

Strong Foundations Planning

Grant Update - January 2024

Gap Analysis Review

Monday, February 12th was the final meeting of the Strong Foundations for Reading/Language Arts Planning Committee. During this meeting, we discussed the data and findings from the gap analysis. Some of the major takeaways from the group included:

- The need to increase rigor in the classrooms to get students on grade level
- Prioritizing research-based instructional practices and lesson internalization
- The need for common instructional language and clear expectations

Committee members noted that most importantly, the framework has to be the foundation for improvement in all areas moving forward.



Next Steps

The committee also discussed next steps for moving forward which included the action steps that were submitted to TEA in our framework rollout plan:

- Full and faithful implementation of research-based curriculum and instructional materials
- Streamlining the professional development system
- Refining our coaching and support system to provide more structured expectations and accountability for the materials, activities, and scaffolds being used in the classroom

Committee Recognition

At the conclusion of the meeting, committee members were thanked for their hours of time and willingness to go above and beyond throughout this process. These committee members have dedicated more than twenty hours to attending additional training, meetings, and providing feedback since we began the process in June 2023. Each member received a stipend from grant funds as a “thank you” for their commitment.

Strong Foundations Planning for Math

It was also announced that Rice ISD has been awarded the Strong Foundations Planning Grant for the development of a math framework. Planning for this grant is already underway, and we are excited for the opportunity to center both our reading and math programs around research-based instructional strategies that will help our students succeed.