25.ELA.9

ELA/Literacy Grade-Level Instructional Materials Evaluation Tool

Quality **Review**

GRADE 5

WCSD 2018

Washoe County School District

Every Child, By Name And Face, To Graduation℠

Council of the Great City Schools

COMPONENT 1: TEXT COMPLEXITY

The guiding statements provided in this section will examine text complexity in order to differentiate quality and richness among the texts WCSD is considering for adoption. To address the grade five standards, the submitted materials need to create the conditions for rich and robust discussion and writing for ALL students (struggling readers, students with identified academic disabilities English Learners, students who are performing at grade level, and advanced students).

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
Literature and Informational Text C1a. The texts present rich and embedded relationships between and among characters, ideas, and concepts that are conveyed through masterful style and structure. (See exemplars in CCSS, Appendix B.)	High quality series with rich embedded thematic relationships among characters, ideas and concepts. Clear graphics and content vocabulary.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
C1b. The materials consistently include short, challenging, and complete texts that contain rich content, ideas, and academic language worthy of close reading. (See exemplars in CCSS, Appendix B.)	Backward mapping process was applied to the selection of texts and creation of lessons. Starting with weeks 2 and 3, text difficulty and complexity are anticipated and planned for in the meaning making and stamina building strategies learned using short reads in week 1. Students then progress to apply those strategies to unlock meaning in close readings of more complex extended reads in weeks 2 and 3. Texts for close reads have high expectations and include write-in consumable texts for annotation. The texts were not included in any of listings in CCSS Apx. B, although they were high quality.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

C1c. The materials consistently provide opportunities to read both literary and informational texts at the high end of the grades three through five text complexity band.	Lexile levels ranged from low grade 3 through high grade 5 and are clearly marked on the back of the books, as well as in the teacher material. A qualitative and quantitative measurement rubric is included with each text as well as the Lexile level.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
C1d. Materials provide strategies for grade-level vocabulary acquisition as well as differentiated strategies for all students.	Several strategies are within the Teacher's manual, as well as supports for vocabulary within the close reads, Leveled readers, and within the side-bar integrated ELD supports in the teacher material.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ● 4) extensive evidence ○ 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

COMPONENT 2: QUESTIONS AND TASKS

At least 80% of all questions in the submission are high-quality text-dependent and text-specific questions. The overwhelming majority of these questions reference specific text and draw student attention to the text they are reading. Text-dependent questions that address the grade five standards will be described in greater depth in Alignment Criterion II.

ALIGNMENT CRITERION I: RANGE AND QUALITY OF TEXTS

Materials must reflect a wide range of text types and genres, as required by the standards. In grade five, and across all other grade levels, there should be ample texts on topics that can support sustained study. Knowledge built at one grade level should be expanded in other grade levels. Topics should take into account individual student academic needs and interests in order to foster independent reading. It is also imperative that the included topics and themes are compelling enough to read multiple times and are aligned to district needs. Pay particular attention to the guidance provided in Appendix B of the Common Core State Standards.

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
Literature and Informational Text 1a. The range of materials, both print and digital, allows teachers and students to explore content that coherently and systematically builds knowledge and grade-level vocabulary across subjects, themes, and topics. (See CCSS Appendix B for examples of grade-level knowledge demands.) Text sets also address a wide variety of student interests, and are likely to foster independent reading.	Components which are available online as well as print are; texts for close reading, read aloud handbook, grammar, spelling and vocabulary handbook, assessments, focused ELD supports, leveled texts, reader's theater, intervention materials. Within the Digital learning portal are the; e-planner, videos, weekly presentations, ebooks, home to school letters and activities, handwriting practice pages, My Standards Flip Book, Text Evidence Questions for selections, and online assessments	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
1b. Text sets include a diverse range of high quality, culturally-responsive and appropriate topics and themes. Texts from diverse cultures reflect the same high-quality features that are demanded of all texts.	There is a range of texts on various social studies and science themes. Only one Novel was found in unit 4 Esperanza Rising, and was found only in an online e-book.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
1c. Materials include a rich and diverse sampling of literary texts including, but not limited to: • Drama and poetry • Stories from various genres that invite exploration of the treatment of themes and topics	Several Reader's Theater texts are included within each unit, and stories from various genres exploring social studies are built into the series.	◉ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
1d. The range of informational texts include selections that: • Present historical events • Present multiple accounts of the same event or topic • Provide technical information • Present scientific ideas or concepts • Contain relevant visual representations of information	Wide range of selections providing historical events, government and citizenship, character, life science, point of view, technology and society, theme, history and culture, earth science, economics, and physical science.	◉ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
1e. Student reading materials contain a range of increasingly challenging selections that allow teachers to build students' ability to comprehend complex text and expand vocabulary throughout the school year.	See C1b	◉ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ◉ 4) extensive evidence ○ 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

