



# State Board of Education Workshop

February 4, 2021 | 12:15pm





# BEST FOR ALL

We will set all students on a path to success.

## ACADEMICS

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ALL TENNESSEE STUDENTS WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION, NO MATTER WHERE THEY LIVE

## WHOLE CHILD

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TENNESSEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL BE EQUIPPED TO SERVE THE ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC NEEDS OF ALL STUDENTS

## EDUCATORS

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TENNESSEE WILL SET A NEW PATH FOR THE EDUCATION PROFESSION AND BE THE TOP STATE TO BECOME AND REMAIN A TEACHER AND LEADER

TN

Department of  
Education

# Agenda

**I. ESSER and GEER 2.0**

**II. Reading 360**

**III. Special Session**

# ESSER and GEER 2.0





# ESSER 2.0 and GEER 2.0

## ESSER 2.0 (\$1.1B for Tennessee)

- States received allocations based on their share of Title I funding
  - 90% of funds must be allocated to LEAs based on each LEA's Title I share (approx. 990M)
  - 10% is reserved for SEA-level activities (approx. 110M)
- District allocations vary (amounts sent to LEAs on January 7, 2021)
- The uses of funds include all of those previously allowed but emphasize: **learning loss** and school **facility improvements**

## GEER 2.0 (\$100M for Tennessee)

- Funding **explicitly mandates** amounts for nonpublic schools (\$72M)
- **The SEA is required to administer** the funds for nonpublic schools
- The uses of all **remaining** GEER funds continue to be at the discretion of the Governor and are flexible to **address education-related needs**



# Important Notes

**Reminder: this is the second round of federal funding.** (ESSER 1.0 was awarded and allocated in the early summer of 2020.)

## **Timeline:**

The timeline to allocate and award these funds is brief. LEA plans are due March 1, 2021.

## **Allowability Period:**

Funds are expected to be obligated by September 30, 2023 (including the allowable one-year extension).

**Reporting:** Federal law states expectations on planning, spending and reporting. LEAs will submit monthly reports to the department, detailing encumbrances and spending. A template for this monthly reporting will be provided by the TDOE and published on the TDOE website.



# READING 360





Reading  
360

*A comprehensive vision  
for Tennessee literacy*





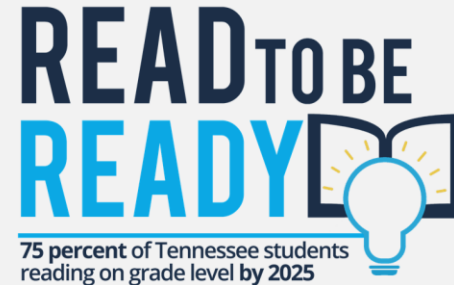
# Literacy Over Time



**RACE TO THE TOP**

2012

Teacher training + district and school leader development.



