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ABSTRACT

This administrator's guide is designed to provide a systematic and objective means of evaluating an ongoing reading program. The procedures outlined recognize the important role of the administrator as the change-agent who initiates, encourages, supports, observes, and evaluates programs. The systems approach simplifies the Generic Planning Process required for Pennsylvania school district use by systematically illustrating the steps of the Generic Planning Process and providing appropriate forms for conducting those steps. The systems approach contains five major areas within the reading evaluation model: context evaluation, input evaluation, process evaluation, product evaluation, and installation. Suggestions are given for discrepancy models, worksheets, goals and objectives formation, volunteer assignment charts, and community resources. (MKM)

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SYSTEMS APPROACH FOR GENERATING CHANGE IN THE

READING PROGRAM



Prepared by:

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APRIL, 1976

ERNEST H. MUELLER, ED. D.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

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FOREWARD

This booklet represents an initial step to provide the school administrator with a systematic and objective means of evaluating the on-going reading program in the Pennsbury School District.

The procedures outlined recognize the important role of the administrator as the change agent who initiates, encourages, supports, observes and evaluates improved program.

The administrator who utilizes the systems approach will find a strong emphasis on shared decision-making through which teachers become much more involved in orchestrating their resources for staff development and student achievement.

This administrative style of leadership carries with it a greatly increased responsibility factor; for the administrator must be ever aware that the decisions made are reliable and valid within the framework of educational research, school district policy and sound judgement.

LEADERSHIP

Leadership is hard;
valuable and responsible leadership is harder;
only the latter is worthwhile;
only systematic and objective evaluation can distinguish the two.

- Michael Scriven

INTRODUCTION

Since the Pennsylvania Department of Education has adapted the Generic Planning Process as the required procedure for school district planning, a copy of the entire planning process can be found in the back of this booklet.

The Systems Approach described in the front of this booklet simplifies the Generic Planning Process by:

- systematically illustrating the steps of the Generic Planning Process;
- 2. providing appropriate forms for conducting various steps of the Generic Planning Process.

CHARACTERISTICS of THE SYSTEMS APPROACH

The Systems Approach described in this booklet represents a mixture of three program evaluation models.

- i. Right to Read Program Planning Procedures
- 2. Pennsylvania's Generic Planning Process
- 3. Stufflebeam's CIPP Model (Context, Input, Process, Product)

PURPOSES OF THE SYSTEMS APPROACH

- 1. to systematically monitor the On-going Reading Program;
- 2. to provide a guideline to generate change on a planned basis:
- 3. to maximize the involvement of staff, community, and resources in the decision making process in order to insure that the change is feasible and acceptable.

THE SYSTEMS APPROACH

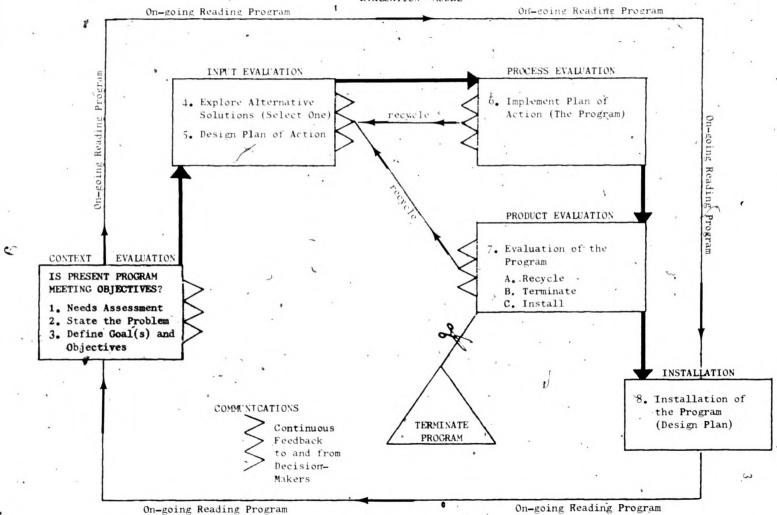
The Systems Approach is illustrated in Figure 1, Reading Evaluation Model. It is presented with respect to two major factors.

