

Dear Parents,

The goal at Lincoln Trail is to achieve high levels of learning for all students. As Lincoln Trail works towards meeting the needs of all of our children, we have added a thirty minute instructional block at all grade levels called LEAP (Learning, Excelling, Advancing and Preparing). Our intent is to provide additional support for students who experience difficulty in reading and enrich and extend the learning for students who do not need the additional reading support. This block will allow us to provide small group instruction to students focusing on extra reading support.

We analyzed test data and classroom progress to determine areas of improvement needed and the focus of the small group instruction. The areas of focus for intervention include phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Students identified for intervention are placed in one of these groups. We will collect data on the students' progress and make changes based on the needs of the individual children. The groups are fluid and students will move in or out of the groups based on their progress. Our objective is to individualize and meet the unique needs of our students.

Students that do not need the additional reading instruction will participate in extension or enrichment groups. Students assigned to the extension or enrichment group will participate in teacher designed lessons focusing on language arts, science or social studies.

We will pool the talents of our teachers and staff at each grade level to provide instruction during LEAP, therefore students may not always work with their homeroom teacher during this 30 minute block of instruction. As we are using the expertise of our many staff members your child may have a teacher that is not a homeroom teacher. For example, our librarian will be seeing a group of students, as will our ABC teacher, special services teachers, speech and language teacher etc. Please note that during the LEAP block all teachers will be focusing on intervention or enrichment activities as described above, regardless of their teaching responsibilities during the rest of the day. Including additional staff allows us to break the intervention groups in smaller numbers. All groups will be reorganized approximately every 8 weeks and students may move between groups.

Sincerely,
Mary Weaver