Systems-Oriented Approaches at Patrick Henry Preparatory School

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Mallory Locke, Ed.D., *Literacy Coach*

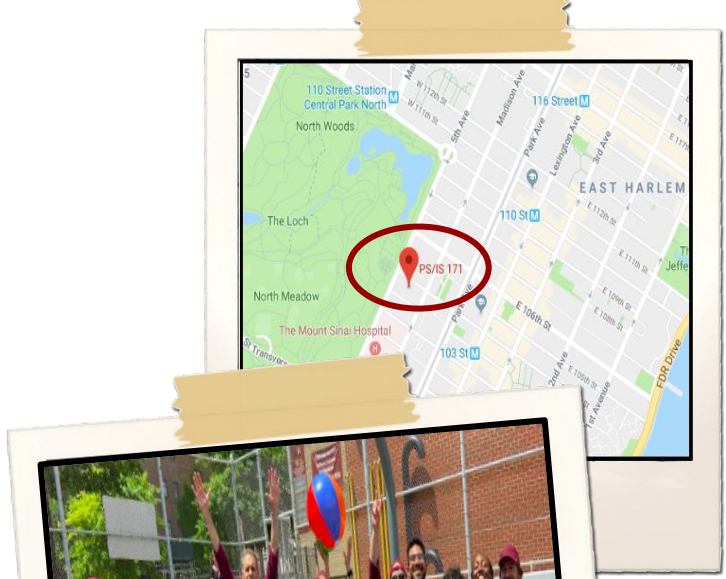
May 2023

Who are We?

- **Location:** Located on Madison Avenue near Central Park

- **Student Demographics**
  - **761 students across 11 grades**
    - 57% Hispanic
    - 25% Black
    - 10% Asian
    - 4% White
    - 4% Other
    - 21% students with disabilities
    - 5% English Language Learners
    - 80% qualify for free or reduced-price lunch

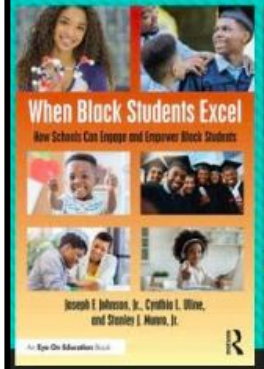
- **55 teachers, 7 instructional leaders**



Who are We?

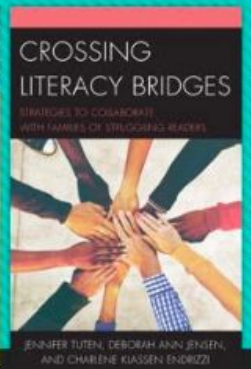
PS 171 is featured in…

When Black Students Excel: How Schools Can Engage and Empower Black Students



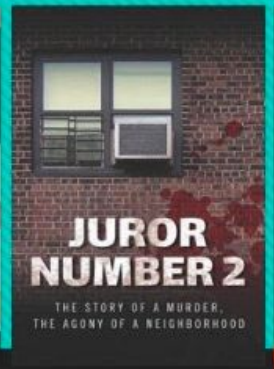
"To meet the learning needs of all its students, Patrick Henry provides thematic and project-based instruction that encourages collaboration, inquiry-based discussions, and authentic learning experiences. This means that everyday classroom instruction at Patrick Henry looks and sounds different from those in thousands of classrooms around the country that serve large numbers of students of color."

Crossing Literacy Bridges: Strategies to Collaborate with Families of Struggling Readers



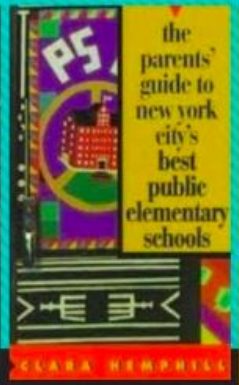
"We want parents to be part of the educational process, and what better way to make them part of the process than to share exactly what is going on…Parents in our school will tell you some of the things you can improve, and since we are on the team we want to get some consensus building and want to hear their great ideas."

