

OPENING THE DOOR TO COACHING

Principal and Reading Coach Communication

*Buffalo Creek Middle School's Plan to move
Reading Coach from Resource to Coach*

Scott Cooper-Principal
Joanna Durst-Reading Coach

“The reading coach is responsible for working with all teachers (including ESE, content area, and elective areas) in the school they serve; however, they must **prioritize** their time to those teachers, activities, and roles that will have the greatest impact on student achievement, namely **coaching and mentoring** in classrooms.”

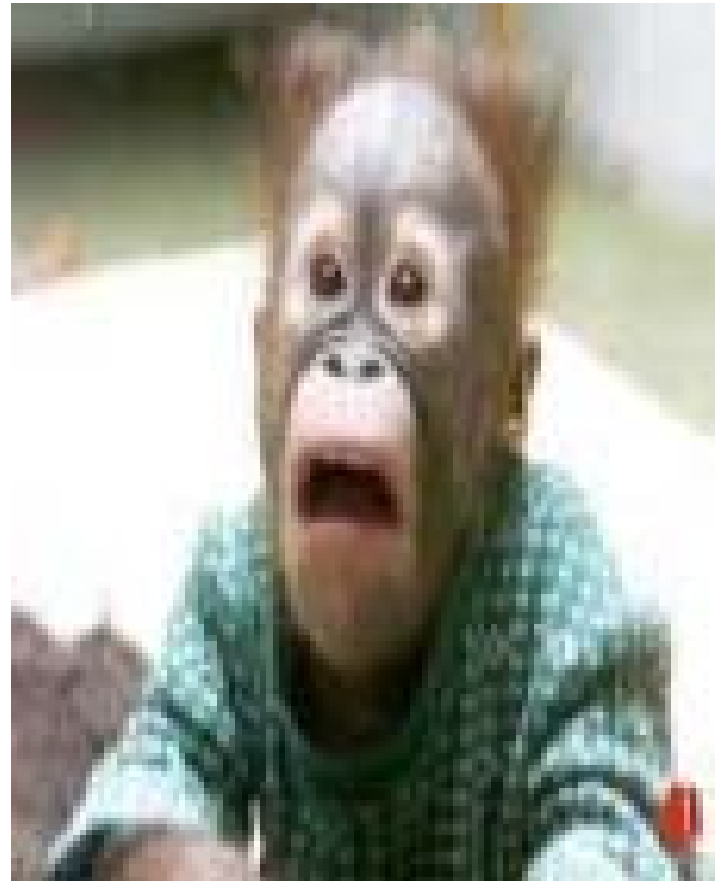
From Just Read Florida Coaching Model Definition

Why Coach?

If it's Broken Fix it!

What's negatively
effecting literacy in
our schools?

1. Students immersed in **technology**.
2. Teachers who aren't open to **change**.
3. Lack of **support** from Administration.



The Research behind Coaching

Coaching allows for more Meaningful
Professional Development

Adults learn better through **Active
Participation.**

*This is how students learn best, why not
teach adults the same way?*

Professional Development Plan

Whole Staff	Small Groups	Individual
Principal/Reading Coach	Reading Coach	Reading Coach
<p>Spread Awareness- Move away from “One-Shot” Trainings, Show whole school data and 3 year trends, Provide results from walk-through data</p>	<p>Begin discussion about student need- share data on individual classes/groups, establish student need, begin study groups and team/department planning</p>	<p>Begin the Coaching Cycle-Mentor, Plan, Co-teach, Analyze student performance, Make long-term changes to instruction, Reflect</p>

Adapted from Diane Sweeney's *Three Venues for Professional Development*

How does Coaching Happen?

off the mark .com by Mark Parisi



1. The Reading Coach and Principal must be in **constant communication**.

The Evidence

Kennewick, WA School
District

Contributing Factor

1995

Goal: 90% of their 3rd
graders read at or above
grade level in three
years

2006

Met their goal!

Principal and
Reading Coach
**Communication &
Planning**

From Foorman, B. R. *Leadership is Crucial to "Beating the Odds" in Reading First*. Just Read Florida 2007

The Evidence

Cross Bayou Elementary,
Pinellas County

Contributing Factor

Most recent 3 year trend
data shows gain in
reading school wide from
49%-86%.

