And Let It Begin With Me...
Accountability in one Elementary School

First Street Elementary School
Canonsburg, PA

Dr. Dawn Nicolaus – Principal
Ms. Patti Coyne – Reading Specialist
First Street Facts

**Elementary School**
- 240 students K – 4
  - 84% Caucasian
  - 14% African American
  - <1% Hispanic
  - <1% Asian
  - 45% economically disadvantaged
  - 13% special needs
  - Title 1 School

**Neighborhood School**
- Small town located 25 miles south of Pittsburgh
- 33 Faculty Members
- Assessments
  - PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment)
  - Terra Nova
  - In View
  - District Benchmarks
  - STAR
  - K-SEALS
*4th Grade did not begin PSSA testing until 2005-2006
PSSA Results

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How did we achieve these results?

“*It’s not *my* job!”
School Wide Theme

And let it begin with me
Parent Accountability

- September PFA meeting
- Pledge Sheets
- Parenting Professional Development
- Volunteer Program

Student Accountability

- Pledge Sheet
Faculty Accountability

- September kick off for differentiated rotation groups grades 1-4
- Peer Professional Development
- After school tutoring/Orton Gillingham sessions - four nights a week grades 1-4
- Part of determining school practices
- Team planning
  - Monthly administrator meeting
  - Weekly inclusion meeting
Differentiated Groups

Build It Anyway
Peer Professional Development

Dream It Anyway
Student Accountability

Love Them Anyway
Summary Points

Accountability is...
• Not just testing
• Taking responsibility
• Meeting student needs

• Challenges Still Ahead
  - Changing Student/Parent Population

Music: “Anyway” by Martina McBride