The Principal's Role in Implementing School-wide Literacy Strategies (Part 2)

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Why Literacy?

College-Ready

“An eighteen-year-old who is not college-ready today has effectively been sentenced to a lifetime of marginal employment and second-class citizenship.”

Wagner and Keegan, 2006

Career-Ready (CTE)

“Demands on students’ literacy skills are becoming increasingly intense and rigorous, especially in highly technical CTE courses and in today’s labor market. Students must possess the requisite literacy skills for career and academic success, yet barely one-third of high school graduates are considered proficient in reading.”

http://www.nrccte.org/professional-development/literacy-cte

Connecting the dots: Reading and Math

3rd Grade Reading → 8th Grade Algebra

Course of Study → College Graduation

Postsecondary Ed. & Training → High School Graduation

Literacy: Connecting the dots

“The National Research Council asserts that academic success, as defined by high school graduation, can be predicted with reasonable accuracy by knowing someone’s reading skill at the end of third grade. A person who is not at least a modestly skilled reader by that time is unlikely to graduate from high school.”
7 Keys to College Readiness

1. **Reading** in Grades K-3
2. Advanced **Reading** on state assessments in Grades 3-8
3. Advanced Math in Grade 5
4. Algebra I by Grade 8 with “C” or higher
5. Algebra II by Grade 11 with a “C” or higher
6. Score of 3 on an AP exam, Score of 4 on an IB exam
7. SAT score of 1650, ACT score of 24


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School Improvement

**Must reach every classroom!**

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Literacy and Learning

“**Literacy and good teaching are inseparable.**”

Why literacy?

Key to Learning Content and Thinking Skills

= Purposeful reading, writing, discussion (authentic literacy)

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Literacy

The gateway skill.

Why literacy?

“**Literacy and good teaching are inseparable.**”
1. Reading  
2. Writing  
3. Listening  
4. Discussion

High Leverage Points

Less is more!

The economics of literacy

"The economic payoffs of teaching reading and writing skills are much higher than anything else we teach."  
Labor Economist and Northeastern University Professor  
Dr. Paul Harrington

Literacy is the key

"Student scores on language arts tests are the single most reliable academic predictors..."  
E.D. Hirsch, Jr.

School Improvement

Where is the best place to teach literacy skills?
Literacy is the key!

"You Can't Do the Math Without the Words: Language is the key to mental processes."

Integration literacy

1. Close reading
   A. Underlining
   B. Annotation
2. Discussion
3. Writing