- 1. The On-going Reading Program around the perimeter of the model.
- 2. The Change System inside the perimeter of the model.

The Systems Approach contains five major areas within the Reading Evaluation Model.

- 1. CONTEXT EVALUATION
- 2. INPUT EVALUATION
- 3. PROCESS EVALUATION
- 4. PRODUCT EVALUATION
- 5. INSTALLATION .

FIGURE 1
READING
EVALUATION MODEL*



CONTEXT EVALUATION

Context Evaluation has two major functions:

- 1. continuous monitoring of the On-going Reading Program;
- 2. initial step for implementing the Change System.

Continuous Monitoring

The first function of Context Evaluation is continuous monitoring of the On-going Reading Program. With respect to this function, the following questions should be continuously asked concerning any or all components of the reading program as listed in Figure 2.

Is the program adequately meeting objectives?	Yes _	No
Are there unmet needs?	Yes	No
Are there unused opportunities (New Methods)		
that could be added to the On-going Program?	Yes	» No

If the answer to any of the above questions suggest the need for change, then the <u>Change System</u> inside the <u>Reading Evaluation Model</u> should be put into operation.

READING PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Student Performance Comprehension Word Recognition Study Skills Content Area Reading Interests in Reading Attitudes Toward Reading	Reading Program Developmental Prescriptive Remedial	Grade Levels K 5 1 6 2 7-8 3 9-10 4 11-12
Inservice Improvement of Instruction Curriculum Development Grouping and Subgrouping Learning Centers Time Spent in Program Instructional Techniques Directed Reading Acti Use of Workbooks Reading in Content Ar Language Experience Individualized Readin Reading for the Gifte Evaluation Techniques	Basal Read Coping Ski Creative R High Inter Individual Individual Language E Listening Machine Ba Motor Deve Paperback Perceptual Programmed Single Ski Supplement Games Dittos Supplement	al Programs ers/Workbooks lls Materials eading/Writing Materials est/Low Vocabulary Books ized Reading Materials ized Spelling Materials xperience Materials Materials sed Materials lopment Materials Reading Program Skills Materials Il Teaching Materials al Phonics Materials and Workbooks cal Comprehension Materials
Interests Attitudes Self Esteem Self Evaluation IRI (Individual)	Criterion Reference Achievement Testing Readiness Testing Spelling Tests Study Skills	Creative TechniquesPaperback Program

Implementing the Change System

1. Needs Assessment

- A. Organize for the Needs Assessment
 - (1) Form a representative committee
 - (2) Utilize Figure 3, Resource Pool of the Pennsbury Educational System, to determine who and what resources should be involved in providing input for establishing a baseline of information which supports the need for change.
 - (3) Utilize Figure 4, Communication Model, to list those decision makers with whom information should be delineated and provided.
 - (4) Utilize Figure 5, Communication Model, to list methods through which you wish to gather and provide information.
 - (5) Utilize Figure 6, Meeting Report Form, for the written agenda, for listing outcomes of the meeting, and for stating and recording objectives for the next meeting.

NOTE: Results of each meeting should be distributed to the committee members and other appropriate, decision makers.

B. Conduct the Needs Assessment

Utilizing the resources identified in Figure 3, collect as much data as necessary in order to develop a complete picture of the reading program component to be evaluated.

For example:

The component examined at Village Park
School was the effectiveness of the
5th and 6th grade reading program.

For Village Park School, the needs assessment included examination of all areas of the reading program that could have an affect on the program in 5th and 6th grades.

Utilize Figure 7, Discrepancy Work Sheet, to record results of the needs assessment; present status (what is) and ideal status (what ought to be). If there is a gap between what is and what ought to be, this is known as a discrepancy. This discrepancy represents the problem. Figure 8 graphically illustrates results of the needs assessment as viewed through the discrepancy model.

