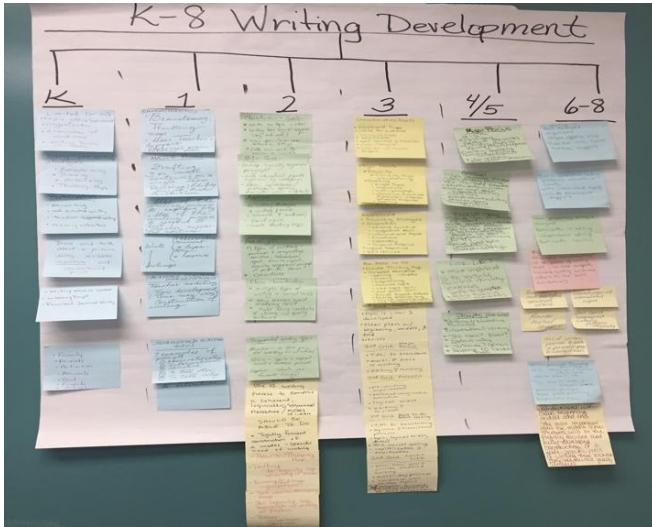
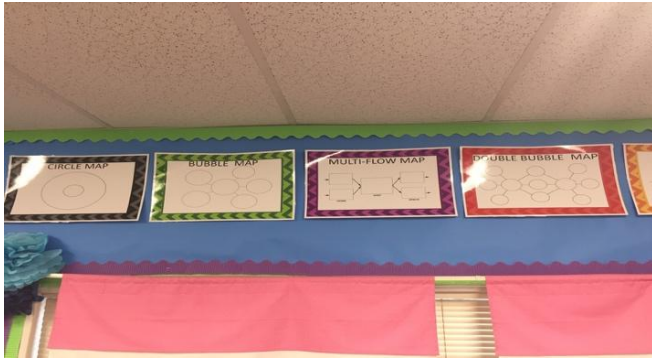


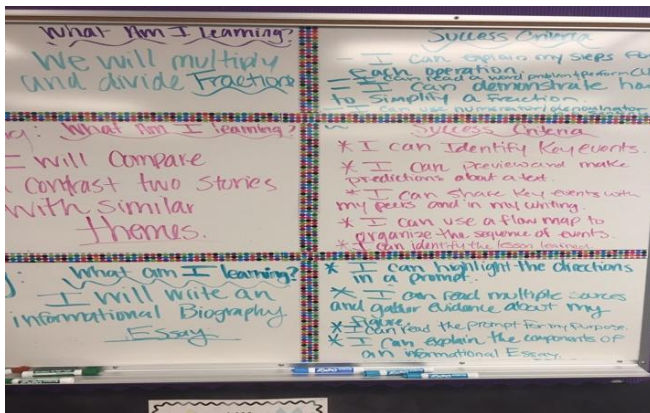
Downtown Elementary School



Articulation of writing expectations is provided to each grade level. The focus of professional development and collaboration includes time outside of contract hours- after school and Saturdays, with extra pay. Writing is expected in every subject and in all genres.



School-wide implementation of Thinking Maps (three to four years in the making). Thinking Maps are used in writing, reading comprehension, history, science, and math. Number Talks, Clothesline Math and other hands-on math activities can be charted by using Thinking Maps.



Daily posting of learning intentions and success criteria in ELA and math are required in every class. Teacher efficacy is encouraged. All teaching staff have gone through John Hattie's research by way of a 3-year long book study. Leadership team attended the conference- *Visible Learning for Teachers and Visible Learning for Literacy*.