

“The Fundamental 5”

The Formula for Quality Instruction in WISD

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Presenter: Amanda Adams

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Why Are We Here? Let's Declare our Why!

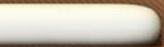
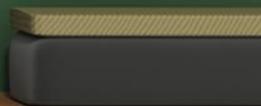
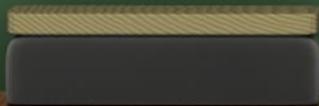
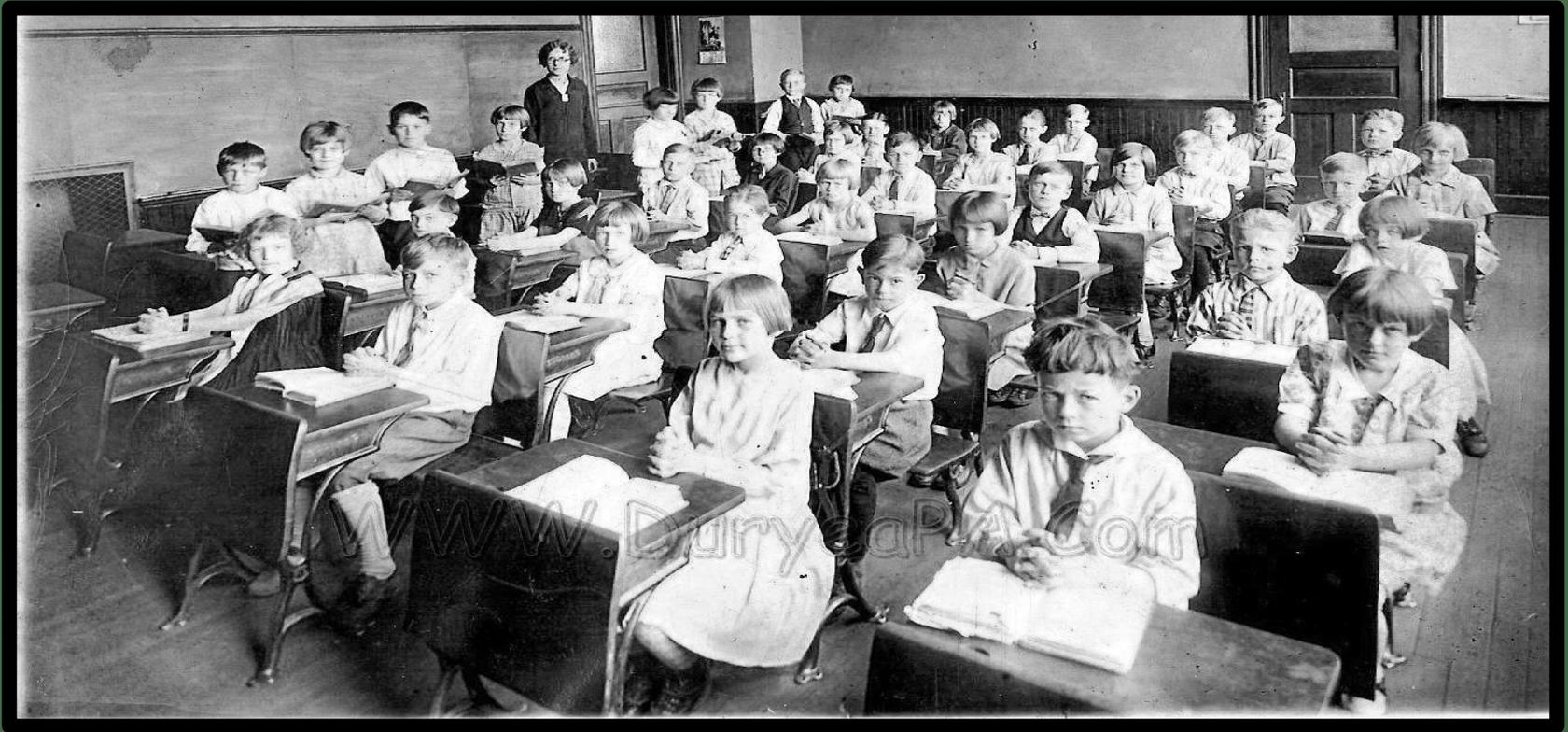
We need some “common ground”! What do we believe and hope for?