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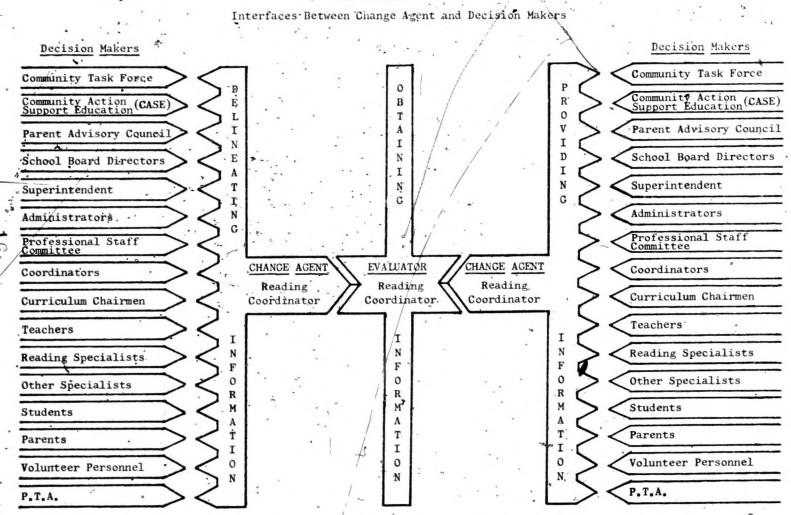


FIGURE 4
COMMUNICATION MODEL
Interfaces Between Change Agent and Decision Makers

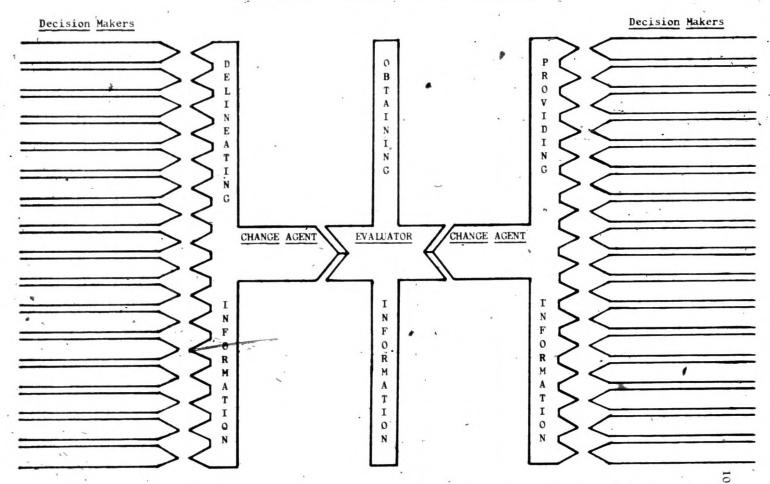


FIGURE 5
COMMUNICATION MODEL

Methods for Delineating and Providing Information

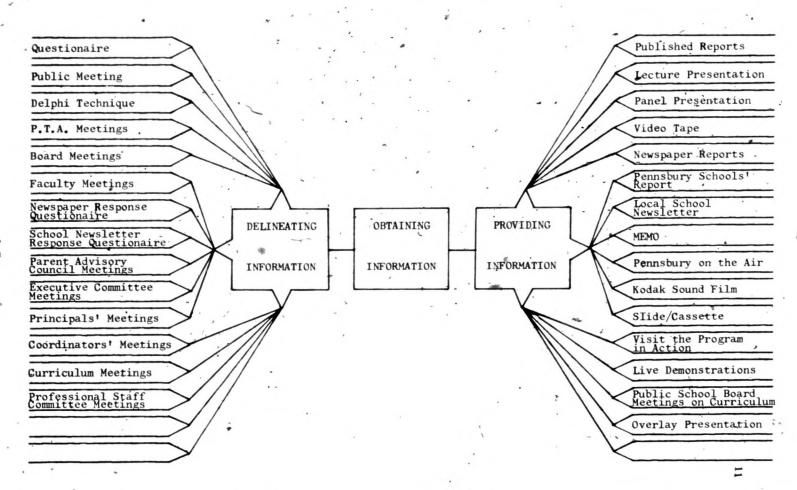


FIGURE 5
COMMUNICATION MODEL.

