



Nebraska Literacy Project

Presented to the Nebraska
State Board of Education

By

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Purpose

Share the requirements from legislation (NE Revised Statute 79-2607) and a vision for Nebraska literacy achievement.

Vision

To foster a culture of proficient and lifelong readers in Nebraska and unlock student potential for learning, earning, and living through a focus on evidence-based reading instruction.

Goals

1. Increase third grade proficiency on NSCAS ELA from 62% to 75% by 2030.
2. Increase the percent of Nebraska K-3 students who meet the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act approved assessment thresholds (thus reducing the percent of students who require an Individual Reading Improvement Plan).
3. Ensure all Nebraska educator preparation programs are implementing evidence-based instruction for teachers grounded in the science of reading (SOR).



NDE & District Responsibilities From Nebraska Revised Statute 79-2607

Professional Learning System

- **The NDE shall develop and implement a professional learning system** to help provide sustained professional learning and training regarding evidence-based reading instruction
 - For **teachers who teach children from four years of age through third grade** at an approved or accredited school and teachers employed by an early childhood education program approved by the State Board of Education (SBOE).
- The professional learning system shall include information and tips for teachers related to helping children and families **work with local family literacy centers**

Regional Literacy Coaches

- **The NDE shall work with educational service units to provide regional coaches** to approved or accredited elementary schools to provide assistance and job-embedded training relating to evidence-based reading instruction to teachers who teach students in kindergarten through third grade.

Implementation of Evidence-Based Reading Instruction

- **Approved or accredited elementary schools and early childhood education programs approved by the SBOE shall ensure:**
 - Teachers who teach children from four years of age through third grade are **aware of the professional learning system;**
 - **And are adequately trained regarding evidence-based reading instruction** to effectively instruct students in reading.



5 Tenets of Professional Learning System

1. Provide a system of professional learning in evidence-based reading instruction.
2. Support sustained implementation of curriculum, instruction, and materials (HQIM) aligned with evidence-based reading instruction for elementary English Language Arts.
3. Develop Regional Literacy Coaches to provide job-embedded training and support for evidence-based reading instruction.
4. Ensure appropriate collections of data to measure effectiveness of the professional learning system and implementation of evidence-based reading instruction.
5. Work with local family literacy centers to strengthen home and family literacy programs.



Next Steps

Tenet 1: Professional Learning System

1. Conduct a statewide early literacy survey.
2. Coordinate a Literacy Advisory Panel comprised of individuals with strong knowledge of SOR.
3. Collaborate with other organizations (higher ed, corporate funding sources) to pilot and evaluate professional learning options related to SOR.

Tenet 2: Sustained implementation of curriculum, instruction and materials (HQIM)

1. Collaborate with Nebraska Educator Preparation Programs to ensure sustainability of teacher training in evidence-based reading instruction (Revised Rule 20).
2. Coordinate and embed literacy with NeMTSS initiatives.

Tenet 3: Regional Literacy Coaches

1. Collaborate with ESUs to develop a plan for hiring and coordinating the use of regional literacy coaches.
2. Review data from the 2024 statewide early literacy survey to evaluate needs of Nebraska districts for support from regional literacy coaches.

Tenet 4: Collections of data to measure progress

1. Analyze trends in reported percentages of Nebraska K-3 students who meet the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act approved assessment thresholds.
2. Analyze 3rd grade NSCAS proficiency
3. Evaluate pilot programs to monitor assessment data and other indicators of effectiveness (with assistance from UNL and UNO)

Tenet 5: Family Literacy Centers

1. Collaborate with Family Learning Centers to align with regional literacy coaches.
2. Develop marketing materials to promote Family Literacy Centers.



Family Learning
COMMUNITY
Nebraska



Thank you!