Data Analysis and Interpretation Paper
Data Analysis and Interpretation with Technology Module: EDHD 435
Part 3

Fall 2004
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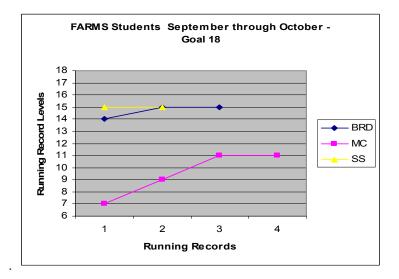**December 13, 2004**

INTRODUCTION

I collected running record data for the six students who were below grade level in reading at the beginning of the school year. I then broke the students into any of the three subgroups in which they fit. I chose to chart the progress of the students in the three Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) subgroups because Bel Pre Elementary School's suggested focus is on the performance of subgroups of students.
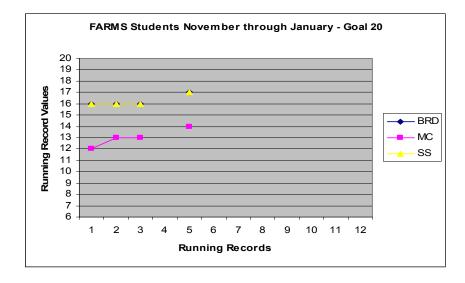
DATA ANALYSIS

FARMS Students' Running Record Levels

Three students who receive Free or Reduced Meals (FARMS), a focus group for AYP, are below grade level in reading. The expected level of reading upon entry to second grade was 16. BRD (level 14) and SS (level 15) were slightly below grade level, while CM was well below grade level (level 7) and needed to make great gains in order to be on grade level by the end of second grade.

By the end of October, students were expected to be reading on a level 18 to be considered on grade level. BRD and SS both progressed to level 15, 3 away from the
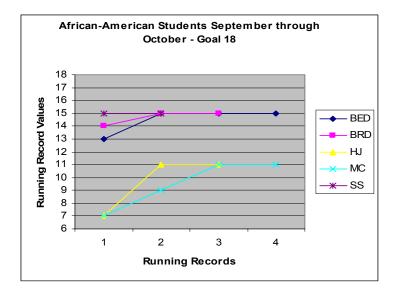
goal of 18. MC was still 7 levels away from the goal of 18, but had increased his reading
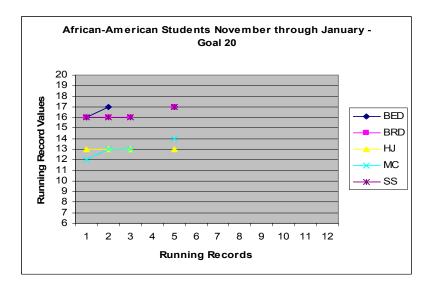
by 4 levels to level 11.

FARMS Students November through January - Goal 20

The new goal as of January 21st for on-grade-level students is to be reading at a

level 20. Currently, BRD and SS are gaining one reading level per month. At this rate,

they will reach level 18 by the January target date. The need to increase their reading

level by 2 levels per month in order to reach the target of 20 in January. In order to be

reading on grade level by the end of the year, they need to increase their rate to

approximately 1.5 levels per month. MC, while still 6 levels away from the goal of 20, is

gaining an average of 2 levels per month. At this rate, MC will also reach the reading

level of 18 by the January target date. Continuing at this rate, will be reading on or above

the target grade level of 22 at the April 7th target date. He should be reading above grade

level by the end of the school year.

African-American Students' Running Record Levels

Five students who are below grade level are African-American, another target

population for AYP. BRD, MC, and SS were already discussed in the FARMS running

record level data, so BED and HJ will be discussed in this section. Upon entry of second

grade, BED (level 13) was somewhat below the on grade reading level of 16. HJ (level

7), similar to CM, was well below the second grade reading level.

African-American Students September through October - Goal 18

By the end of October, BED had gained two levels to reach a level 15, while HJ

had gained 4 levels to reach a level 11. BED was 3 levels away from on-grade level

while HJ was 7 levels away from on-grade level.

African-American Students November through January - Goal 20
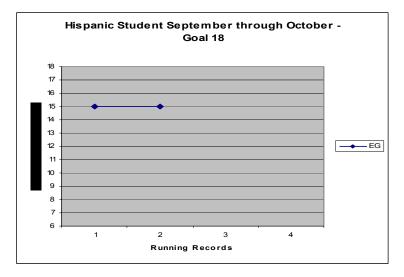

Currently, BED is gaining one level a month. At this rate, he will reach a level 18

by the January 21st target of 20. He also needs to gain 2 levels a month to reach this

target or 1.5 levels a month to be on grade level by the end of the year. HJ has moved up
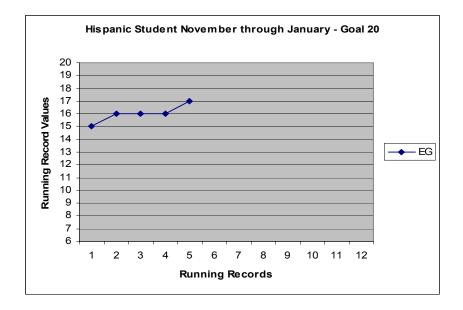
two levels to 13, but has not made any progress since. She is 7 levels away from the January target, so she would need to gain 3.5 levels per month to be on grade level in January. In order to be on or above grade level by the end of the year, she would have to gain about 2 levels a month.

Hispanic Student's Running Record Levels

One student who is below grade level is Hispanic. EG started the school year at a level 15, only slightly below grade level.

At the October with the goal level at 18, EG had made no improvement, and was still at a level 15, 3 levels away from on grade level.

Hispanic Student November through January - Goal 20

EG began to make improvements in reading levels, gaining 2 levels in the month of November and the beginning of December. EG is currently gaining a little more than 1 level per month, and if he continues to do so, he will reach either level 18 or 19 by the January on grade level of 20. He will be very close to this target. If he continues at this rate, he will be at or above grade level by the April 7th target date.

DATA INTERPRETATION

Factors Influencing Data

Some factors that may have affected the students' running record levels are the many days off during the month of November that caused for less instructional time and more gaps in learning. Also, some of the students have been sick (SS, MC), causing them to stay home and miss even more instructional time.

Using Data to Guide Instruction

While all of the students started out below grade level, some students such as MC and EG are making progress that will allow them to meet the grade-level reading

expectations by the end of the school year. I would continue reading group instruction and the support services that these students are currently receiving.

Four out of the six students, BRD, SS, BED, and HJ, however, are not making adequate progress in order to be reading on grade level by the end of the school year. All four of these students fall into the African-American category, while two of the students, BRD and SS, also fall into the FARMS category for AYP data. Additional direct instruction needs to be allocated for BRD, while extra instruction such as strategy lessons for reading, needs to be given to all four students in this group. The two students who are making adequate progress may also benefit from this type of instruction as well. Flexible grouping can be used with these additional strategy lessons so that each lesson can focus on a specific need of the readers rather than grouping by reading level. The class should also have a designated silent reading time so that each student can have time to practice reading on his or her own.

Hopefully, with this additional instruction and practice time, all of the students will be able to make progress and be reading at or above the second grade reading level by the end of the year.