ALIGNMENT CRITERION II. QUESTIONS AND TASKS SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING

Questions posed to students in the materials under review should support student learning in building reading comprehension, in finding and producing the textual evidence to support responses, and in developing grade-level academic language and domain-specific words and phrases. Texts for grade five students must include text-dependent questions that require the use of higher order thinking skills. There should be a range of questions that require students to attend to the author's language as his/her vehicle for conveying meaning, as well as to support specific inferences with explicit details from the text. Most questions should require that the student refer to the text in several places in order to devise an answer—rather than asking only literal, "right there" types of questions—and should also require the student to begin comparing texts, authors, and opinions (CCSS).

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
Literature and Informational Text 2a. *Key Ideas and Details.* Questions and tasks require students to explicitly attend to the text, including, but not limited to: • Quoting from a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and making inferences • Summarizing text • Determining the theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text • Determining two or more main ideas of a text and how they are supported by key details • Comparing and contrasting two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or drama • Explaining the relationships or interactions between two or more individuals, events, ideas, or concepts covered in informational texts	Within the teacher's edition and in the digital tools, in the Read Aloud handbook, also in the inside jacket cover of the leveled readers.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
2b. *Craft and Structure*. Questions and tasks require students to explicitly attend to the text, including, but not limited to: • Determining the meaning of words and phrases as used in the text, including general academic and domain-specific words as well as figurative language • Explaining how a series of chapters, scenes, or stanzas fit together to form the overall structure of a story, drama, or poem • Comparing and contrasting the overall structure of two or more informational texts • Analyzing multiple accounts of the same event or topic, noting similarities and differences in point of view and describing how point of view influences how events are described	Questions included within the teacher's manual as well as within the Writing and Language Handbook (mini-lessons) include explicit lessons	◉ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
2c. *Integration of Knowledge and Ideas.* Questions and tasks require students to explicitly attend to the text, including, but not limited to: • Drawing information from multiple print or digital sources • Analyzing how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text • Comparing and contrasting the treatment of similar themes, topics, and patterns of events • Comparing and contrasting stories in the same genre on their approaches to similar themes and topics • Explaining how an author uses reasons and evidence to support points • Integrating information from several texts on the same topic	Within the teachers edition and leveled readers	○ 4) extensive ◉ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ◉ 4) extensive evidence ○ 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

ALIGNMENT CRITERION III. WRITING TO SOURCES AND RESEARCH

The writing standards for each grade level highlight distinctive expectations about student writing. For details on grade-level writing expectations and writing exemplars for grade five, see the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy. The metrics below show key characteristics to look for in your review of materials.

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
3a. Writing assignments are explicitly connected to what students are reading, and routinely include writing over shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) and extended time frames (for research, reflection, and revision) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.	Writing is connected to what students are reading in the form of examples from the Mentor Text and Daily writing, as well as a Writing and Language handbook.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
3b. Text-dependent questions generally create the foundation for students to address culminating writing tasks, including: • Writing opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information • Writing informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly • Writing narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear sequences of events	Students are writing to sources weekly while analyzing the prompt, sharing understanding with peers, and also performing quick writes	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
3c. Reading materials can serve as models to explore writer's craft, demonstrate use of domain-specific words and phrases, and support student production of grade-level opinion, informational, and narrative writing.	See above, mentor texts	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
3d. Materials include explicit support to teachers, either in the teacher's edition or classroom materials, for writing instruction linked to the grade five writing standards, including: • Producing clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to the task, purpose, and audience • Developing and strengthening writing by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach • Using technology to produce and publish writing, as well as to interact and collaborate with others, demonstrating sufficient keyboarding skills Materials should also guide the teaching of specific components of grade five writing standards 1-3 (See CCSS).	Writing exemplars are found online for narrative, opinion/ argument, and informational/explanatory. Teacher lessons are explicit and support teachers within the teacher's manual. Technology integration within writing was not found.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
3e. Materials provide opportunities and resources for students to conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic, including: • Using several sources to investigate different aspects of a topic • Recalling relevant information from experiences or gathering information from print and digital sources • Summarizing or paraphrasing information in notes and finished work • Providing a list of sources • Drawing evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, or research	Researching materials other than the leveled readers and other research opportunities is not built into the lesson. Drawing evidence, summarizing, and gathering information from print and digital sources is apparent.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ○ 4) extensive evidence ● 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