Juror Number 2: The Story of a Murder: The Agony of a Neighborhood

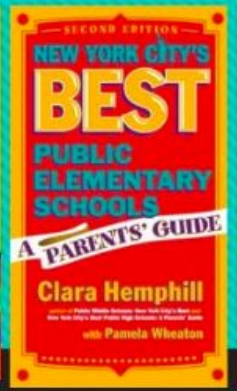


"My visit to PS/IS 171 Patrick Henry, an elementary and middle school at the corner of East 103RD Street and Madison Avenue, is an eye-opener: 171 is a standout in East Harlem… no other regular DOE school comes close."

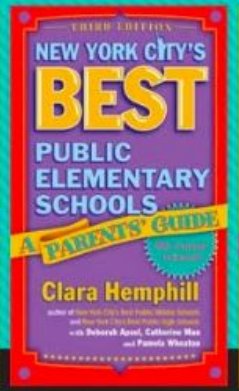
New York City's Best Public Elementary Schools (First Edition)



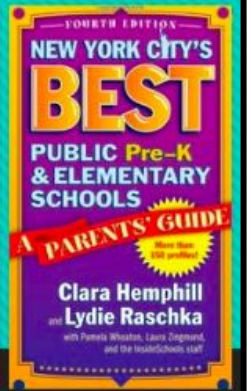
New York City's Best Public Elementary Schools (Second Edition)



New York City's Best Public Elementary Schools (Third Edition)



New York City's Best Public Elementary Schools (Fourth Edition)



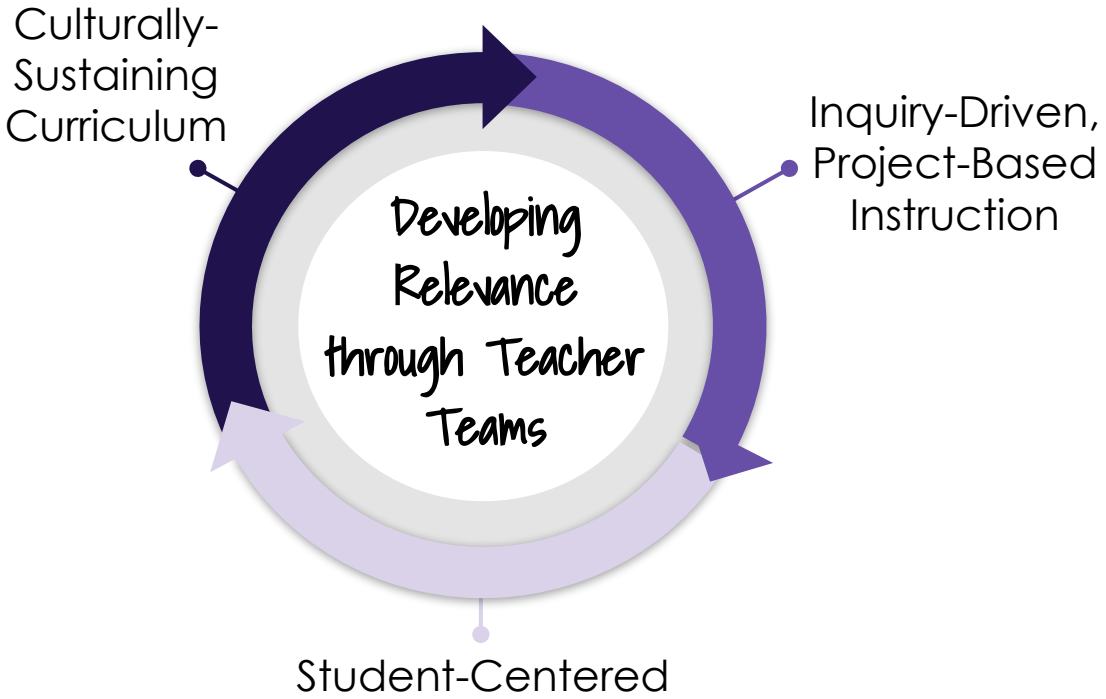
"PS 171 is a spotless, orderly, and disciplined school with consistent high expectations for students and staff. PS 171 has consistently good tests scores…Huge charts detailing standards and expectations are hung on the walls along with bulletin boards filled with children's work… Students receive special incentives for their achievements, including medals and other prizes."

What Grounds Our Work?

How do Our Students Perform?

How do we do it?
3 Main Systems
3R's
3P's

How do we create a culture centered in collaboration and curiosity?