Methods for Delineating and Providing Information

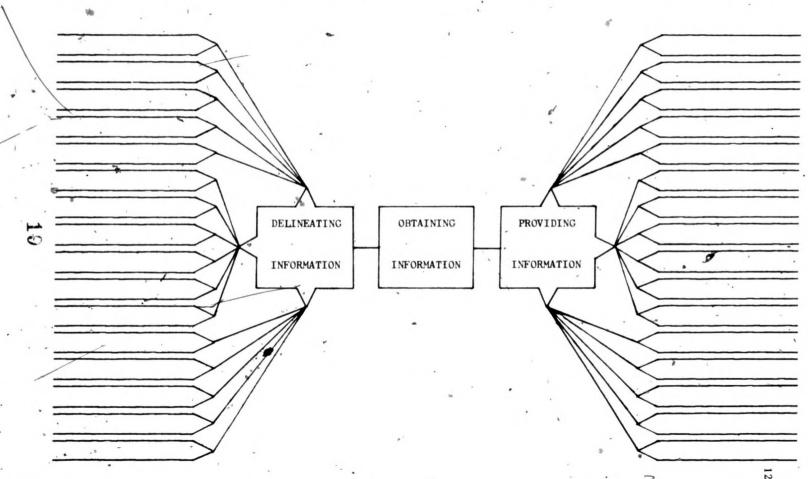


FIGURE 6 SYSTEMS APPROACH

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FIGURE 7 DISCREPANCY WORKSHEET

Concern:
There is concern among staff about the effectiveness of the fifth and sixth grade reading program.

PRESENT STATUS (what is)

IDEAL STATUS (what ought to be)

- 1. Seventh grace drop in STEP reading scores reflect slippage in students' reading development at fifth and sixth grades.
- 2. Evaluation of specific skills, attitudes and student self-evaluation is lacking in program.
- 3. Village Park Staff: keep the developmental program, but provide something in addition for students below grade level.
- 4. Community assessment showed concern to help learning disabled.
- 5. Lack of variety of materials for disabled reader.
- 6. Staff noted that volunteers are not involved in the reading program at all.
- 7. Community assessment showed interest for more involvement in the schools.
- Staff reflected need for more in-school inservice.

- STEP reading scores in seventh grade should reflect growth, rather than a drop, in students! reading during fifth and sixth grades.
- 2. Evaluation techniques should be used to promote concern about student attitudes and need to teach specific skills.
- 3. A diagnostic-prescriptive program is needed for students reading below grade level.
- 4. Budget approved to review and purchase a variety of materials for the disabled reader.
- 5. Volunteers should be part of the prescriptive program.
- Budget approved for released time and after school inservice.

Problem Statement: Staff at Village Park School recognize the need to develop a program that would affect students in such a way that their reading growth during fifth and sixth grades would be at least equal to their reading growth during previous school years.

FIGURE 7
DISCREPANCY WORKSHEET

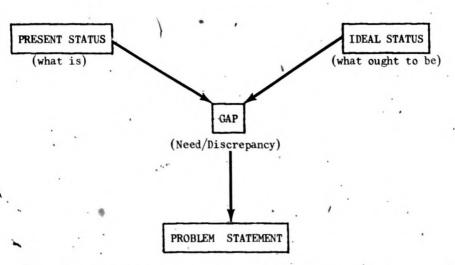
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FIGURE 8

DISCREPANCY MODEL

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Result of Needs Assessment



Staff at Village Park School recognize the need to develop a program that would affect students in such a way that their reading growth during fifth and sixth grades would be at least equal to their reading growth during previous school years.



