

Cursive Writing

Administrator School Survey – Winter/Spring 2019

Surveys were completed by 135 elementary school administrators. Administrators were asked to consult with their teachers and indicate the literacy practices related to cursive writing being used in each grade in their school (Grades 1-4).

- The most common grades for activities related to cursive writing were Grades 3 and 4.
- Fewer administrators reported cursive writing activities in Grades 1 and 2.
- Less than one third of administrators completing the survey report teachers using informal instruction of cursive writing and direct instruction of cursive writing Grades 3 and 4.
- 39% administrators report that Grade 4 teachers have students practice cursive writing in class.
- Less than 1/5 of administrators report Grade 3 and 4 teachers giving cursive writing work for homework.

In the section of the survey provided for administrators to offer additional comments, the most common responses were that cursive writing takes place most often in later grades. Administrators also offered that cursive writing is taught to some students through special education programs or through Ukrainian language instruction.

Responses to question regarding cursive writing practices are listed below:

Classroom practice	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
In class, direct instruction of cursive writing	5 (4%)	13 (10%)	45 (33%)	39 (29%)
In class, informal (indirect) instruction of cursive writing	19 (14%)	24 (18%)	40 (30%)	37 (27%)
In class practice of cursive writing	9 (7%)	21 (16%)	44 (33%)	52 (39%)
In class exposure of sample materials that demonstrate cursive writing	30 (22%)	41 (30%)	50 (37%)	53 (39%)
Homework practice of cursive writing	2 (2%)	6 (4%)	26 (19%)	23 (17%)
Special education instruction of cursive writing skills	0 (0%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)	2 (2%)
Focus on printing	6 (4%)	4 (3%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Limited instruction (some classes or at end of the year)	0 (0%)	9 (7%)	13 (10%)	8 (6%)
Not taught at this grade level	49 (36%)	37 (27%)	19 (14%)	16 (12%)
No response	33 (24%)	26 (19%)	10 (7%)	11 (8%)
Other	6	4	4	3