Teacher Teams: a Systematic Approach to Relevance

THEN…
Teachers worked individually during preparation periods to refine scripted curricula

NOW…
Grade teams collaborate with coaches and, specialists, and providers during team meetings to develop curricula

3 W's/T.T. - Curriculum, Data, PLC

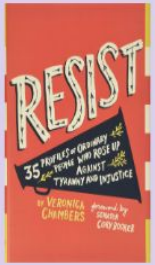
Teacher Teams: a Systematic Approach to Relevance

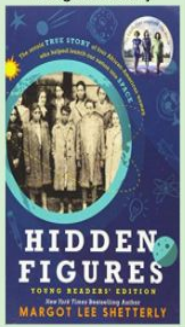
THEN…
Read alouds & chapter books PreK-3) and novel studies (4-8) were chosen for themes rather than identity markers

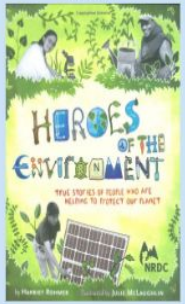
NOW…
Revised selections center characters and stories featuring diverse racial and cultural backgrounds, abilities, and genders

Grade 5 Novel Studies

September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
"Among the Hidden" by Margaret Peterson Haddix and "Resist" by Veronica Chambers				"Hidden Figures" by Margot Shetterly		ELA Five Week Plan		"Heroes of the Environment" by Harriet Rohmer	



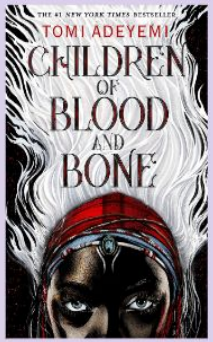




Themes: *"Big Government" and Legislation, Individual Resistance, Collective Advocacy*

Grade 6 Novel Studies

September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June
"Children of Blood and Bone" by Tomi Adeyemi				"Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky" by Kwame Mbalia and African Myths, Legends, and Folktales		ELA Five Week Plan		Dis/ability Visibility: Book Clubs	



Themes: *Power Dynamics, Self-Love and Pride, Inclusion*

Teacher Teams: a Systematic Approach to Relevance

THEN…
Instruction was teacher-directed, and opportunities to apply content were mostly independent

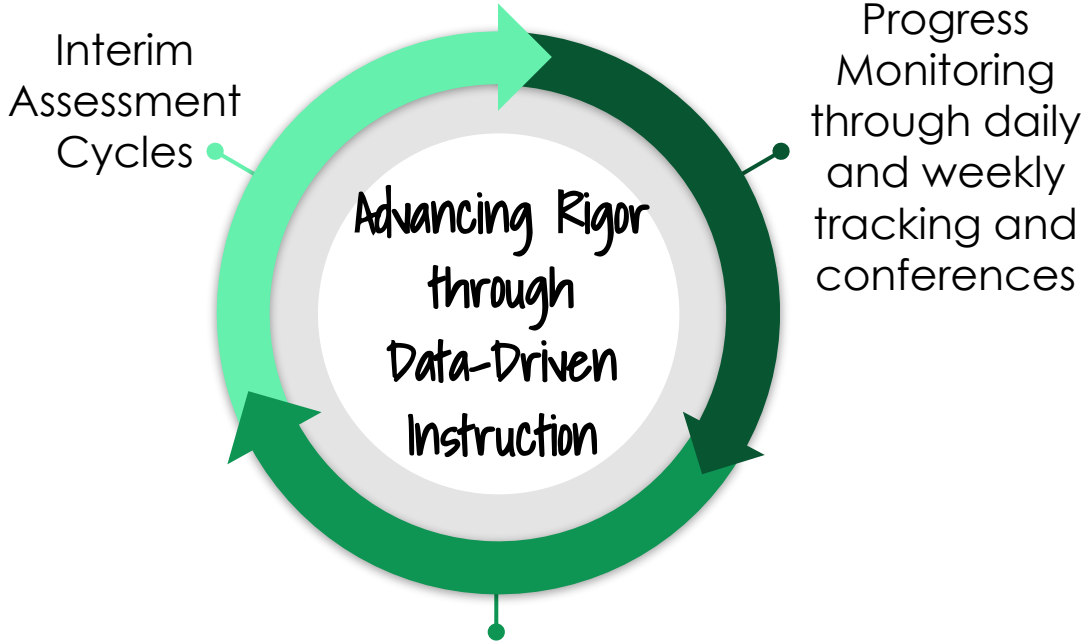
NOW…
Refined instructional practices promote student-led inquiry, emphasize collaboration, and ensure access for all learners

Second graders apply map skills in the schoolyard in order to create a neighborhood map of the East Harlem community!

