**Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School**

**Writing Program Policy**

**KRS 158.6453(7) (c)**

**Purpose:**

The Determination of a Writing Program Policy at Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School is to ensure that all students in all classes will use writing as a way to learn. Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary School believes that writing is a necessary communication skill for students and that writing should be authentically taught and practiced in all curricular areas.

**Criteria:**

**All students shall be provided multiple opportunities to develop communication skills through writing and shall be allowed student choice and exploration. To ensure this all teachers will…**

* Ensure curriculum is vertically and horizontally aligned to the Kentucky Academic Standards.
* Engage students in three categories of writing: writing to learn, writing to demonstrate learning, and writing for publication.
* Incorporate a variety of genres including narrative, literary, argumentative/opinion, informative, and daily writing opportunities where students are writing across all content areas.
* Intentionally schedule time within the instructional day for writing instruction and experiences.
* Provide opportunity on a regular basis for authentic and meaningful writing to include the following:
  + Writing for a variety of purposes and audiences.
  + Writing to reveal ownership and independent thinking.
  + Writing in which students draw on individual experiences.
* Experience the writing process at all grade levels: planning, drafting, revising, editing, publishing, and reflecting upon writing.
* Experience writing in both on-demand and writing over time situations.
* Read and analyze a variety of print and non-print materials including persuasive literary, informational, and practical/workplace materials.
* Learn about and use appropriate resources for writing.
* Apply appropriate writing skills to oral communication.
* Teach and expect students to use higher-order thinking skills.
* Provide consistent and timely feedback throughout the writing process to guide and improve students’ writing skills.
* Provide opportunities for students to demonstrate, through strands of literacy, an understanding of cultural differences and work effectively with people from a range of social and cultural backgrounds to build on and articulate ideas.

**A variety of language resources are embedded within writing instruction that allow students to read and analyze a variety of print and non-print materials including:**

* Appropriate resources driven by various instructional purposes with different audiences for the student to consider, such as:
  + Print materials, technology, personal interviews, observations, etc.
  + Multimodal text. Photographs, graphics, web page, multimedia, etc..
* Instructional strategies and models that assist in achieving specific learning objectives including:
  + Differentiated strategies that make instruction accessible to all students.
  + Exemplars to use as models for writing.

**Students will be provided and use technological tools in the writing process to:**

* Evaluate or communicate using critical thinking skills.
* Seek a new or deeper understanding based on inquiry around a topic.
* Demonstrate new understanding through collaborating, creating and making global connections.

**Evaluation:**

The school council shall annually review the effectiveness of the school’s writing program. This data shall be included as part of the improvement planning process.

Reviewed 2-15-23