



**Pelham Public Schools**  
**ELA Writing Tri-State Review**

---

April 18-20 2016

**School:** (please check one)

- Elementary                       High School  
 Middle School                       District

**Evidence Title:** Practice Journal

**Name of person submitting evidence:** Rachel Pixley

**Grade Level:** 7      **School:** PMS      **Course Name:** Language and Literature 7

Please check one Indicator and one Stage of Implementation.

Indicator	Stage of Implementation		
	Approach	Implementation	Results
1. Performance Based Assessment			
2. Student Metacognition in Learning Process	X	X	
3. Student Performance Data			
4. Curriculum & Instruction	X	X	
5. Professional Learning, Supervision and Evaluation			
6. Equitable Support for Student Needs	X	X	
7. Shared Vision & Environment for Change	X	X	
8. Parent and Community Support			
OTHER: Please Specify			

**Brief Explanation of Evidence:**

Throughout 7<sup>th</sup> grade, students in Language and Lit. will be completing "Journal" assignments for writing. These journal assignments are typically response-to-literature writing, where students will explore a variety of types of writing (persuasive, argument, informative, etc.), and will practice good writing skills and techniques (creating a clear topic sentence, a clear claim, using supporting details, closing sentences, and transitions). In order to prepare students for the expectations of these journal assignments, the class completed a "Practice Journal". Students used their baseline knowledge to respond to a prompt about being a successful student. They considered the IB Learner Profile attributes that fall under the IB Philosophy to which Pelham Middle School is transitioning. Upon completion, the journals were peer reviewed using a reflection handout, and then

**samples were discussed so that students had a clear understanding of the expectations for their upcoming graded journal assignments. All students were provided with a teacher-annotated sample that they could keep and refer back to as they worked on their writing.**