Fifth grade teachers test-drive an egg-drop project based on the picture book, "After the Fall"...and fifth graders enact it on their own during Morning Meeting!

3 P's

How do we ensure the curriculum we're collaboratively developing meets students' needs?

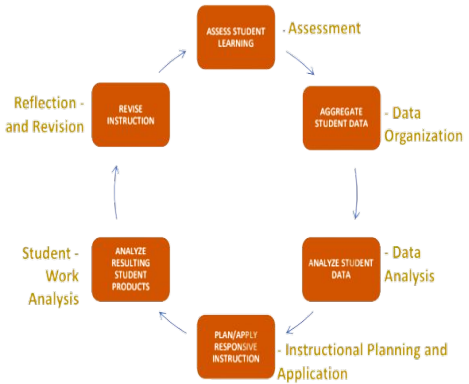


Qualitative & Quantitative Grade/Schoolwide Protocols - Shift 2

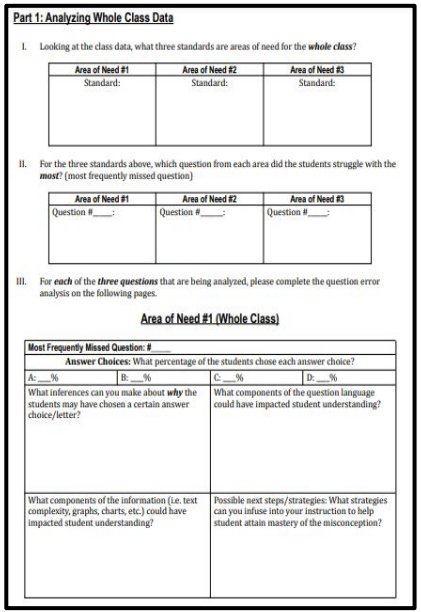
Data Analysis: a Systematic Approach to Rigor

THEN…
Data analysis was conducted on an individualized basis

NOW…
Protocols support teacher teams, specialists, and leadership in collaborative discussions about patterns and trends



TEACHER TEAM PROTOCOL MENU	
STUDENT WORK PROTOCOL	INTERIM ASSESSMENT PREVIEWING PROTOCOL
CURRICULUM REFINEMENT PROTOCOL	DATA-DRIVEN ANALYSIS PROTOCOL



Part 1: Analyzing Whole Class Data

I. Looking at the class data, what three standards are areas of need for the ***whole class***?

Area of Need #1	Area of Need #2	Area of Need #3
Standard:	Standard:	Standard:

II. For the three standards above, which question from each area did the students struggle with the ***most***? (most frequently missed question)

Area of Need #1	Area of Need #2	Area of Need #3
Question #____:	Question #____:	Question #____:

III. For ***each*** of the ***three questions*** that are being analyzed, please complete the question error analysis on the following pages.

Area of Need #1 (Whole Class)

