

CLEARVIEW Curriculum Connection

Volume 7; Issue 241

January 17, 2025

Mid-year Update on Clearview Science of Reading Training

Teachers in Clearview continue to engage in the state mandated Science of Reading training. Depending on your required Pathway which is determined by teaching area and prior training, the hours to complete the SoR training varies. The district will continue to provide Science of Reading Reflection sessions for secondary teachers on our PD days; the next being **March 17th**. The reflections sessions follow the pacing guide that was provided by our facilitators at the ESCLC. Our elementary teachers will continue to conduct Reflection sessions during TBT time. Regardless of the pacing guide, many Clearview teachers have worked ahead to complete this requirement. Several have sent me their certificates of completion. **If you have completed your required modules please email your certificate of completion** so I can document it accordingly. As stated prior, the supplemental pay that goes with successful completion will be conducted toward the end of the school year accordingly. Please see the graphic on the exact rate corresponding to the pathway of completion. Also, please refer to the link below to access the pacing guide for each pathway that outlines the suggested timeline to engage in the SoR modules and topics.

Science of Reading Professional Development Pathway	Stipend Reimbursement Eligibility Amount
A	\$1200
B	\$1200
C	\$1200
D	\$1200
E	\$400
F	\$0
G	\$1200

LINK: Science of Reading Pathway Pacing Guide

Science of Reading Ashland University Credit Update

Several educators in Clearview are also pursuing **Ashland University** credit to correspond with their completion of the Science of Reading Pathway. Added assignments and requirements exist to attain college credit. Now that the school year is halfway complete, please continue to complete assignments accordingly that will be due for AU upon completion. For more info on those assignments check here: **Link: SoR Ashland University Assignments**

Teachers don't just prepare students for the future; they inspire them to create it.

~Brad Johnson

Upcoming Dates:

- ♦ 1/20: MLK Day; No School
- ♦ 1/21: ProCore Test Window Opens
- ♦ 1/28: Gr5-12 Math Adoption Meeting; Wellness B
- ♦ 1/31: STAR Testing window closes
- ♦ 2/3: ProCore Test Window closes
- ♦ 2/3: OELPA Test Window Opens
- ♦ 2/6: VES PT Conferences
- ♦ 2/11: Gr7&8 ELA Adoption Meeting

Midyear TLA Meetings Conducted Next Week

TLA stands for Talk Listen Action. This is a leadership listening activity where educators can share their perspective on teaching and learning issues. I will conduct 1-on-1 or team meetings starting next week; see the graphic below. I encourage teachers to signup; however, some will be solicited to participate. I will be stationed within your school to conduct the meetings or move to a classroom if requested for a team meeting. To sign up in advance, please use the google sheet signup link that is provided below. Make your voice count - signup for TLA!

LINK: TLA Meeting Signups

TLA Dates:

CHS: 1/21

DMS: 1/23

VES: 1/30

Ohio State Testing: Testing Attitude

Starting in January and leading to spring, I will provide a section in the Connection Newsletter devoted to information regarding Ohio State Testing. In this issue I am sharing info on accessing practice testing from the Ohio Department of Education and Workforce site. This link can be used to provide students with state test questions that they will see when the actual test is administered in the spring. Students will benefit from simply seeing the setup of the test, the format, and how the questions are asked. This can ease student anxiety and put them in a positive frame of mind. It can lead to better test performance. Another advantage is for teachers; they can review student performance on practice testing to see potential strengths and weaknesses regarding learning standards. In addition, teachers can even provide feedback sessions to review commonly missed questions as a whole class. Review test vocabulary that may be new to students even though the standard has been covered. Build student confidence by adding incentives for preparation and practice as motivation. High stakes testing exists for some students; therefore, they should be given an opportunity to see the test and to practice. Use the link below to access the OST Practice Tests:



Practice Test Sign In

A screenshot of the "Practice Test Sign In" interface. It features two toggle switches, both labeled "ON" in a blue box. The first toggle is for "Guest User" with the subtext "Toggle to sign in as yourself". The second toggle is for "Guest Session" with the subtext "Toggle to join an active session".

LINK: Ohio State Testing - Practice Test Site

Course Offerings at Baldwin Wallace and Youngstown State for Educators

As teachers continually must pursue courses to fulfill licensure requirements, I know there is a continual search for relevant and quality course offerings. I recently received notice from both **Baldwin Wallace University** and **Youngstown State University** for a wealth of courses for local educators at reasonable costs. Both provide online opportunities that are convenient. Check out the links from both below to learn more. (Reminder: LPDC preapproval first!)

