

August 24th, 2015

Dear Parents,

In keeping with the trend of school districts across Pennsylvania, and across the country, the fifth grade staff of Hopewell Junior High School is employing a Response to Intervention and Instruction (RtII) model to better address the needs of all students. RtII implementation has several components, some of which may be familiar to you and your child. For fifth grade students, the primary components that we use are universal screening, “scientifically researched instruction strategies”, and regular progress monitoring. The screenings that we use for reading are NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) testing and assessments aligned with the McGraw-Hill Wonders reading series that are composed of vocabulary, language, and comprehension skills reinforced throughout each reading theme. Post testing will indicate skill deficits that require further small group instruction. In math student skill deficits will be determined by a beginning of the year assessment of skills from the Everyday Math series, and monitored frequently through end of the chapter tests and reviews. Additionally, the district utilizes NWEA testing.

Scientifically researched instruction strategies are methods of delivering instruction (on individual skill areas) that have been validated as effective through research. Students should experience consistent growth in the skill areas being targeted for instruction. In instances where students are not progressing as they should, they will receive additional, varied instruction. We are looking forward to working with both you and your child to deliver the best instruction possible in the most effective ways that we can.

Sincerely,

The Fifth Grade Staff