2015

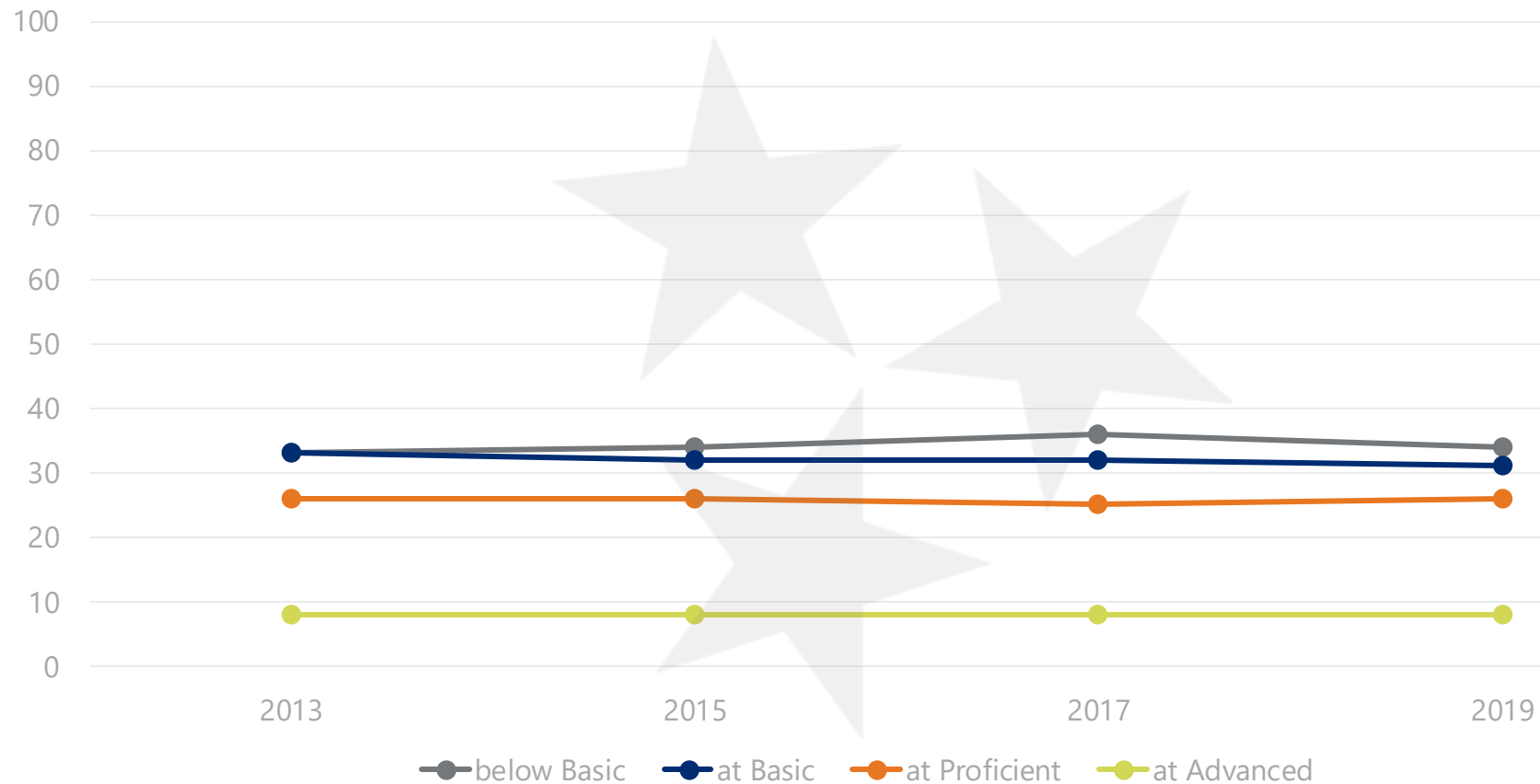
General literacy coaching on a variety of reading strategies, unit starters as resources for teachers.



2020

***Comprehensive*** approach includes systematic foundational literacy, educator and leader preparation, instructional materials, training, coaching, ongoing support, and online and family resources

# % Students At Each Achievement Level Grade 4 Reading (NAEP)



## KEY TAKEAWAY

Overall...



