



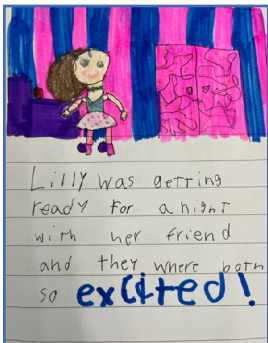
# Case Study of Harwinton Consolidated School

When the Humanities Coordinator from the Harwinton Consolidated School looks back on the school's journey over the past seven years, she is especially proud of the learning curve. "For us, TCRWP's role has been that of a learning partner."

Responsive teaching is our motto in Harwinton!

Harwinton Consolidated School placed in the top 20% of all schools in Connecticut for overall test scores! The percentage of students achieving proficiency in reading/language arts is 70-79% (which is higher than the Connecticut state average of 58%). At Harwinton Consolidated School there are 72.8% White, 21.5% mixed races, and 5.6% Latinx.

"We have a great staff that is open, inquiry based and willing to try new things! That makes this work accessible because when teachers make mistakes they reflect, collaborate and grow as learners and educators. Our educational community reaches beyond our classroom teachers to include support staff, administrative staff and caregivers."



The Humanities Coordinator talks about how the relationship with TCRWP began in 2015. She says, "Since we began working with TCRWP, the amount and wealth of learning has grown. We look at our data as a community. We gather formative assessments, meet as grade level teams and make next steps decisions." Harwinton Consolidated School has embedded a WIN time (What I Need). During this time, they use their data to respond to student needs via small groups.

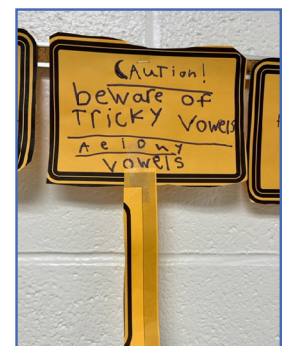
The Coordinator adds, "With one staff developer for example we addressed a problem of practice. Many of our youngest learners were finding the move to Level C text very challenging. We worked with the staff developer to develop a multi-day plan using the small group methods of shared reading and shared writing. We've also analyzed student writing and reading conference notes to determine next steps in phonics."

## Success Story

We work hard to support students in developing a strong reading identity. We've been working closely with TCRWP for the past two years with identity mapping and the diversification of classroom libraries. We ensure that our students see themselves as readers. After the K unit the kids do the reading parade. The Humanities Coordinator says, "It's just great to see the kids smile and get excited with reading. It makes you smile all day long."

"In writing, our third graders are so excited to share their research projects with an authentic audience! It's a dream."

The smile and glow on kids faces now that they have taken their masks off is worth the weight of gold and they smile at a character or frown when something they wrote they need to revise. The frown of thinking!



We are committed to the work. We want to provide the best educational opportunities possible for our children and strive to create an environment where parents, students, and staff work in partnership. The academic and social-emotional growth of our students is the key to their present and future success. The foundation for effective educational programming is based on a shared commitment and dedication to the students of Harwinton Consolidated School. As the school motto states, "We need each other's success for the success of all."

Reading volume is imperative at this school. Readers record their reading hours. In some grades, such as, third they have been reading as a class for almost 130 hours. This has been quite a journey. And it's worth it, and it shows in the growth of the students and their scores.