

Looping at Wayne Trail Elementary

“Students and Teachers Progressing Together”

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What is Looping?

Looping is the opportunity for students and a teacher to stay together for two years or more and share individual growth and development in all areas, such as academic, social, emotional, and psychological.

Looping Environment

Looping provides a learning environment that resembles a close-knit family, one that produces and thrives on maintaining successful individual and group learning.

Emphasis is placed on:

- Collaboration/Cooperation

- Positive social skill development

- Individual and group responsibility

One main goal:

- Develop independence in learning to become life-long learners.

Benefits of Looping

1. Increase student performance.
2. Significant time saved at the beginning of 2nd year.
3. Teach to and know students' strengths, while looping back to help weaknesses.
4. Bridging two years to reinforce past learning and create new mindsets for next year's curriculum.

Additional Benefits of Looping

A sense of stability

An “extended” family/community

Reduced apprehension

Strong interpersonal relationships

Trusting and honest relationships

Development of life skills

Individualized instruction and curriculum

Additional Benefits of Looping

Secure and safe environment to become risk takers, necessary for discovery.

Curriculum builds on previous experiences and prior knowledge.

Development of higher-level thinking skills.

More practice in reading and math skills.

Inexpensive way to institute school reform.

Potential Drawbacks

1. More change for teachers.
2. Additional learning for teachers.
3. Personality conflicts.
4. Lack of exposure to different teaching styles/staleness.
5. Student over-attachment to teachers.

What we hoped/did achieve

1. Increase student achievement!
2. More integrated, continuous, and progressive curriculum.
3. Increase amount of instructional time.
4. Build better relationships with students and parents.
5. Increase daily attendance.
6. Reduce discipline problems.
7. Increase in data analyzing to support student learning.

1. State tests scores
 - a. We are seeing results
2. Math rigor
3. Increase from 60 to 75 minutes (ELA/math)
4. Relationship surveys
5. Knowing absence “tendencies”
6. See discipline results
7. RtI meetings

Gifted Teacher Perspective

1. Students are grouped heterogeneously for math and reading allows many student led activities due to their independent nature.
2. Students are able to move at a quicker pace, therefore, the following year it is easier to continue on the faster pace.
3. Co-teach with the gifted teacher if teacher is not gifted certified.
4. For all students, **we loop children**, not just subjects.

Math Teacher Perspective

1. Looping Curriculum helps teacher to more deeply understand what is taught and therefore able to better see where kids have been and where they need to go. It's important to communicate this to students as well. The curriculum will be more meaningful.
2. "Buys time" - Time saved in setting routines and expectations in 2nd year startup.
3. Knowing students strengths and weaknesses in math is important in helping them succeed. By second year, I know them much better as a math student.

School Counselor Perspective

Conclusions

PBIS is working very well - 6th year

Looping allows teachers to lay the framework on first year and establish the 5 R's

District wide (k-5) PBIS program

First year of PBIS more than 55% sent to principal.

Now about 35% sent (150 vs. 70)

School Counselor Perspective

PBIS- Behaviors are less

Anti-Bullying program works better

Rude, Mean, Bullying

More time to work through conflicts

Parents seem to be more comfortable the 2nd
year

How did we do this?

1. Discussions with other schools:

- a. Wauseon Elementary School
- b. Cleveland School
- c. Rural Arkansas School (Daisey Duerr) (Model School)

2. Visit to another school:

- a. Washington Local Schools (7th/8th loop)

3. Spring planning meetings:

- a. Sharing resources between grade levels

Questions and Contact Information

If you have questions, please contact us below:

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