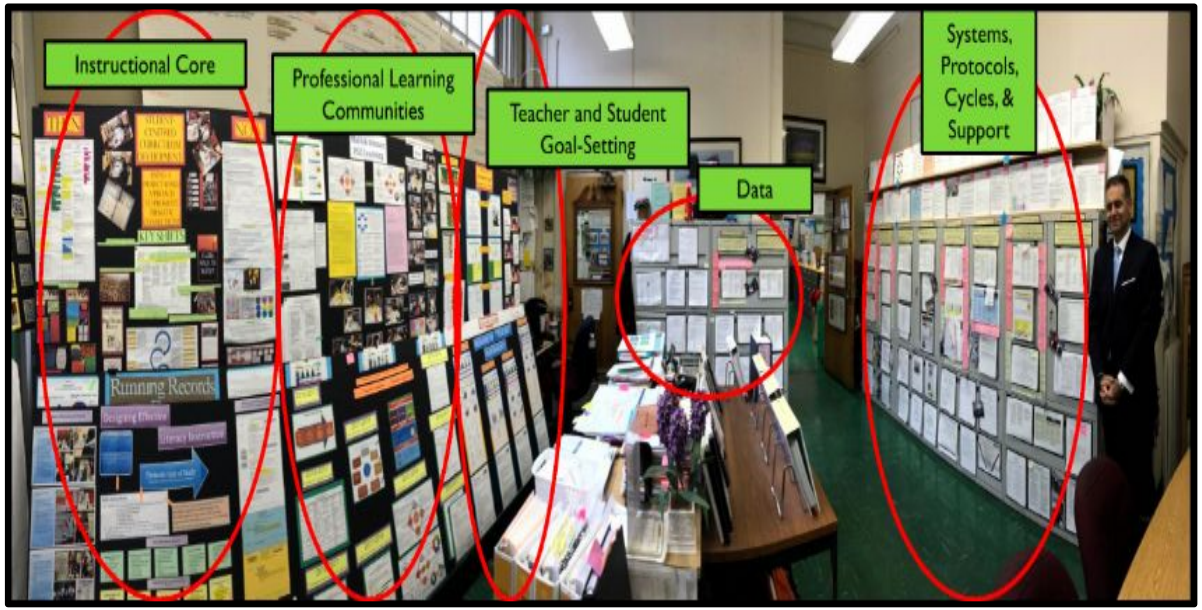
Most Frequently Missed Question: #____			
Answer Choices: What percentage of the students chose each answer choice?			
A: ___%	B: ___%	C: ___%	D: ___%
What inferences can you make about ***why*** the students may have chosen a certain answer choice/letter?		What components of the question language could have impacted student understanding?	
What components of the information (i.e. text complexity, graphs, charts, etc.) could have impacted student understanding?		Possible next steps/strategies: What strategies can you infuse into your instruction to help student attain mastery of the misconception?	

Plethora of Data Analysis Protocols

Data Analysis: a Systematic Approach to Rigor

THEN…
Instructional decision-making was informed by quantitative sources

NOW…
Teachers analyze both quantitative and qualitative data from formative and summative sources for a more holistic approach to refinement

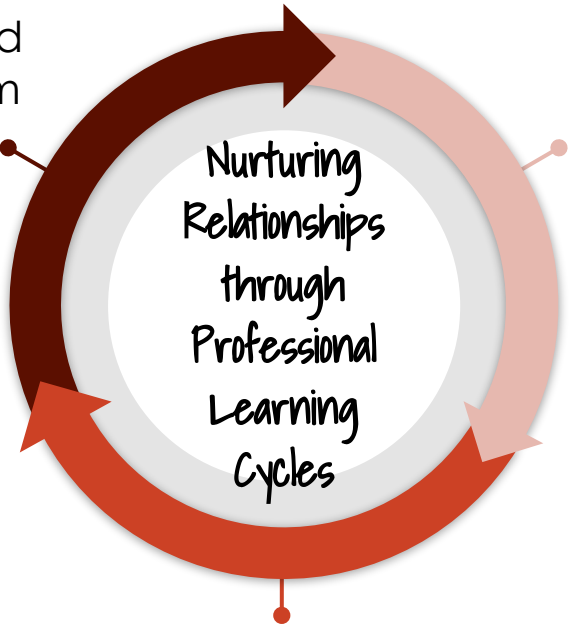


TEACHER CONFERENCE SCHEDULE	
First-Year Teachers	1x per week
Co-Teaching Pairs	1x per week
Second-Year Teachers	bi-weekly
Master Teachers	1x per month
Specialists	1x per month

Patterns and trends are observed around the 3 core systems - data, PLC, TT

How do we foster a community and culture to sustain rigorous demands?

