Instructional Newsletter: ELA

Hello SpringBoard educators! In this quarter's SpringBoard Instructional Newsletter, you will find resources to start the school year, instructional tips, a teacher of distinction highlight, and links to support your teachers and students.

Back to School Implementation Support

The start of the new academic year has arrived, a time when teachers, coaches, and administrators look for key resources to support district initiatives and learning for all students. Tips for SpringBoard teachers and coaches are below, and support for administrators is located in the second column.

Instructional Tips:

- The ELA section of the SpringBoard Community has been streamlined. Sub sections for all ELA courses are available and state specific resources have been marked for ease of use. Curriculum maps, standards information, state specific spaces, professional learning, and ELA news are readily accessible. Using the search feature will help users find previous posts and resources to begin the school year.
- Administrator resources located on the SpringBoard Community can be used by teachers and coaches to support the work in the classroom and provide insight into the design of the SpringBoard materials.
- The Implementation Support space of the SpringBoard Community has a Building Capacity subspace that contains the Promising Practices Leadership Video Series. The topics selected are critical to the implementation process and the accompanying one-pagers summarizes key points.

SpringBoard is excited to highlight implementation support opportunities for administrators:

- Implementation Walks: This service introduces administrators to the Foundational Classroom Observables that can be used during their own instructional rounds. Data is gathered on foundational elements of SpringBoard implementation, the process of classroom walkthroughs is reinforced, and next steps for implementation support are identified.
- Learning Walks: In this service, instructional leaders and administrators visit classrooms with a focus on providing feedback on the instruction observed. The team utilizes a protocol for crafting reflective feedback questions to share with teachers.
- Building Expertise Administrator Workshops: These workshops are designed as a follow up to the Building the Foundation Administrator Workshop. Districts may select two to four modules from the following topics: Leading Differentiation Through SpringBoard, Observing SpringBoard Instruction, Supporting English Learners in SpringBoard, and SpringBoard and the SAT.
- Digital Administrator Workshops: Administrators will engage in interactive digital sessions that help align their use of SpringBoard with school, district, and state expectations for instruction. These workshops launch on SBD in the fall.
- Implementation Checklist: The bottom half of this document contains steps site leaders can take throughout the year to support their teachers and instruction with SpringBoard.

English Language Learner Spotlight

Encouraging Academic Discourse

English Language Learners need to engage in academic discourse to support language acquisition and learning of content.

The Discourse Starters graphic organizer promotes academic conversations by providing patterned expressions often used in academic discourse allowing students to focus on the task. The resource may be found in the Teacher Resources Tab, in the back of the print edition, or on the SpringBoard Community.

Instructional Tip: Using one rich text, consider focusing on one or two sections to help students practice the skill of discussing a text, or summarizing a text, to build meaning. This scaffold helps to alleviate some of the challenge of impromptu class discussions and students can take ownership of the discussion when interacting with peers.
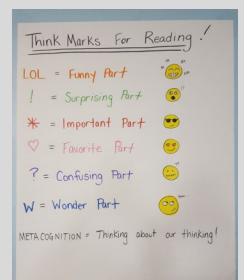
ELA Corner

Parent Letters are Live!
The start of the school year brings many opportunities to connect to students and their families. The parent letters in the Teacher Resources tab allows teachers to communicate the work students are engaging in the classroom. The letters are available in Word format, so teachers are able to adjust the letter to include all instructional choices. The letter templates have also been translated into Spanish.

Student and Parent Resources
The SpringBoard Community also houses student and parent guides. The Core Functions User Guide outlines the core interactions available for students using SBD. User guides also exist for: Revision Assistant, Zinc, and Workshops.

Implementation Tip: Share these resources with both students and parents to create an inclusive classroom. Adjust the letters to address the specific resources being used in the classroom and to outline specific tips parents can implement to support their children. For example, parents can review strategies used in class to make meaning, such as the use of metacognitive markers. The additional guides on Core Functions, Revision Assistant, Zinc, and Workshops can be used to encourage parents and students to use SpringBoard Digital features together.

