



PANA JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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Pana, IL 62557

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Paul Lauff, Principal

August 20, 2009

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s):

This year at Pana Junior High School we are piloting a new reading initiative designed to ensure that all students will succeed. This program, which will be administered only at the 7th grade level during the 2009-2010 school year, is part of the school district's Response to Intervention (RtI) plan, which simply means identifying those who are having trouble in reading and then getting them extra help throughout the school day. Some of you who have had children at Washington and/or Lincoln Schools may already be familiar with RtI, as it has been used in those buildings for a couple of years now.

The first step in helping kids with their reading is to identify those who are struggling in that area. To that end, PJHS is using a program called AIMSweb, which will determine each student's comprehension and fluency levels. Students will be tested three times a year, in what is called a "sweep." This will allow our staff to implement a wide range of reading intervention strategies for those students needing extra practice and instruction with their reading. These students' progress will be monitored on a regular basis, again using AIMSweb, and you will be receiving reports on your child's reading progress from time to time.

We are excited about starting Pana Junior High School's RtI plan. We encourage you to follow your child's progress throughout the year by reviewing the reports and discussing the instruction he or she is receiving. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Paul Lauff