Research-Based Practices inform Inquiry Cycles and Learning Pods



Emphasis on Adult Social-Emotional Learning

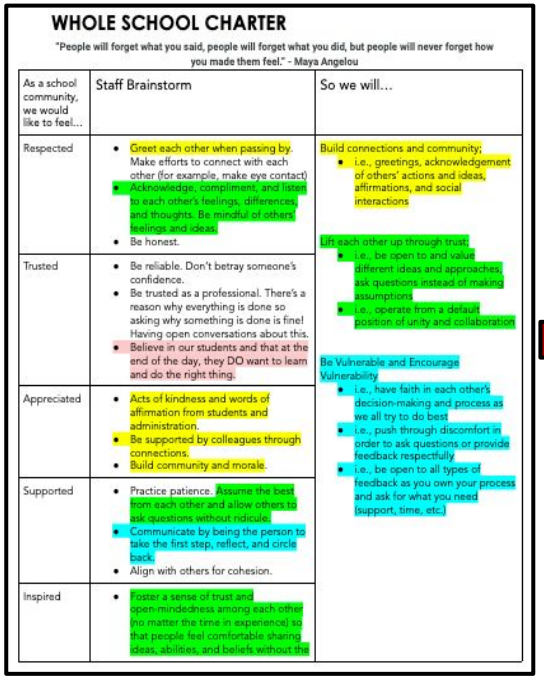
Instructional Schedules Modified to Infuse SEL & Community- Building

Teacher-driven pods address school goals - Shift 4

PLCs: a Systematic Approach to Relationships

THEN…
Several topics were reviewed within a single school year

NOW…
Sessions align with core initiatives at the school and district level to ensure learning is tangible and scaling is sustainable



WHOLE SCHOOL CHARTER

"People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." - Maya Angelou

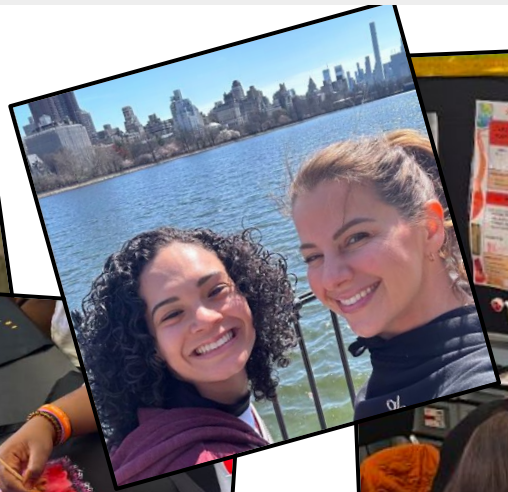
As a school community, we would like to feel…	Staff Brainstorm	So we will…
Respected	• Greet each other when passing by. Make efforts to connect with each other (for example, make eye contact) • Acknowledge, compliment, and listen to each other's feelings, differences, and thoughts. Be mindful of others' feelings and ideas. • Be honest.	Build connections and community: • i.e., greetings, acknowledgement of others' actions and ideas, affirmations, and social interactions Lift each other up through trust: • i.e., be open to and value different ideas and approaches, ask questions instead of making assumptions • i.e., operate from a default position of unity and collaboration Be Vulnerable and Encourage Vulnerability: • i.e., have faith in each other's decision-making and process as we all try to do best • i.e., push through discomfort in order to ask questions or provide feedback respectfully • i.e., be open to all types of feedback as you own your process and ask for what you need (support, time, etc.)
Trusted	• Be reliable. Don't betray someone's confidence. • Be trusted as a professional. There's a reason why everything is done so asking why something is done is fine! Having open conversations about this. • Believe in our students and that at the end of the day, they DO want to learn and do the right thing.	
Appreciated	• Acts of kindness and words of affirmation from students and administration. • Be supported by colleagues through connections. • Build community and morale.	
Supported	• Practice patience. Assume the best from each other and allow others to ask questions without ridicule. • Communicate by being the person to take the first step, reflect, and circle back. • Align with others for cohesion.	
Inspired	• Foster a sense of trust and open-mindedness among each other (no matter the time in experience) so that people feel comfortable sharing ideas, abilities, and beliefs without the	

