

06 January 2019

Hi,

Here is an update on the Student Assistant Program for 7th graders. I've slowly begun giving a few 7th grade student assistants experience interviewing 6th graders on their products. These are sixth graders' formal summative assessments. The student assistants essentially act as recorders of sixth graders during the interviews. This allows me to check over their judgments, and if need be, to change them.

I realize the seventh grade assistants who are not involved in this process at this time may feel like they are not doing well enough. Because there is a significant learning curve to conducting product interviews, I start with the 7th graders I feel understand the content the best. Once I get one assistant up to speed, I can slowly work in other 7th graders. By the end of the year, I plan to have all 7th grade assistants experienced in such interviews.

Many of you would smile if you heard the complaints the 7th grade assistants have for this year's sixth graders.

"They don't follow directions!"

"They spell the word wrong when it's **right on the paper**!"

They say many of the same things my fellow teachers and I say, and say what was said about **them** not so long ago! Perspective...

I appreciate the efforts and dedication of these wonderful role models!

Sincerely,

Doug Stith