  
together!!

# 7 MINDSETS

**CHRISTELLE HARDING**

The February Mindset of the Month is  
Attitude of Gratitude.

The Attitude of Gratitude Mindset  
teaches us the importance of seeking  
the positives from every experience and  
being thankful for all that we have.

Through this mindset, we learn that we  
can use the positives or the negatives  
of our lives as the foundation on which  
to build. Choose the positives, and we  
are on our way toward extraordinary  
success; choose the negatives, and we  
embark on path toward disappointment,  
resentment, and suffering. In these  
lessons, we guide students to focus on  
all the things they have, leaving no time  
to be distracted by what they don't.

The 4 critical components of Attitude of  
Gratitude:

1. Treasure Yourself
2. Be More Grateful
3. Thank It Forward
4. Elevate Your Perspective





# ELL COORDINATOR

SHARON BIRD

My name is Sharon Bird, and I am the ELL Coordinator for the district. Before taking the position as Coordinator, I was an ELL teacher at Johns Hill Magnet School. Currently, I am ACCESS testing around the district. This is the yearly state mandated English proficiency test. I will be contacting schools to set up times to test who have ELL students who do not attend Johns Hill or MacArthur. If you have any questions concerning ELL students, need additional resources, or anything related to ELL’s do not hesitate to reach out to me. The best way to contact me is through the district email (sbird@dps61.org).



# ARE YOU IN NEED OF SUPPORT?

Click the like below to be direct to the PDI Help Request Form. There, you will be able to request the services of a specific member of our Teaching and Learning Team.

[Help Request](#)

# IAR MATERIALS

TERI DYSON

IAR and ISA are coming up. Please be sure to prepare your students to do their best.

[IAR Practice  
Materials](#)

[IAR Practice Test](#)

Gifted Testing 2nd and 3rd grade- February 2-16