

## Liberty Middle and Patrick Henry High Schools Hanover County

*The Content Literacy Continuum® (CLC) provides a framework for school change. At the heart of the CLC is the Strategic Instruction Model® (SIM) which incorporates evidence-based strategies and routines to enhance content literacy. Other components of the CLC include data-based decisions, research-validated instruction, effective leadership activities, and the development of infrastructures to sustain a school-wide goal of enhancing content learning for secondary students at all skill levels.*

### Timeline:

**2005-06:** Liberty Middle and Patrick Henry High schools in Hanover County were selected as Content Literacy Continuum (CLC) sites as a result of the Virginia Department of Education award of the Virginia School Improvement Grant, *Enhancing Access to the General Curriculum for Middle and High School Students with Disabilities in Virginia*.

The University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning (KUCRL) began working with the schools to establish literacy leadership teams, determine and establish assessment baselines in reading and writing, and provide high quality professional development and coaching in the Strategic Instruction Model (SIM).

**2006-07:** KU-CRL provided leadership in the following components of the CLC: professional development in the SIM, development of the CLC Literacy Leadership Teams and data collection and analysis. Selected staff began the process to become certified SIM Professional Developers.

**2007-08:** Professional development in SIM was provided by on-site certified professional developers with an emphasis on fidelity, coaching, and alignment with the standards-based curriculum. Hanover County Schools began to serve as a demonstration site for personnel across the state to observe implementation of the CLC.

**2008-09:** The Virginia Department of Education was awarded a second grant and Hanover County Schools renewed their commitment to the adoption of the CLC through the State Personnel Development Grant, *Adolescent Literacy Partnerships: Meeting the Needs of All Students*.

**2009-10:** The schools continue to refine implementation of the CLC through embedded professional development, distributed leadership, and web-based support for data collection provided by KUCRL.

### Our Results:

#### Liberty Middle School

- There has been a steady increase in reading SOL scores for all students as well as all students in subgroups.

#### Patrick Henry High School

- The number of students with disabilities receiving an advanced diploma has increased by 14% since 2007.
- Over the last three years, Lexile percentages indicate the number of students reading below the 4<sup>th</sup> grade level has decreased on the Scholastic Reading Inventory.

### Future Goal:

To ensure sustainability, the schools and the division will develop a long range plan for sustaining the CLC.