- Why did we choose to be an educator?
- How do we learn something new and difficult? How does our spouse, sibling, neighbor learn best?
- Why are schools important?
- What do we value about learning?
- For what would we be willing to fight for?
- What are our non-negotiables about learning?



What's Really Changed?

Do these pictures look like our classrooms?



Why Even Transform?

- What are the most urgent transformations that must take place in the current context?
- In what ways does instruction need to be transformed?
- In West ISD, if only we could... then...



Is There a Simple Plan?

The answer to this question is: Yes... “The Fundamental 5”

Must be high-frequency and high-quality!

1. Frame the Lesson
2. Work in the Power Zone
3. Frequent Small-Group, Purposeful Talk about the Learning
4. Recognize and Reinforce
5. Write Critically

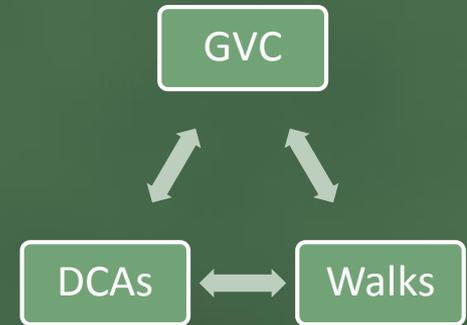
How did the “Fundamental 5” come to be?



The Perfect Storm

“The Fundamental 5” was the result of this storm!

- Changing Accountability Standards
- Work of Marzano and Schmoker
- Self-Selected Test Group
- Cain’s Foundation Trinity
 - ✓ The implementation of a common scope and sequence
 - ✓ The use of short-term common assessments
 - ✓ The increased monitoring and support of classroom teachers by campus instructional leadership and support personnel
- Key Support Provider: TEA
- The Tipping Point: What is working and why? *924 classrooms!*
 - ✓ The data showed two ways!



Teacher Craft

This is where “The Fundamental 5” comes into play!

Cain agrees with Schmoker when he stated, “... the single greatest determinate of learning is not socio-economic factors or funding levels. It is instruction.”

Teacher craft is arguably the most critical component in student academic success.

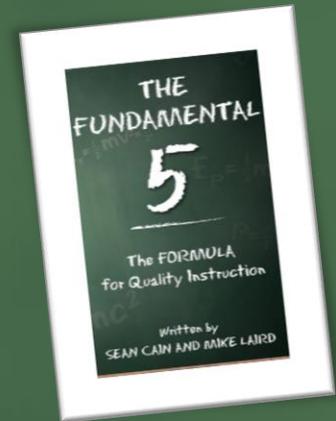
Truitt... but how?

Back to the Foundation Trinity and add “The Fundamental 5”!

The Simple Plan

An Overview

Must be high-frequency and high-quality!
One cannot pick and choose!



1. Frame the Lesson
 - ✓ “The Learner Will” vs. Critical Concepts and “The How”
2. Work in the Power Zone
 - ✓ Proximity Control for Classroom Management vs. Instructional Delivery
3. Frequent Small-Group, Purposeful Talk about the Learning
4. Recognize and Reinforce
5. Write Critically
 - ✓ “Writing is the litmus paper of thought... the very center of schooling.”

Justification

Why are these five practices effective?

- It improves the focus of both the students and the teachers on the learning objective for every class.
- The conversation and critical writing improve both the students' understanding of the subject and their recall of the facts and concepts involved; Teachers can increase the rigor too!
- It builds self-confidence and support for teachers as they build and improve appropriate academic relationships with their students.
- It provides the teacher accurate, effective, and efficient feedback on the actual state of current student understanding.
- This on-going, improved feedback allows the teacher to make constant micro-adjustments to instruction.
- It's the routine use of these practices that improves the academic performance for the entire range of students.