K-5 Health Materials Implementation

On May 7th, the Des Moines Public School Board approved the materials purchase of Health Teacher.Com as well as additional nonfiction Health texts to support our instruction of the CDC National Health Education Standards.

A committee including grade level representatives from different buildings across the district reviewed all materials currently available to support Health instruction. After their review, they selected Health Teacher.Com coupled with nonfiction health texts for the following reasons:

* *Organization:* Provide teachers with everything they need in one place to build student’s understanding of key concepts regarding their health and wellness.
* *Integration:* Nonfiction Health Texts support integration with literacy skills and standards.
* *Accuracy of Information:* Health Teacher.Com is updated frequently to ensure timely and accurate information is provided.

**How will teaching staff be supported with the orientation of Health Teacher.Com?**

* Training for Health Teacher.Com was provided at our Summer Literacy PLC Sessions for each grade level and will be provided to our instructional coaches on August 9th.
* Teachers new to Des Moines Public Schools will receive training and information during their Elementary Curriculum Orientation.
* We will have an optional session on Wednesday, **September 25th from 2:30-4:00pm** in the Prospect Road Computer Lab.

**When will our Health Teacher.Com sign-in information and nonfiction texts arrive?**

HealthTeacher.com is live now. Nonfiction Texts will be arriving in our district at the end of June. Shipment to buildings is expected by mid-August.

**What are the Implementation Expectations for these materials?**

The learner objectives for Health are provided on our District Literacy Curriculum guides and will drive our weekly instruction. Health Teacher.Com and the provided nonfiction health texts will be our primary tools to support the instruction of these learner objectives.

Each week, a Health Teacher.Com lesson (listed required steps) and a nonfiction text will be provided. The “Optional – Enrichment Lessons/Books” listed can be utilized if time permits.

**Critical Success Factors for Implementation:**

1. Thirty minutes of Health instruction will be provided in all elementary classrooms each week, using Health Teacher.Com and the provided Health nonfiction texts.
2. A computer (or iPad), digital projector and internet access must be available in each classroom to implement the Health Teacher.Com lessons.
3. Teachers must preview the Health Teacher.Com lesson before use with students, occasionally there are supplies required.

**Monitoring our Implementation**

After completing each lesson, teachers must select the **“I Taught This”** button. This data will allow us to monitor the use of our Health Teacher.Com lessons and support the revisions to our expected lessons each year. Teachers are encouraged to click on “give us your feedback” and rate each lesson. This helps HealthTeacher.com make lessons better.