* You must be logged onto the SpringBoard Community to access the embedded links *

SpringBoard ELA Coaches' Corner

Professional Learning

Building the Foundation

As fall approaches, consider additional professional learning opportunities that can support teachers' use of SpringBoard at the foundational level. If teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators have participated in an initial workshop, additional professional learning opportunities may be offered to extend this learning.

- Initial Training for new hires that include teachers, instructional coaches, and administrators
- Initial Institute Follow-Up: Reinforcing Key Ideas
- SpringBoard Digital: Examining Foundational Features
- Collaborative Curriculum Mapping
- Implementation Walks
- Learning Walks

The Professional Learning Catalog outlines PL offerings at all levels of implementation. If you are interested in learning more about SpringBoard's Professional Learning opportunities, contact your Program Delivery Specialist (person who places your SpringBoard materials order).

SpringBoard Digital In Action

SpringBoard Digital Fundamentals Webinar Series

SpringBoard is excited to announce the Fall webinar series focused on SpringBoard Digital Fundamentals. The first six webinars have been designed to address key topics critical to using SpringBoard Digital, while additional webinars will be added throughout the fall based on survey results from community members. Recorded and streamlined WebEx's will be posted on the SpringBoard Community a day or so following the live webinar.
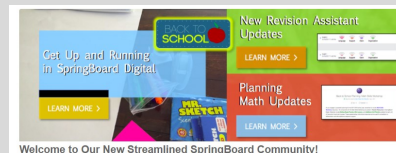
The first ELA webinar, focused on the ebook, is now available on the SpringBoard Community. Check out the webinar post on the SpringBoard Community to access all seven tips and resources.

SpringBoard Digital Tips

- Do your planning/review of SB activities in the eBook (vs. print) to gain a more in-depth experience using SB Digital
- Sticky Notes are great for links and additional references, contexts, texts

Check out the new streamlined SpringBoard Community!
All current SBD user guides, video tutorials (walkthroughs), and webinar recordings are available under the Implementation Support tab.

Differentiation

Fostering Differentiation through Professional Learning Communities

Engaging in the Professional Learning Communities (PLC) is a powerful strategy leaders can utilize to facilitate learning of educators who serve diverse learners. According to Dufour and Marzano (2011), there are three big ideas that drive the PLC process:

- The fundamental purpose of school is to ensure that all students learn at high levels.
- Educators help all students learn.
- Educators must be driven by results in order to know if students are learning and respond appropriately to their needs.

Establishing PLCs is one way to support how teachers use SpringBoard. Focusing teacher discussions around formative assessments results can help to address the three big ideas mentioned above. These formative assessment opportunities are embedded throughout SpringBoard's instructional materials, giving teachers and site leaders continuous feedback on instruction. For ELA, having teachers use the writing to sources prompt towards the end of an activity can serve as a formative assessment opportunity to be analyzed within a PLC. In Math, teachers can analyze the responses to the debriefing questions that address the critical math for a lesson. **Check out the rest of this blog post on the SpringBoard Community!**
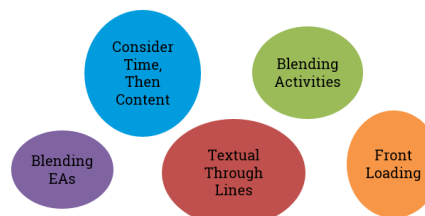
Featured Teacher of Distinction Post

Pacing Tips

Teacher of Distinction, Kimberlyn Slagle, presented a session titled, "Teaching Under Time Constraints—5 Pacing Tips" at the 2017 AP Annual Conference. She highlighted opportunities to make key instructional choices by "stacking," which involves grouping and prioritizing essential learning. See Kimberlyn's post on the SpringBoard Community that includes additional resources such as:

- Teaching Under Time Constraints Presentation PowerPoint
- Sample 3-5 Pacing Guide Grade 9
- Hack Pacing Priority Pyramid
- Decision Making Matrix Priority Pyramid

* You must be logged onto the SpringBoard Community to access the embedded links *