Principal and Coach
Communication

**“Wouldn’t have happened if we
didn’t meet daily.”**

Marcia Stone, Principal
Cross Bayou Elementary School

Think about the communication with your Principal/Coach...



The Principal's Role

“The principal is a
cornerstone of
literacy reform.”

From Flare Professional Paper
Adolescent Literacy 2006

Support school-wide
literacy efforts

1. **Participate** in school-wide staff development.
2. Be a part of the school's **Literacy Leadership Team**
3. **Encourage** teachers to include literacy learning in their content
4. **Communicate** with the Reading Coach

The Coach's Role

IS:

A Mentor

A Liaison to Testing
Coordinator

A Resource

A Coach

A Staff Developer

IS NOT:

An Administrator

An Evaluator

Substitute Teacher

Testing Coordinator

Lunch Duty Personnel

**Most Importantly,
The Reading Coach is a
TEACHER!**

Our Course of Action

Buffalo Creek Middle School
Manatee County, Florida

A little about BCMS

New Middle School opened
its doors in August 2007

More Statistics

ELL-19.8%

ESE-28.9%

Our Demographics

Caucasion-53%

Hispanic American-24%

African American-18%

Other-5%

FCAT Level 1-

118 Students

FCAT Level 2-

120 Students

1. Established Yearly Goals

For **all** teachers to pursue Reading Endorsement.

To identify **striving** readers and develop a plan to improve their development.

To make Literacy a **priority** school-wide.

To form a **Literacy Leadership Team**

2. Planned Staff Development

Communicated **ideas** for Staff Development during the first few weeks of school.

Created calendar **together**.

Included school-wide staff development focusing on **reading and writing**.

Made **time** for small group/individual coaching opportunities.

3. Communicated Reading Coach Role to Staff

Introduced Reading Coach during preplan and first staff development.

Defined role to **entire** staff.

Encouraged teachers to meet with Coach throughout the year.

4. Met Regularly

Began meeting **weekly** to discuss literacy initiatives and progress of established goals.

Principal's "**Open Door**" Policy allowed for ongoing conversation.

Daily conversation became the norm, because of Principal's enthusiasm and willingness to listen.

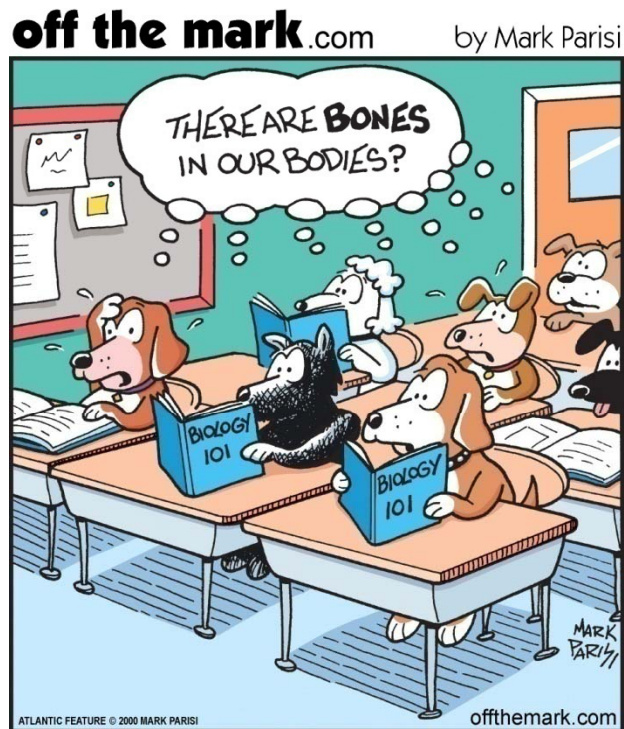
YOUR TURN

How will you make **Coaching** a reality at your school?

Work with your Coach/Administrator.

Use the attached handout to begin the planning process for the upcoming school year.

Our Ultimate Goal



THE BIG FREAK-OUT IN A PUPPY'S LIFE

FOR ALL OUR
STUDENTS TO
BECOME LIFE
LONG READERS
AND WRITERS!