LINK: Baldwin Wallace Course Offerings **LINK: Youngstown State Courses**

Instructional Strategies Review: SoR Series - The Science of Reading in High School

In each issue of the Connection I will review a particular instructional strategy; periodically part of a **Science of Reading Series**: SoR in High School. The Science of Reading is often thought of as a topic for beginning readers. However, as many Clearview teachers are learning, strategies are also applicable to middle school and high school helping students engage deeply with complex texts while building essential comprehension skills. Check out the article link below from Edutopia reviewing use of SoR in a high school English classroom. The teacher integrates the five key components of language comprehension - background knowledge, vocabulary, literacy knowledge, language structures, and verbal reasoning - into daily instruction. For example, during a unit on the Great Migration, students explore the anchor text *The Warmth of Other Suns* alongside maps, poetry, historical documents, and art to build background knowledge and literacy skills. Students select and analyze vocabulary, engage in close readings of complex sentences, and participate in meaningful discussions to deepen understanding. By intertwining these components, the teacher creates opportunities for all students to improve comprehension, foster engagement, and develop the skills needed for success beyond the classroom. Check it out here:

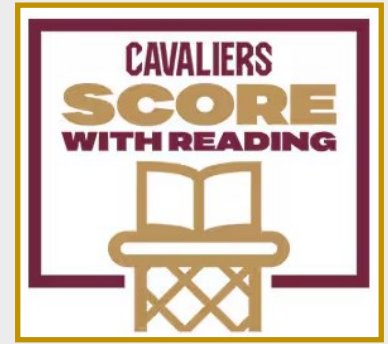
5 Daily SoR Components:

1. Background Knowledge
2. New Vocabulary
3. Language Structures
4. Verbal Reasoning
5. Literacy Knowledge

LINK: The Science of Reading in the High School Classroom

Clearview 3rd Graders Read Their Way To Cavs Award!

Cavs Fever and Reading Fever at VES! Two of our grade 3 classes at Vincent Elementary, **Tiffany Duke's** class and **Jamie Dodson's** class, participated in a reading challenge with the Cleveland Cavaliers called "**S.C.O.R.E!**" (Schools Connecting Opportunities for Reading Excellence). This is an educational initiative designed to encourage literacy and a love of reading among students. Through reading challenges, interactive activities, and engagement with Cavs-themed incentives, the program aims to inspire young readers, improve literacy skills, and foster a lifelong passion for learning and education. The challenge was to read as many minutes as they could over a 5 week period. During that time, students read in school, at home, and MANY spent indoor recess time reading. These young Clippers were ALL IN! It was announced last week that our Clearview students WON! They read over 50,000 minutes! As a reward, they were given the option to attend a celebration at the Cleveland clinic Courts (the Cavs practice facility) In Independence. Mrs. Duke secured funding through a donation from the Amherst Eagles to make this experience more memorable for our students. Congratulations to all!!



Camp Invention After School at DMS!

In addition to a summer session, Camp Invention is also offered after school at DMS. Camp Invention is a nationally recognized STEM program providing students with hands-on, creative activities to foster innovation, problem-solving, and a passion for science and technology. This is a great opportunity for our kids to extend their learning and gain experience in STEM - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. Special thanks to Durling Middle School Science teacher **Sarah Szczepanski** for running this after school program for kids!!



Clearview Teachers Pay Teachers Update

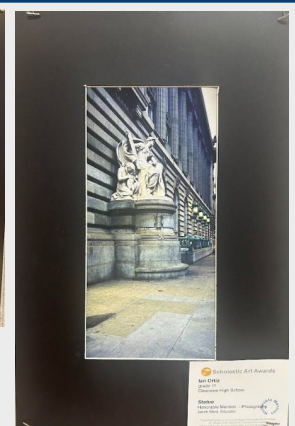
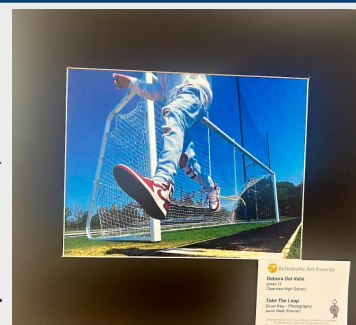
A popular resource in Clearview K-12 for all content areas is Teachers Pay Teachers. With a district account, a bank of downloads are available annually that works out to 31 per teacher per year. However, for the first time since obtaining TpT we reached our maximum allowance. This past week access had been halted and no more downloads were allowed. This subscription has since been renewed and it should be up and running.