ALIGNMENT CRITERION IV: FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

Materials provide guidance and support for explicit and systematic instruction and diagnostic support in grade-level phonics, vocabulary development, syntax, and reading fluency. Students must be able to recognize words fluently in order to focus on the major goal of reading, which is comprehension. Effective foundational skills instruction in grade five includes an explicit and systematic focus on phonics and practice in applying phonics for students who are struggling. Building word analysis skills and fluency must also be contextualized within the materials (CCSS).

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
4a. Materials provide teachers with guidance and support for explicit and systematic instruction of the grade five *Reading Standards for Foundational Skills*, including instruction in phonics, word analysis, and reading with fluency to support comprehension. (Refer to CCSS, Appendix A for the research detailing the advancement of foundational skills in reading.)	A phonics and word recognition Intervention lessons, black line masters and teacher resources was included in the materials. Also, a grammar, spelling and vocabulary book is included which covers foundational skills and independent practice. There is a Phonics and word recognition quick check workbook as well.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
4b. Materials include a variety of opportunities for students to develop and apply word analysis and decoding skills, including: • Understanding grade-level vocabulary using an integrated approach (including affixes, multi-syllable words, etc.) • Understanding multisyllabic words in context and out of context • Self-correcting using word recognition skills and context clues, rereading text purposefully as needed	Within the writing and language handbook in the back of the book are language black line masters, however there are only 16 application skills. However the reading intervention book with mini-lessons, reading passages, and graphic organizers is also available, as is the grammar, spelling and vocabulary activity book.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
4c. Materials provide regular practice in reading grade-level prose and poetry with accuracy, at an appropriate rate, and with appropriate expression.	Not able to find a poetry text or unit	○ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ● 1) weak
4d. Materials guide students in reading grade-level texts with purpose and understanding, making frequent connections between the acquisition of foundational skills and access to the meaning of texts (including a set of text-dependent or text-specific questions to check for understanding).	Small group leveled texts, whole group texts for close reading, the reading quick check workbook, and the read aloud handbook all have connections to foundational skills with access to meaning of texts.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ○ 4) extensive evidence ● 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

ALIGNMENT CRITERION V: LANGUAGE

The Common Core State Standards for language focus on ensuring that students gain adequate mastery of a range of language skills and applications. Students are expected to meet each year's grade-specific standards and retain or further develop skills, knowledge, and vocabulary gained in preceding grades (CCSS).

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
Conventions of Standard English 5a. There is evidence that grade-level grammar and conventions are addressed using an integrated and contextualized approach in daily instruction. Materials and tasks in grade five are designed to help build student understanding and use of: • Conjunctions (including correlative conjunctions), prepositions, and interjections, including knowing and explaining their function in a sentence • Correct verb tense, including perfect tenses, to convey various times, sequences, states, and conditions • Correct spelling of grade-level words • Commas to separate items in a series, separate an introductory phrase from the rest of a sentence, to indicate direct address, or to set off tag words or questions • Underlining, quotation marks, or italics to indicate titles	The grammar, spelling and vocabulary activity book, as well as lessons in the teacher's manual all contain conventions of standard English.	● 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
Knowledge of Language 5b. The materials support instruction on: • Expanding, combining, and reducing sentences • Comparing and contrasting the varieties of English dialects and registers used in stories, dramas, or poems	Within the leveled readers, there is not much support for the students. There is however, lessons supporting the teacher led whole group lesson.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
Vocabulary Acquisition and Use 5c. The materials provide context, support, and strategies for teaching vocabulary acquisition skills, including: • Using context clues to unlock the meaning of words • Using Greek or Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meaning of words • Consulting reference materials to determine pronunciation or the meaning of words	Grammar, spelling and vocabulary activity book	○ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ● 2) some ○ 1) weak
5d. The materials provide embedded opportunities for students to encounter and develop an understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.	Phonics and word recognition quick checks, as well as mini-lessons and reading interventions with reading passages and graphic organizers.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ○ 4) extensive evidence ● 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

ALIGNMENT CRITERION VI: SPEAKING AND LISTENING

To be CCSS-aligned, speaking and listening must be integrated into lessons, items, and tasks. These must reflect a progression of communication skills required for eventual college- and career-readiness. If grade five students are able to listen to others, discuss what they are learning, and voice their own confusion or misunderstandings, their learning becomes deeper and more meaningful. They are exposed, at this level, to points of view that may differ from their own, and they learn how to agree and disagree, express their own thoughts, and ask questions when they don't understand or need more clarification (CCSS).

