

Teacher Advisory Q&A

February 13, 2018

Why were there not any Language standards included on district ELA pacing guides? This area is one where we saw a decline on test scores so it is surprising that the district did not include these standards on the pacing guide.

Language skills are not taught in isolation. They are ongoing and taught through writing and reading. Here are two of the standards and as you can see you would not teach these for a specific time period and leave them.

Standard 1 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

Standard 2 - Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

The language standards are also changing for the 2018/19 school year. They are now arranged by grade bands rather than by a specific grade level. ELA will be structured to have 12 instructional practices. Number 12 specifically states: Language skills are developed through writing and supported through mentor texts. (Joanne Sanders)