Teachers - Implement Prescriptive Program

Students - Achieve Level of Mastery in the Specific Skills of Reading

 Ratio of Learning Equal to or Greater than Previous Years

Administrators - Generate Staff Interest for Program

2. State the Problem

The gap between present status of the program and ideal status (goals) represents needs to be resolved.

The committee should rank the ideals (goals) in priority order.

Determine which priority needs to be resolved.

Develop a problem statement and write it down.

NOTE: Space for writing the problem statement is provided at the bottom of the discrepancy worksheet, Figure 7.

3. Define Goal(s) and Objectives

<u>Definition of a Goal</u>: A goal is a general statement of intent, lacking specific reference to a time for initiation, completion, or specific criteria for success.

Goals may be developed for one or all of the following:

- students
- teachers
- volunteers
- administrators

EXAMPLES:

Students - Improve their ratio of learning in reading during fifth and sixth grades.

Teachers - Implement a prescriptive program for students reading below grade level.

Administrator - Generate staff interest to design a plan for installation of a criterion reference/prescriptive reading program.

Utilize Figure 9, Goals, to list appropriate program goals.

FIGURE 9

Area of Concern:
The effectiveness of the fifth and sixth grade reading program.

Students:

Improve their ratio of learning in reading during fifth and sixth grades.

Will achieve a level of mastery in deficient skill areas.

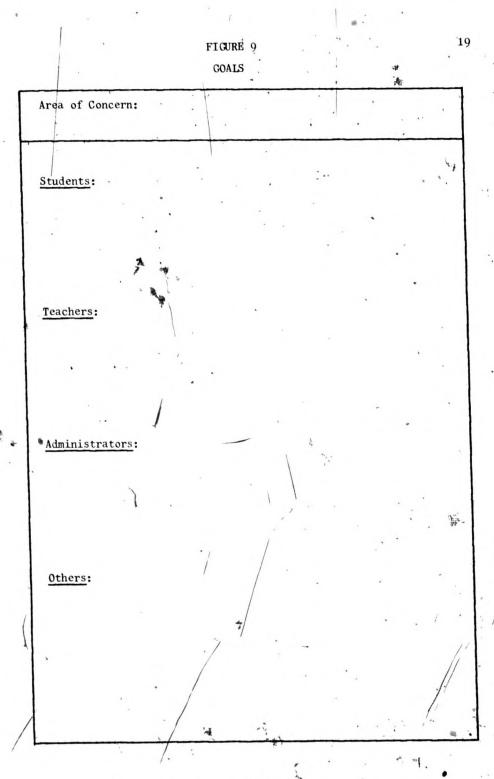
Teachers:

Implement a prescriptive program for students reading below grade level,

Administrators:

Generate staff interest to design a plan for installation of a criterion reference prescriptive reading program.

Others:



Definition of an Objective: A specific statement of intent that identifies the performer of the action, the behavioral effect to be accomplished, the population to be affected, a time reference, the criteria for success, and a plan for measurement.

EXAMPLE: After concentrated two-week learning cycles, students will demonstrate mastery of word recognition skills by scoring within the "Zone of Mastery" (80% or higher) as measured by a criterion reference test.

Utilize Figure 10, Objectives, to list objectives, activities, and evaluation methods.

NOTE: Briefly list your objectives on Figure 3, Resource Pool of the Pennsbury Educational System. With your committee, select those resources that might be helpful in achieving the objectives.

Principals will schedule meetings to provide awareness to staff concerning the prescriptive program, its values and its outcomes.

2. Teachers will identify materials.

in-school resources, and community

resources that can be appropriately

orchestrated to develop students' reading skills.

Teachers will explore alternatives for implementation of a prescriptive

plan of action.

program, select one, and design a

4. Teachers will implement the prescriptive program by scheduling students and volunteer personnel, and provide feedback to determine if procedures are operant as intended.

A presentation of the prescriptive program by the reading coordinator.