SEL Charter Agreement

PLCs: a Systematic Approach to Relationships

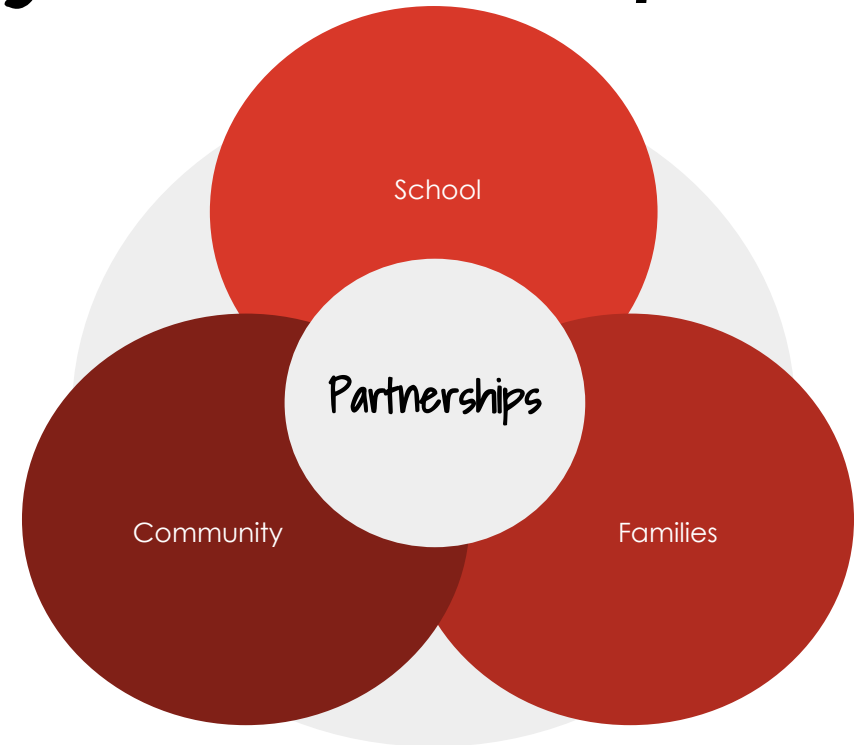
THEN…
Learning focused solely on academic developments

NOW…
Learning is holistically approached to develop academic, social, emotional, and reflective skill sets



Adult SEL Pods

How do we engage all stakeholders in nurturing our community and culture?

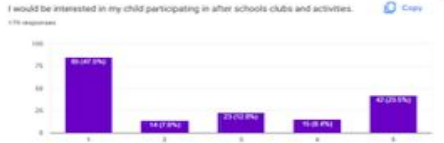


Partnerships enrich the instructional core & SEL needs

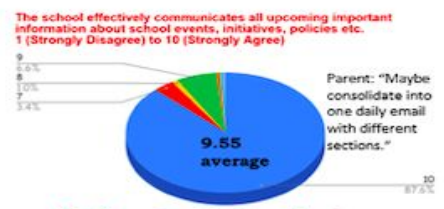
Engaging our Families at PS 171

Parent Feedback

Results from a parent survey in the fall on workshops, topics, and/or events they would be interested in seeing at our school.



Results from the 2021-2022 SLT Parent Needs Assessment Survey indicating a interest in more clubs and school activities.



Results from January 2022 Extracurricular and Family Engagement Survey indicating overall satisfaction with communication. Several parents indicated an interest in seeing communications consolidated.

Accomplishments 2022-2023

Workshops Offered at PHP

- ✓ Building & Supporting Executive Functioning Skills
- ✓ Stress Management for Caregivers
- ✓ Promoting Social-Emotional Wellbeing
- ✓ Understanding Mental Health: When to Worry and How to Help
- ✓ Promoting Positive Behaviors at Home
- ✓ Supporting Your Child's Academic Growth
- ✓ Building a Foundation for Reading at Home
- ✓ Understanding Childhood Traumatic Stress
- ✓ Is it Depression or Teen Angst?
- ✓ Managing Stress Around the Holidays
- ✓ Managing Grief and Loss
- ✓ Managing Kids' Screen Time
- ✓ Healthy Eating & Living
- ✓ Mindful Parenting
- ✓ Helping your Child Understand What They Read
- ✓ Understanding and Supporting ADHD
- ✓ Family Literacy Workshop with Reading Partners
- ✓ Chase Financial Literacy Workshop
- ✓ Promoting Positive Behaviors at Home
- ✓ Building and Supporting Executive Functioning
- ✓ Helping your Child Understand What They Read
- ✓ Understanding and Supporting ADHD
- ✓ Family Literacy Workshop with Reading Partners
- ✓ Supporting your Anxious Child
- ✓ Supporting LGBTQ+ Students
- ✓ Chase Financial Literacy Workshop

