Swank – 8th grade writing

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| Big Goal: All members of the 8th grade learning community will become lifelong writers. Lifelong writers use writing as part of their everyday life to think, to learn, and to communicate.  Current Reality: I have a limited number of writing samples from our incoming 8th graders. From these | | | | |
|  | Specific | Measurable and accurate | Responsible Party | Timeline |
| Goal 1:  Students will become initiators of writing.  Lines of Growth:   * Writing for various purposes * Use a repertoire of genres * Write for real audiences | Minilessons on purposes for writing will be given throughout the year.  Students will go through five genre studies this year (memoir, short fiction, poetry, op-ed, and feature articles).  Minilessons on audience will be given throughout the year.  Students will use a planning sheet when preparing to write an assigned piece of writing. The sheet will include a guiding question about the purpose for which they are writing, what genre makes sense for their purpose, and who their intended audience is.  Conference notes will be kept for each student | Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates on purpose  Long-term plan will indicate the dates of the genre studies.  Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates on audience  Each student will submit a planning sheet before conferring about a specific piece of writing. If the student does not have the planning sheet completed, then the focus of the conference will be completing the sheet.  Calendar of meeting dates and notes in teacher notebook each week | Swank  Swank  Swank  Swank  Swank | Prior to the start of: Unit 1, 2, 3  Completed  Prior to the start of: Unit 1, 2, 3  Flexible: tbd on a student by student basis (required for all by end of Unit 2, 3, 4)  Calendars: before beginning of each week; notes: at end of each day |
| Goal 2: Students will write well.  Lines of Growth:   * Communicate meaning * Use genre knowledge * Structure their writing * Write with detail * Use conventions * Give their writing voice | Minilessons on meaning will be given throughout the year.  Minilessons on genre knowledge will be given throughout the year.  Minilessons on structure will be given throughout the year.  Minilessons on detail will be given throughout the year.  Minilessons on conventions will be given throughout the year.  Minilessons on voice will be given throughout the year. | Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates  Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates  Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates  Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates  Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates  Unit plans will indicate minilesson dates |  |  |
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