A packet to be handed to each staff member.

Review commercial materials.

in-school resources, community

resources, and select those most

appropriate for developing students' specific reading skills.

Will include methods to identify target students, establish pre-post testing dates, subgrouping methods,

and scheduling direct teacher-learning

will include use of criterion tests 4.
and other tests for process evaluation,
subgrouping students by skill weakness,
direct teacher instruction based upon
materials matched to students styles
of learning, with reenforcement by
volunteer personnel.

with volunteer reenforcement.

- 1. Completion of the presentation. Staff interest to become involved in the first phase of implementation in the school.
 - Compiled list of recommended materials. A list outlining the resource pool of the Pennsbury Educational System.

Written procedures for plan

of action.

Classroom observation by reading coordinator, principal, assistant superintendent and superintendent of schools. Teacher feedback during post school day workshops.

	٠.
5.	Indicated by pre-post criterion
-	reference reading tests, students
,	will demonstrate mastery of their
	word recognition skills by scoring
	within the "Zone of Mastery" (80%
•	or higher).
*	•
·	With regard to reading comprehension

OBJECTIVE

- students' ratio of learning during
 1974-75 will be equal to or greater
 than their ratio of learning during
 previous years; as indicated by
 normative pre-post testing data.
 - 7. Indicated by pre-mid-post testing, students will demonstrate acceptable to positive attitudes toward reading by achieving a raw score of 91 or higher on the Compensatory Reading Program Attitudes Test 4-6.

ACTIVITIES

Concentrated two-week learning cycles including direct teacher instruction to weaknesses and volunteer personnel providing reenforcement of skills.

- Longitudinal emphasis on prescriptive learning in addition to regular developmental program.
- Include student awareness of reading skill strengths and weaknesses through self evaluation.

 Reenforcement of skills through high interest games and activities, group and/or individual interaction with volunteer personnel. Also the

counselor where appropriate. Self selection of high interest paperback books and encouragement from home.

- EVALUATION
- 5. Process evaluation (Pre-Post) using Wisconsin Design Criterion Reference Testing Program of specific reading skills.
- 6. Product evaluation of students on a pre-post basis, September and May, utilizing the grade equivalents of the Metropoliton Reading Comprehension Test.
 - Product evaluation of students on a pre-mid-post basis using Educational Testing Services' Compensatory Reading Program Test 4-6.

4. Explore Alternative Solutions

Utilize Figure 11, Characteristics of Alternative Solutions, to:

- A. brainstorm and write alternatives,
- B. prioritize the alternatives and analyze each one
- c. select the alternative solution(s) pertinent to solving the problem.

NOTE: Space is provided at the bottom of Figure 11 to list the selected alternative solution(s) by number.

5. Design a Plan of Action

With the alternative solution(s) selected, a plan for implementing the program needs to be thought through.

Listed below are some questions that should be considered in helping design the plan of action.

Questions

Do original goals and objectives still appear desirable? (If not, modify them as the committee views them now.)

What organizational plans are needed?

- 1. Schedule feedback meetings
- 2. Select chairperson for meetings
- 3. Select recorder for meetings
- 4. Schedule inservice for teachers
- 5. Schedule pre-tests, process tests, post tests
- 6. Schedule inservice for volunteers7. Utilize Figure 12 to schedule volunteers in program
- 8. Schedule student subgroups for prescriptive program
 At what level is coordination necessary?

Local Sch	hool Coordinate	or		
			(name)	,
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Curriculum Coordinator _

NOTE: Utilize Figure 13, Time Constraint Chart to establish target dates for completion of activities and objectives.

