

## ***Middle School Recommendation***

### English Language Arts Materials

The middle school English Language Arts teachers met to review ELA materials aligned to the Common Core State Standards. Collections from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt was the unanimous selection of the teachers. To further explore the program, several teachers were able to pilot materials in their classroom and had really positive experiences with the program. The middle school teachers unanimously recommend Collections as the core English Language Arts program for middle school in Grants Pass School District.

<b>North Teachers</b>
Stacy Yarrish
Tonya Ferguson
Paula Bontrager
Sunny Musser
John Tunick
Wendi Snyder

<b>South Teachers</b>
Hillariee Russell
Steve Jenson
Dawn Gilbert
Scott Gottula
Janna Reid

The Collections program is designed with a focus on the Common Core Standards. Each selection is designed to engage students and make learning objectives clear. The digital resources such as the teacher Dashboard, Teacher and Student Ebook resources, interactive multimedia and professional development site are student, staff and parent friendly. The multi-genre lessons span across disciplines. Collections also offers a variety of assessment tools such as scoring guides and online exams.

#### Key features

- Rigorous and robust selections are extensive
- All readers are presented with selections and strategies that support individual student needs
- Selections include fiction, non-fiction, multi-media and graphic texts
- Every selection is online and has audio support
- Performance tasks are modeled by students in the digital lessons
- Designed with the CCSS imbedded and labeled for easy understanding for students and teacher
- Student friendly:
  - ✓ Digital resources and smaller sized book with collected stories/activities
  - ✓ Student materials are organized, concise and easy to use
  - ✓ The FYI component links with current articles that are updated monthly
  - ✓ Close reader booklet and activities provides systematic support for active engagement with the anchor texts
  - ✓ Skill tutorials, essay and project exemplars, student directed lessons
- Teacher friendly – All selections and assessments are aligned with CCSS; accompanying questions/discussion prompts also designed with CCSS in mind. The ease of use, the digital options, the “My Planner”, are all teacher friendly tools that will support lesson prep
- Differentiation capabilities

Training and professional development are included with the purchase of the program.