*Unfortunate note: Teachers Pay Teachers district account access will end permanently on **September 25th**, 2025. Downloads will no longer be available after that date. Even though Clearview had a three year subscription extending to 2026, it must end a year early due to legal issues and issues surrounding district accounts. I do not know the specific details but this impacted all school districts nationally using this resource. Perhaps an alternative solution will be identified by that time but for now this is the communication being provided.



CHS Students Receive Scholastic Art Awards

Annually students submit work to the juried Scholastic Art and Writing competition. This competition features students from Lorain, Erie, and Sandusky county schools. This year Clearview High had four students - **Jinahn Al Hakim, Ian Ortiz Marquez, Joziel Villarin Hernandez, and Debora Del Valle** - selected by the judges to have their art work in the show displayed at the Stocker Art Gallery at LCCC!! Congrats to CHS Art teacher **Jacob Ward** for his work with these kids and providing the opportunity.

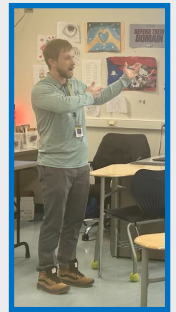


Clearview Art Work Recognized at the Scholastic Art and Writing competition!

Active, Engaged, and Innovative Classroom Learning in Clearview!

Each issue of the Curriculum Connection will include reports from our classrooms around the district. We want to do our best to promote active, engaged, and innovative lesson plans. What are your colleagues doing to engage Clearview students? The idea is to show appreciation for the hard work it takes to plan and develop such lessons.

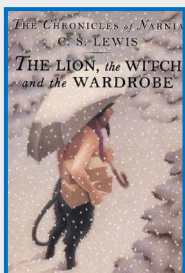
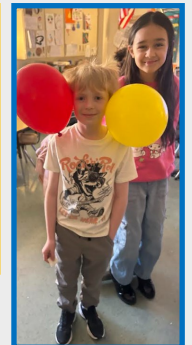
I made a stop into **Turner Jones'** grade 8 ELA class this past week. Turner was utilizing our CommonLit 360 resource. CommonLit 360 is a comprehensive ELA curriculum for grades 6–12, offering standards-aligned reading, writing, and discussion activities, with additional premium features like enhanced assessments and progress tracking. Turner was facilitating his kids in a student led Class Discussion activity regarding the reading of a book titled *Button, Button* by Richard Matheson. Turner simply facilitated discussion using guiding questions from CommonLit. Kids did the rest!! Several students went back and forth regarding personal reflections and responses to the story. Nice work!!



Modeling DNA at CHS. This past week I made a visit to **Derrick Walters'** Biology class. Students were engaged in a lesson on DNA replication where one molecule separates to become two molecules of DNA. He secured a graphic organizer from our district TpT account that provided a visual activity of the process. It modeled this process by having kids color code the nucleotides red and the parent DNA blue. Using the pair rules which are identified by a particular letter, kids had to cut out and then match the pairs together accordingly. Not only did this provide a proper visual of DNA replication it also allowed kids to use kinesthetic skills to “put the puzzle” and corresponding codes together. Awesome lesson activity indeed!



I witnessed a fun introductory science lesson on electricity in **Veronica Feicks'** 4th grade classroom on Wednesday. Veronica did a fun hook by using balloons to display the concept of static electricity. Static electricity is the buildup of electric charge on the surface of an object, typically caused by friction, which can result in a sudden discharge when contact is made with another object. It is prevalent on a balloon because rubbing it against a surface like hair or fabric transfers electrons, creating an imbalance of charges that causes the balloon to stick to surfaces. Veronica with help from her aide had to blow up lots of balloons for the cause!! However, the result was a fun and interactive demonstration to the learning objective. Nicely done Veronica!!



C.S. Lewis comes to grade 2! I stopped into **Cassidy Byham's** 2nd grade classroom this past week for a teacher read aloud activity. Each day Cassidy reads to her kids. Kids were in the corner of the classroom on the carpet surrounding Cassidy as she enthusiastically and dramatically read C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe - Chronicles of Narnia*. The carpet is where important whole class information is shared. Teacher read aloud activities

have two main advantages: 1) increases student motivation and enthusiasm for reading and 2) Enhances comprehension and vocabulary development. I loved seeing students' eyes glued to Cassidy as she read the book and showed pictures that existed. Even though a stranger was in the room, me, I was ignored, kids wanted to hear the story! Great work Cassidy!