**4<sup>th</sup>**  
grade

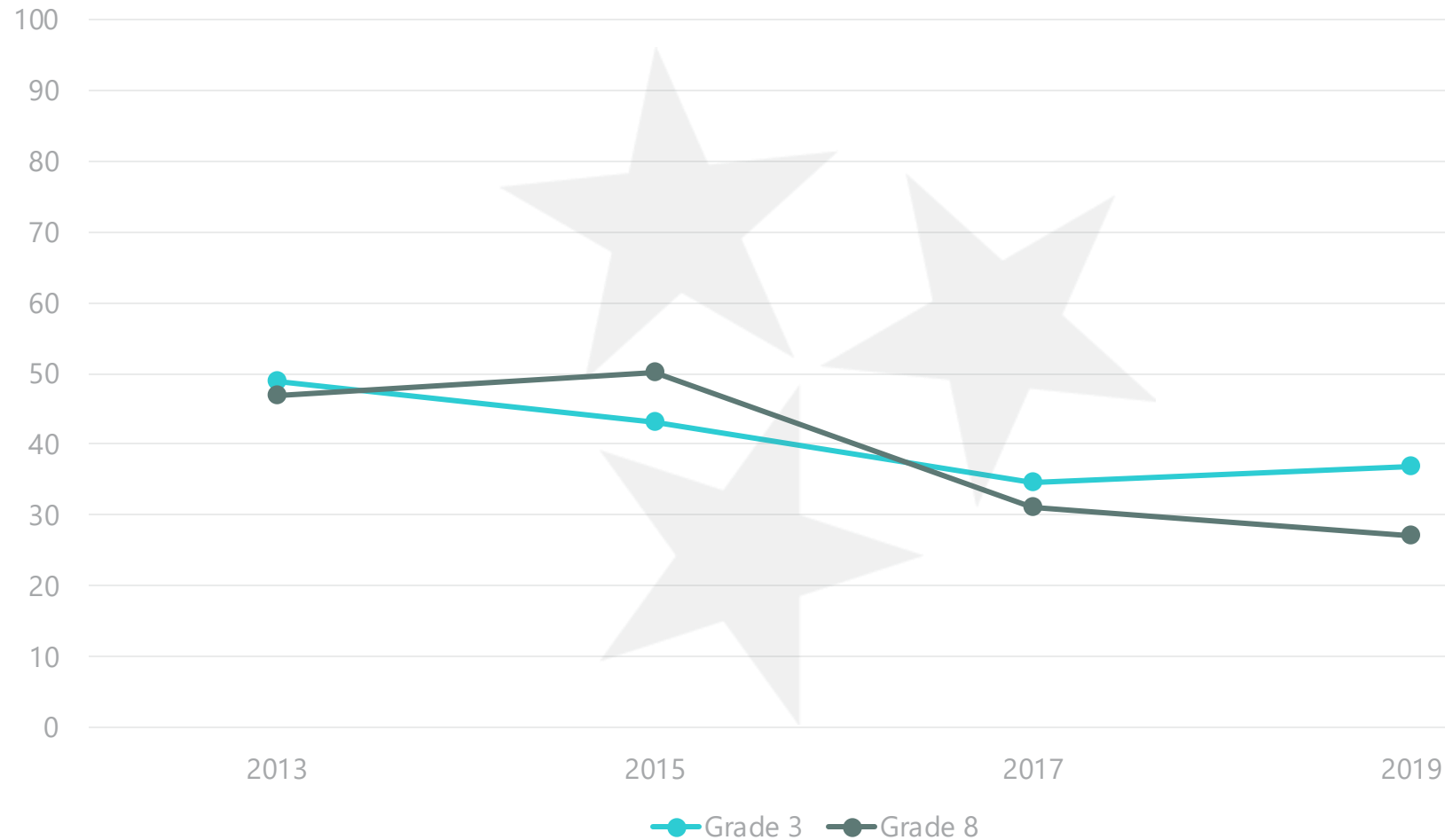
**READING  
ACHIEVEMENT**  
— has been —  
**UNCHANGED**  
**FOR THE PAST**  
**7 YEARS.**

*NOTE: Some apparent differences between estimates may not be statistically significant.*

*SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Statistics, National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019 Reading Assessments.*

# % Students At or Above Proficiency

## Grades 3 & 8 English Language Arts (ELA) (TCAP)



### KEY TAKEAWAY

Not hitting the...



**3<sup>rd</sup>**  
grade

**LITERACY  
PROFICIENCY  
MILESTONE**

— makes it —

**HARDER TO  
CATCH UP &  
SUCCEED**

# Why Reading Proficiency by Grade 3 Matters

Key indicator of future academic success as well as lifelong socioeconomic and health outcomes

Children reading at grade level are...



**MORE  
LIKELY  
TO:**

- Graduate from high school
- Enter & complete post-secondary programs
- Remain gainfully employed later in life



**SIGNIFICANTLY  
MORE LIKELY TO:**

Stay on grade level  
over time

**HIGHLY CORRELATED** with high school completion and lifelong socioeconomic and health and wellness outcomes.



Children not reading at grade level are...

**4X MORE LIKELY TO DROP  
OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL**

*Negatively impacting short & long-term earning potential*

**ASSOCIATED** with higher rates of poverty, not keeping up with medical treatment, pre-teen alcohol use, depression, and teenage pregnancy.