Family Events at PHP

- ✓ Hispanic Heritage Family Movie Night
- ✓ School Carnival
- ✓ Parent Yoga Class
- ✓ Coffee at the Curb
- ✓ Family Board Game Night
- ✓ Black History Month Family Movie Night
- ✓ STEM Night (Upcoming)
- ✓ Family Trivia Night (Upcoming)
- ✓ Family Paint Night (Upcoming)

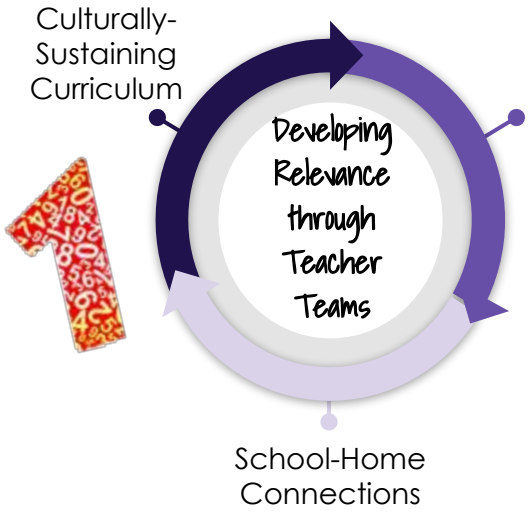
Adult Education at PHP

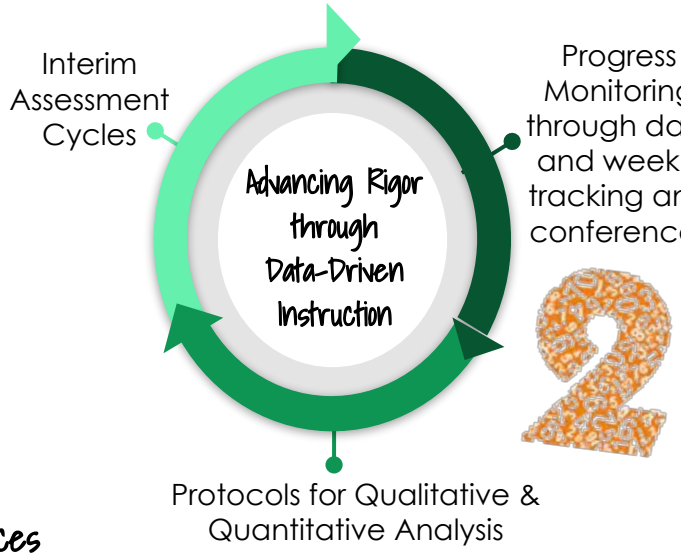
- ✓ English Language Level 1
- ✓ English Language Level 2
- ✓ GED Preparation

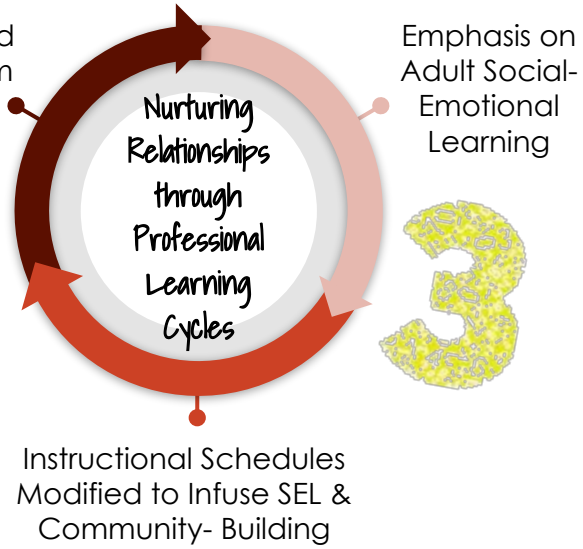
Student Programming

- ✓ Over 40 Student Activities/Clubs
- ✓ Springboard Literacy After School (Pre-K & Kindergarten)

Key Takeaway: Sustainable, Scalable Systems







Advanced Literacy Shifts to Best Practices