



TOP TEN

Moves to Help Administrators Advocate for Students

1. Share research on reading development (summarized on pages 250–251) and the vital importance of providing children with access to books, choice of books, and time to read every day.
2. Offer to facilitate faculty workshops and parent coffees on the importance of voluminous, high-success reading.
3. Educate principals about the pernicious phenomenon of book deserts; ask for school library circulation limits to be increased or abolished.
4. Speak up if striving readers are pulled out for interventions during the literacy block. Collaborate with your colleagues to modify the schedule and propose alternative forms of instruction.
5. Invite administrators into your classroom during independent reading time; encourage them to confer with kids about what they are reading.
6. Share success stories: Provide artifacts and anecdotes of striving readers' growth.
7. Share the classroom library blueprint in Chapter 3, page 95. Request funds for books with specific examples of their appeal to striving readers.
8. Offer to organize "weed-a-thons": group time to clean out and inventory classroom libraries.
9. Stress the importance of buying new professional books so that you and your colleagues are up on the latest thinking about teaching and learning. Offer to facilitate faculty book clubs and/or faculty workshops to share key findings from those books. Make the point that reading professional books is a cost-effective and powerful form of professional development. Share pivotal professional research via social media.
10. Make administrators aware of valuable professional development opportunities (e.g., workshops and conferences). Request to take advantage of those opportunities and provide a detailed rationale.