## KEY TAKEAWAY

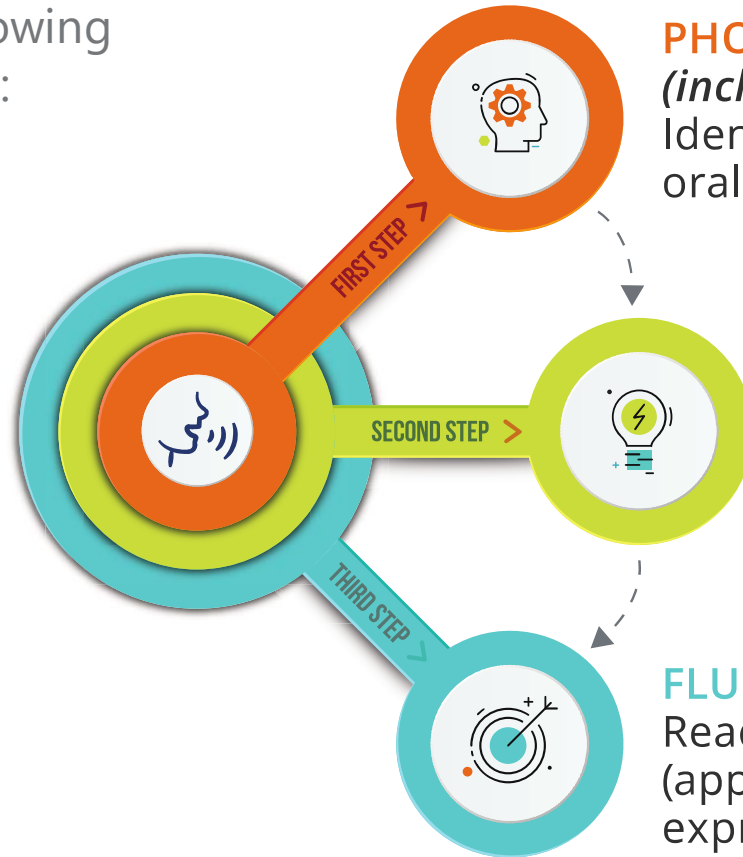
Low literacy rates negatively impacts our students and our state.



# With a Focus on Phonics

Foundational skills lessons should demonstrate the following components and focus areas:

**SOUNDS  
FIRST**



## PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS

*(including phonemic awareness)*

Identifying and manipulating units of oral language such as words and syllables.

## PHONICS & WORD RECOGNITION

Knowing and applying sound and spelling patterns and word analysis skills in order to recognize and decode words in print.

## FLUENCY

Reading with sufficient accuracy, rate (appropriate to text and task), and expression to support comprehension.



# Reading 360 Plan Components



## TRAINING & COACHING

Provide additional support for both teachers in classrooms and future teachers around literacy instruction



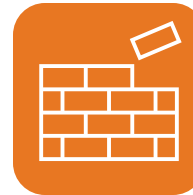
## EPP & LPP INNOVATIONS

Support for educator and leader preparation providers in developing new courses and content



## IMPLEMENTATION NETWORKS

Establish and fund regional district networks focused on literacy and high quality materials



## CORE SUPPORTS

Provide district leaders with support for implementation and establishment of systems across 8 CORE regions



## ONLINE TOOL

Feature video-based lessons, teacher implementation supports, at-home family reading resources, and leader guidance documents



## ASSESSMENT OF LITERACY

Connect teachers, leaders, and parents to resources, tools, and data using early grade literacy screener and information system



## CONNECTED LITERACY

Provide 13,000+ students and their families with microgrants for early literacy tutoring



## PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Build and foster partnerships across the state to elevate awareness and promote broader engagement

# Teachers

*“Reading inspires us to dream.”*  
— Dolly Parton

# Teaching as a Profession



**Observation & hands-on teaching experiences** for high school students



**Development of advanced coursework** and dual enrollment within Teaching as a Profession program of study



Seamless transition into **Educator Preparation Programs**



Pathways to participate in **Grow Your Own** network



**Apprenticeship opportunities**  
(pending federal application request)



**INCREASE  
EDUCATOR DIVERSITY**

by ensuring opportunity and access among all students



**IDENTIFY & CAPTIVATE  
FUTURE EDUCATORS**

while still in high school



**DEVELOP PK-12  
TEACHER PIPELINE**  
to align with postsecondary



# Educator & Leader Preparation Innovations

- Pilot starting in Fall 2021
- Partnership with the State Board of Education to create and revise standards for EPP's Fall 2022 programs, and in partnership with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC)
- Competitive grants for development of "plug and play" courses and content to meet new standards, provide mentoring, and facilitating working groups
- Standards & content will be developed in the following areas:
  - **Foundational Skills** (*including data and assessment*)
  - **High Quality Instructional Materials**
  - **Developmentally appropriate strategies and services**
- Literacy components of EPP Innovation focus on developing standards and competencies aligned to training and coaching outcomes for educators
- Aligned licensure assessment to be developed by 2024



# Early Literacy Training & Coaching



**2 weeks of opt-in training** that develops knowledge & application of foundational skills for PK-4 educators:



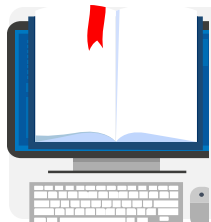
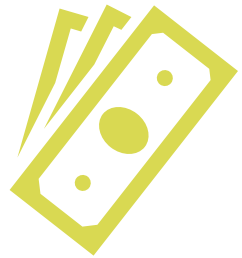
**Online module** housed inside Best for All Central website.