(name)

FIGURE 11 CHARACTERISTICS OF ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

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		different		C H	ARA	CTI	RI	STI	c s	,		
•	F = Feasible N = Nonfeasible	BUDGET	STAFF	SCHEDULING	INSERVICE	MATERIALS	EQUI PMENT	FACILITIES	POLICIES	VOLUNTEERS	COMMUNI TY	COMMENTS
1	Reading Achievement / Testing (Pre-Post)	F	F	F					F		F	,
N S	2. CT-Criteria Tests McGraw Hill	(2)	F	N					F	F	F	Costly per child Tests sent away
TIO	3. CT Wisconsin Design	F	F	F	F	É	F			F	F	
LU	4. CT Fountain Valley	(<u>N</u>	N	·F	F	/ _F	F			F	F	Program costly, tap locked in, lot of paperwork,
8 0	5. Paid Aides	(N)	F	F	(N)	F	F	F	N		F	Budget won't allow for it.
ы	6. Volunteer Aides	F	/*			F	F	F	F		F	
TIV	Hire Additional 7. Corrective Teachers	(N)	F.	F f		F	F	F			N	Budget won't allow for it.
RNA	8. Subgrouping by Age	1	N	N			. /	. F		P.		.\2
LTE	Subgrouping within 9. Grade Level	/ -	F	F				/: /		F	;	
_	10. Subgrouping within Classroom		· F .	F			/	1;		F		
	Solution(s) Selected: 1, 3, 6, 9, 10	7					. /					

FIGURE 11 CHARACTERISTICS OF ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS

					СН	ARA	CTF	RI	STI	c s				
<u> </u>	KEY	F = Feasible N = Nonfeasible	BUDGET	STAFF	SCHEDULING	INSERVICE	MATERIALS	EQUI PMENT	FACILITIES	POLICIES	VOLUNTEERS	COMMUNITY	COMMENTS	٠
	1.		1/						4					
NO	2.		/ .											
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RNATIVE	6.							: /				1.		
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A L	10.		- Adjust development of the control		ı					٥		. ,	,	
	Soluti	ion(s)	- Market and a second a second and a second						1					

FIGURE 12

VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

	Mr. Yar	berne er		Volunteer Person	
	# of Stud	dents	✓ Skill A ✓ Clerica	rea to be Empha 1 Work to be Ac Consoner 7	sized complished
W E E K	Monday Teacher Instruction	Tuesday Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	Wednesday Teacher Instruction	Thursday Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	Friday Teacher Instruction
N E	3:16-2:30	1:00-1:30	2:16-2:30	9:30-10:00	2:15-2:30
. •	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
T W	Teacher Instruction	Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	Teacher Instruction	Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	
	1:15-2:20	1:00-1:30	2:15-2:30	7:40 - 10:00	Post - Tost 9:15-9:30

Materials: Ideal Tapes

Monster Game

Phonic Wa Use Games

FIGURE 12
VOLUNTEER ASSIGNMENT SCHEDULE

	Teach	er	Volunteer Personnel								
	# of Stu	dents		rea to be Emphas l Work to be Ac							
W E K	Monday Teacher Instruction	Tuesday Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	Wednesday Teacher Instruction	Thursday Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	<u>Friday</u> Teacher Instructi						
N E			\.								
-	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday						
T W O	Teacher Instruction	Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	Teacher Instruction	Volunteer Reenforcement Clerical Work	Teacher Instructi Post Test						

MATERIALS:

READING PROGRAM	PU	-										•										
OBJECTIVES	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	E	Aug	Sep	Oct	NOW	Dec					
Third Year-Right to Read Program Village Park School		X				0	0	0	0							,						
Right to Read Workshop-Secondary Content Areas-Soc, Studies/English	T					-	0												*			
Right to Read Workshop-Secondary Content Areas-Soc, Studies/English Right to Read Workshop-Reading Specialists-Criterion Testing			0					•			1.								-			
Presentation of Prescriptive Program and Systems Approach to Principals	n							0														
Presentation of Prescriptive Program to Reading Specialists	1 .																					
Presentation of Prescriptive Program to Parent Advisory Council	1								Ŏ				*						-			
Presentation of Prescriptive Program to School Faculties	1												-	-	-					-		
Final Report-Board of Education Public Meeting - Right to Read	T		. ,							Ŏ								-				
dorre necessig - Regne to Redd	1																	•				
Implement Prescriptive Program-All Elementary and Junior High Schools	1													0							7	
Vorkshop-Secondary Content Areas English and Social Studies																						
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FIGURE 13 TIME CONSTRAINT CHART

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PROCESS EVALUATION

6. Implement Plan of Action (The Program)

A. Monitor the Program

The early stages of Process Evaluation are exploratory, with the focus on detecting defects in the design plan. In other words, continuous monitoring to see if the program is operating as it was intended.

