



Message from the Superintendent

Dr. Joyce Kleinaitis

One of the goals that our district staff and board members are setting for the 2010-2011 school year is improvement in the success of reading for all of our students. As part of our school improvement plan, we have created a District Literacy Committee, comprised of reading teachers, classroom teachers and administrators, as well as representatives from the Chicago Ridge Public Library. We will be inviting parents to attend some of these meetings.

The literacy committee will focus on reading initiatives that will motivate children to read, the home school connection for families to receive support for working with their students and other ways that we can support reading improvement.

Our teachers will continue to participate in professional development to experience various strategies that attend to students' styles of learning.

One of the best ways for a child to achieve literacy success is to have a rich print environment in the home and at school.

Parents can be the key to a child's success with reading. The parent is the first teacher and is in a unique position to encourage and model a love of reading.

Suggestions:

- + Read aloud to your child***
- + Create an alphabet of pictures***
- + Surround children with reading materials: newspapers, magazines, books***
- + Encourage reading activities: read menus, grocery lists, road signs, games directions, comics***
- + Be knowledgeable about your child's progress***
- + Have your child read aloud to you***
- + Write notes to your children***
- + Visit the library with your child***
- + Encourage more reading and less television***
- + Books on tape or CD's encourage listening and vocabulary skills***
- + Encourage your child to write thank you notes and letters***
- + Create a home library***
- + Attend family reading nights; support school reading programs***
- + Model reading for your children***