

Feedback on Final Recommendations for English Language Arts and Reading
TEKS

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General comments: The current ELAR draft alignment is much improved over the last several drafts. It is easy to see how one specific standard can be followed from K through grade 12, if appropriate. The framework with the 8 strands will most certainly have redundancies, but current research for each of the 8 strands is clear and strongly supports this type of organization. I applaud the very hard work of the writing team

universities last month with my grandson, collaboration became a major component of all

This strand demonstrates excellent use of writing and speaking processes throughout the grades K-12. In writing, the revision process is vital. I was surprised to see "editing" broken into so many pieces, whereas "revision" did not receive much attention. Revision is the place where the teaching and learning of writing craft should be placed.

Furthermore with the editing focus upon grammar, punctuation and spelling items, specific examples and rules do not need to be included in the standards. Using correct orthography/spelling, grammar, and punctuation inclusion with suggestions for increased difficulty and technicality is sufficient. In addition, oral composition, spoken grammar and elocution are also part of composition. I am pleased that the term "register" is used, because it is an important aspect in audience understanding and appeal. I was also pleased to see that "voice" is prominent throughout. Voice is the part of writing and speaking that speaks to the reader/listener.

Strand 8: Research – Inquiry

The Research/Inquiry strand is well defined from grades K-12 with systematic processes delineated for research and inquiry. I would suggest that technology is as powerful with K-2 levels as it is currently in grades 3-12. The "gathering information from multiple sources" is certainly relevant at the K-1 level because this is an excellent way to build oral discourse. Young children love to investigate and ask questions! In addition, I would also add technology at the K-2 levels because a great deal of research has been