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
6a. *Comprehension and Collaboration.* Materials provide a language framework for student participation in academic conversations, including the ability to: • Come to a discussion prepared • Follow agreed upon rules/roles • Pose and respond to specific questions to clarify or follow up on information • Review key ideas and explain their own ideas • Differentiate between contexts for formal English and situations where informal discourse is appropriate • Use accurate, grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases	A 2 week routines and procedures for collaboration, routines and procedures is built in, as well as support for lessons taught with sharing your understanding in partners or groups.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
6b. *Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas.* Materials provide a language framework for student planning of effective presentations, focusing on: • How to report on a topic or text using evidence to present findings from research • How to present an opinion • How to sequence ideas logically • How to use appropriate facts and relevant details to support ideas • How to use descriptive details to support main ideas or themes • How to use multimedia components • How to adapt speech to a variety of audiences	Framework for planning effective presentation was minimal. Online and multimedia components appeared to be missing.	○ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ● 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ○ 4) extensive evidence ○ 3) sufficient evidence ● 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

ALIGNMENT CRITERION VII: SCAFFOLDING AND SUPPORTS

While scaffolds are not a part of the standards themselves, it is important to support teachers in meeting the needs of the range of students in their classrooms. In order to meet the reading, speaking, and writing needs of ***all*** *grade five students, the materials must include supports for students to comprehend text at the high end of the grades three through five text complexity band. Supports and scaffolds should draw students back to the text and provide strategies for vocabulary acquisition. All scaffolding and support requires ongoing formal and informal assessments. These assessments should provide multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate their proficiency and inform instruction.*

It is important to note that scaffolding is not just intended for struggling students, but also for students who are ready for above grade-level work. As text complexity increases and tasks get increasingly challenging, the need for appropriate scaffolds for above grade-level access is equally important (CCSS).

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
7a. The texts promote differentiated instruction and instructional conversations about text to support student learning of: • Academic language • Linguistic frames for student talk and writing • Repeated grammatical structures and language	Texts are specifically designed around scaffolding and support, as well as ELD support included.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
7b. The materials include student supports such as: • Multiple digital and media versions of texts • Illustrations • Graphs and charts • Maps and photographs • Visual cues/notes that draw attention to words in the text that signal sequence or offer clues to meaning (i.e., where, when, and how key events occur)	Digital and print versions are available.	○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
7c. The materials are designed to support teacher instruction by use of: • Explicit instructional directions accompanied by materials that are clearly aligned to stated goals and objectives that build student ability to read and comprehend grade-level text • Strategies to gradually increase difficulty as students' comprehension skills strengthen • Strategies to support student acquisition of knowledge supporting specific common core standards • Clear and detailed teacher directions and guidance for introducing new concepts and skills • Clear guidance for documenting student progress toward meeting grade-level standards		○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak
7d. The materials provide support for student learning through varying modalities (i.e., there are provisions for print, digital, and other multimedia sources for information attainment).		○ 4) extensive ● 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

GUIDING STATEMENTS	SPECIFIC EVIDENCE FROM THE TEXT/MATERIALS	EVIDENCE RATING
7e. The materials include assessments along with: • Suggestions for next steps to address a spectrum of performance levels and needs based on assessment results • Opportunities for students to demonstrate their expertise through the use of performance tasks • Pieces of challenging and complete text that can be used to assess student understanding and next instructional steps • Reading selections and questions that progress in a logical sequence for gradual release[1] • Enrichment tasks for students who are on target for meeting grade-level expectations • Steps to take when evidence suggests that students are starting to fall behind	Multiple assessment tools are included; weekly and unit assessments, interim assessments and performance tasks, informal assessments, assessment reporting platform, foundational skills screeners, fluency quick checks, phonics and word recognition, and dreading and language quick checks.	◉ 4) extensive ○ 3) sufficient ○ 2) some ○ 1) weak

OVERALL RATING: ○ 4) extensive evidence ◉ 3) sufficient evidence ○ 2) some evidence ○ 1) weak evidence

SUMMARY STATEMENT (Explain why the materials received this overall rating):

1 Gradual release: scaffolding of instruction so that students develop the ability to read and complete tasks and assignments independently and proficiently.