

## February Elementary Board Report

1. Second round of testing with FAST assessment is complete, any student following below proficiency on the assessment in the fall and with the winter testing will be identified as needing intensive interventions. Parents must be notified (contract attached) and will be handed out at conferences and explained. Our intensive intentions numbers are: TK-12, K-1, 1-11, 2-15, 3-33, 4-30 =102 students who need services and they will start with Fast ForWord this week.
2. Literacy teachers will be meeting on February 13th at Turkey Valley with surrounding districts on how we are approaching the ELI law and what we have in place and what they are doing. Districts are very concerned with some of the webinars taking place, guidance we have been provided, etc.
3. Attended training on Jan. 28th with Dr. Updegraff on Standards Based Grading within Powerschool at GWAEA in Cedar Rapids. We will be taking a group of teachers March 16th to AEA to hear about how to get started with an implementation plan.
4. Teachers are really trying to implement APL strategies within their rooms and like the training they received in January.

## Reading Contract for Students, Parents, Teachers, and Principals

This contract recognizes the importance of the roles and responsibilities of the student, parent, teacher, and principal in working together to support a student's progress and success with literacy. We are committed to:

- Respecting school staff, students, and parents.
- Being excited about reading and learning to read.

**As the Parent(s)/Guardian supporting my child in learning to read, I will:**

- Make sure my child attends school regularly.
- Invite my child to read with me every day.
- Create a quiet place and time for my child to do homework and reading.
- Discuss stories we have read together and ask my child questions.
- Talk with my child's teacher about my child's reading progress.



*The mission of the New Hampton Community School District is to empower all students to succeed in a changing world.*

**As the Student learning to read, I will:**

- Come to school prepared and ready to learn.
- Always do my best work.
- Read aloud to my family.
- Learn new words.

**As the Teacher working with students, I will:**

- Clearly state the goals for reading achievement.
- Share assessments used to monitor children's progress.
- Provide a safe learning environment that follows school rules.
- Work toward parental involvement by providing access to the Fast ForWord program.

**As the Principal leading the school, I will:**

- Clearly state the goals for reading achievement.
- Provide a safe, positive, and healthy environment that follows school policies.
- Maintain open lines of communication with students, parents, and staff.
- Work toward involving parents as vital partners in education.

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Principal

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Teacher

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Parent/Guardian

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Student

BACK SIDE OF LETTER.....

Dear Parents,

We are pleased that your child will have the opportunity to work with the Fast ForWord products.

### **What is Fast ForWord?**

It is a series of computer-delivered brain fitness exercises designed to produce dramatic language and reading improvements in a variety of student populations by improving memory, attention and processing skills. The Fast ForWord products support existing curriculum—they don't replace it. When students [process more efficiently](#), every other instructional strategy works better. The results in schools throughout the country are dramatic; students can achieve a one- to two-year gain in reading skills in 8-12 weeks!

### **What kinds of changes might you see after your child starts working on Fast ForWord products?**

- Increased self-esteem
- A new excitement towards learning
- Better listening and communication skills
- Improved ability to follow directions
- Improved reading abilities
- Better academic performance

### **What can you do to help?**

- Ensure that your child has good attendance. Success with Fast ForWord requires consistent effort.

- Make sure your child knows that you value his/her participation in the program.

Acknowledge their successes!

- Meet with your child's teacher to discuss improvements.
- Support your student by using the program at home. Website:  
[myscilearn.com/learner](http://myscilearn.com/learner)

### **Want to learn more?**

- Visit Scientific Learning's Website [www.ScientificLearning.com](http://www.ScientificLearning.com)
- Speak with your child's principal or teacher.