

Okeechobee County School District

Instructional Shifts for Standards-Based Instruction

ELA Instructional Shifts	Math Instructional Shifts
Shift 1: Balancing Literary and Informational Text	Shift 1: Focus
Students read a true balance of literary and informative	Teachers significantly narrow and deepen the scope of how
text.	time and energy is spent in the math classroom.
	They do so in order to focus deeply on only the concepts that
	are prioritized in the standards.
Shift 2: Knowledge in the Disciplines	Shift 2: Coherence
Students build knowledge about the world (domains/	Principals and teachers carefully connect the learning within
content areas) through TEXT rather than the teacher or	and across grades so that students can build new
activities	understanding onto foundations built in previous years.
Shift 3: Staircase of Complexity	Shift 3: Fluency
Students read the central, grade appropriate text	Students are expected to have speed and accuracy with
around which instruction is centered. Teachers are	simple calculations;
patient, create more time and space and support in the	Teachers structure class time and/or homework time for
curriculum for close reading.	students to memorize, through repetition, core functions.
Shift 4: Text Based Answers	Shift 4: Deep Understanding
Students engage in rich and rigorous evidence based	Students deeply understand and can operate easily within a
conversations about text.	math concept before moving on. They learn more than the
	trick to get the answer right. They learn the math.
Shift 5: Writing From Sources	Shift 5: Application
Writing emphasizes use of evidence from sources to	Students are expected to use math and choose the
inform or make an argument.	appropriate concept for application even when they are not
	prompted to do so.
Shift 6: Academic Vocabulary	Shift 6: Dual Intensity
Students constantly build the transferable vocabulary	Students are practicing and understanding.
they need to access grade level complex texts. This can	There is more than a balance between these two things in the
be done effectively by spiraling like content in	classroom – both are occurring with intensity.
increasingly complex texts.	