B. Feedback Meetings

To insure thorough and efficient monitoring, feedback meetings are extremely important. Meetings should be scheduled weekly during the initial stages of a new program.

Formal and informal information gathered during Process Evaluation may result in committee recommendations to recycle to Input Evaluation and restructure program design or procedures.

C. Outcomes in Writing

It is important to place in writing restructured procedures, revised target dates, and revised schedules. This keeps all decision makers informed and provides an information base of "successful procedures" to try when program is implemented at other grade levels.

Utilize Figure 6, Meeting Report Form, to keep all participants informed.

PRODUCT EVALUATION

7. Evaluation of the Program

At the end of the program cycle, evaluate the extent to which each objective was achieved. Based on whether the objectives were met, one of three alternatives will be carried out.

A. Recycle the Program: to Input Evaluation for redesigning of the plan.

B. Terminate the Program: this was not the direction to go. Return to Context Evaluation.

C. Install the Program: as part of the on-going program.

INSTALLATION

8. Design a Plan for Installation

Designing a plan for installation is a very important step if it is to be accepted by staff in other grades or other schools.

During the installation phase the following steps are recommended:

- A. Keep the installation small scale.
- B. Provide awareness background for staff who will be installing the new program.
- C. Form a committee of staff members to design the plan for implementation. (See Input Evaluation)
- D. Establish target dates on time constraint chart. (See Figure 13)
- E. Schedule weekly feedback meetings to determine if installation is proceeding as designed. Discuss strengths, weaknesses and modifications.

Utilize Figure 6, Meeting Report Form, to provide feedback to all participants.

F. Document the progress of the new program and provide staff with test data.

THE PURPOSE OF EVALUATION

Is Not to Prove
But to Improve

- Daniel L. Stufflebeam

CONCLUSIONS

The purpose of the Right to Read Effort was to implement an inservice systems approach for improving the reading skills of students reading below grade level at the Village Park School, and to utilize the approach to generate similar programs in other schools.

In order to realize such goals, administrators, acting as facilitators of change, must recognize that the key to the kind of teaching we seek lies as much in teachers' attitudes as in teachers' diagnostic abilities or in the program itself. With teachers' attitudes considered foremost in the mind of the change agent, efforts can then be undertaken to affect teacher understanding in the cognitive areas.

To judiciously foster positive attitudes and a sense of purpose and committment, teachers must participate in the development of a new program from its inception. This will go a long way to insuring the success of the program.

As change agents foresee staff becoming involved in new programs, it is important to keep in focus the valuing levels of awareness, preference, and committment, as they apply to an individual's assessment of whether a new program has worth.

These levels of valuing were nurtured daily during the effort to develop a prescriptive program at the Village Park School. They continue to be the modus operandi as the program is presented at the awareness level to principals and staff in other schools.

ADDENDUM PENNSBURY READING PROGRAM MODEL Student Process Evaluation Prescriptive Program Developmental Program Remedial Program Tri-basal Individualized Criterion Reference Testing Performance Testing in Instruction Reading Group Reading Instruct/ Performance Post Pre Specialist in Test Reenforce Test Workbook Classroom End of Teacher. Unit Test Volunteer Personnel Product Evaluation Affective Domain Cognitive Domain Attitudes Test End_of Book Test Positive Teacher Acceptable Observation Negative

PRESCRIPTIVE READING PROGRAM MODEL

