Building the Self-Efficacy of Teachers in Using the Interactive Read-Aloud to Promote Student Reading Performance and Motivation

Dear Staff,

I am so excited to begin learning alongside you all as we begin our mission of making the Interactive Read-Aloud routine a part of our daily practice. IRAs have the potential to be the springboard for all of our English-Language Arts instruction and will be especially powerful in enhancing our students' comprehension of text. We will soon come together for an all-day workshop to share best practices for planning and executing IRA lessons and response tasks, as well as assessing student reading motivation and mastery of comprehension standards.

Before we come together, we will all be completing an introductory assessment to gauge our current IRA practice. This assessment will be emailed to you via Google Forms and needs to be completed by _____. We will then be doing a pre-training online module (Unit 1) to make sure we are all on the same page about basic IRA terminology and concepts. This assessment will be emailed to you via Vector Solutions (the same service that produces our Keenan training) and needs to be completed by _____.

On _____, we will join in the cafeteria for our all-day workshop. You will need to bring your device to be able to access Google Slides/Pear Deck. All other materials, including sample IRA lesson plans, will be provided for you, and will also be ongoingly accessible at this link: _____. Our day will go from 8:00am-4:00pm, with two 30-minute breaks (one in the morning and one in the afternoon) as well as a 60-minute lunch break from 11:30am-12:30pm. During the workshop, there will be multiple opportunities to practice lesson planning and execution of IRAs and response tasks with a partner or group of peers. There will also be information about the systems by which we will continue growing together in our IRA practice throughout the school year. Please let me know if you have any questions by emailing me at dtownsend01@vusd.org.

See you soon,
Daniel Townsend