

# LOOPING GRADES 4 AND 5

**Becca Boucher, Jen Saltmarsh, & Ashley Meyer**

# WHAT IS LOOPING?

Looping is an educational practice in which a single graded class of children stays with their teacher for two years or grade levels. The children and their teacher remain together as the class is promoted. At the end of the second year in the pattern, children move on to a new teacher while the looping teacher returns to the lower grade level to receive a new group of students.

# BENEFITS OF LOOPING

- Teachers better understand students need.
  - We get to know their strengths and weaknesses. We know what goals we need to work on and can start those day 1 the second year because we already know each other.
- Promotes teacher innovation
  - Teachers sometimes get used to teaching the same thing each year and sometimes use the same materials/read-alouds/projects, etc. This allows teachers to keep up to date with new ways to teach lessons! It also allows us to see what skills come before or after the skills we have been teaching so we can better prepare our students in the future.
- Better classroom management
  - Teachers establish their routines and procedures the first year and carry them through the next year. This allows students to know what to expect from the teachers.

# CONS OF LOOPING

- Sometimes there are cons of looping. There are some matches between students and teachers that are not beneficial to either party. Parents will have the option of opting their student out of looping with the current teacher if they feel that their child would not benefit from a second year in the same class.

# LOOPING AT IHMGs

Three of the four current fourth grade classes will loop to fifth grade with their current fourth grade teachers.

The fifth grade team will teach fourth grade next year and will loop up to fifth grade with their classes the following school year.

ANY QUESTIONS?