**Face-to-face training** for educators, focusing on application and coaching.

**Teachers will receive consumable classroom kits** after completion of both weeks.



**Educators will receive \$1,000 stipend & a micro-credential eligible for PDPs** for completing both weeks of content.



**Flexible online delivery modules** for future training and out-of-state educators.

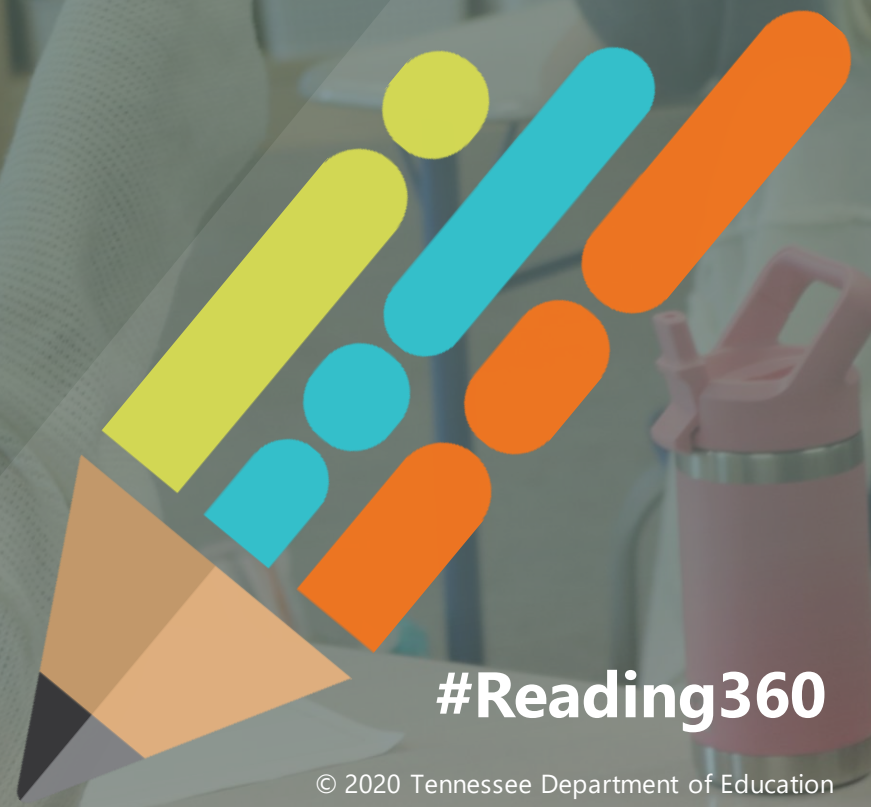
**Districts choosing to participate** in the cohort networks will also have educators participating in this training and coaching.





# Districts

*"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader."  
— Margaret Fuller*



# Implementation Networks



## FOUR MAJOR COMPONENTS



Regional opt-in implementation networks focusing on K-12 literacy implementation



Support tailored to district and school leaders

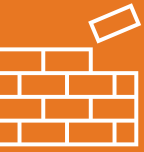


Regional implementation networks for high quality materials in grades 3-12



Early literacy cohort networks focused on foundational skills implementation for grades PK-2

- **Districts opt-in to knowledge building series,** but need to apply and be selected for..
  - Regional implementation networks (48+ districts)
  - Early literacy cohort networks (~75+ districts)
- **Networks supported by approved partners** selected from an approved provider list.
- **ATSI focused supports managed and delivered by CORE.**
- **Additional support** for turnaround schools and principal professional development.



## CORE Supports

- **Engage in 1:1 partnerships** with districts to support their implementation of ELA High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM). Districts with ATSI and TSI schools will be prioritized for support.
- **Complement the implementation networks** by focusing on districts not participating in those networks.
- **Help district leaders establish systems and structures centrally** to support strong implementation and know how they need to refine to get better over time.





## Online Tool

# PK-2 TN Foundational Skills Curriculum Supplement

*video-based lessons, teacher implementation supports, and leader guidance documents*

- **FOR TEACHERS:** Site will feature **extensive videos, tools, and guidance documents** to support foundational literacy practices and aligned at-home resources for families
- **FOR LEADERS:** Site will feature resources to support school-site staff with implementation



**Materials navigator approach to**  
*finding literacy resources*



# Online Tool (continued)



## Materials Navigator

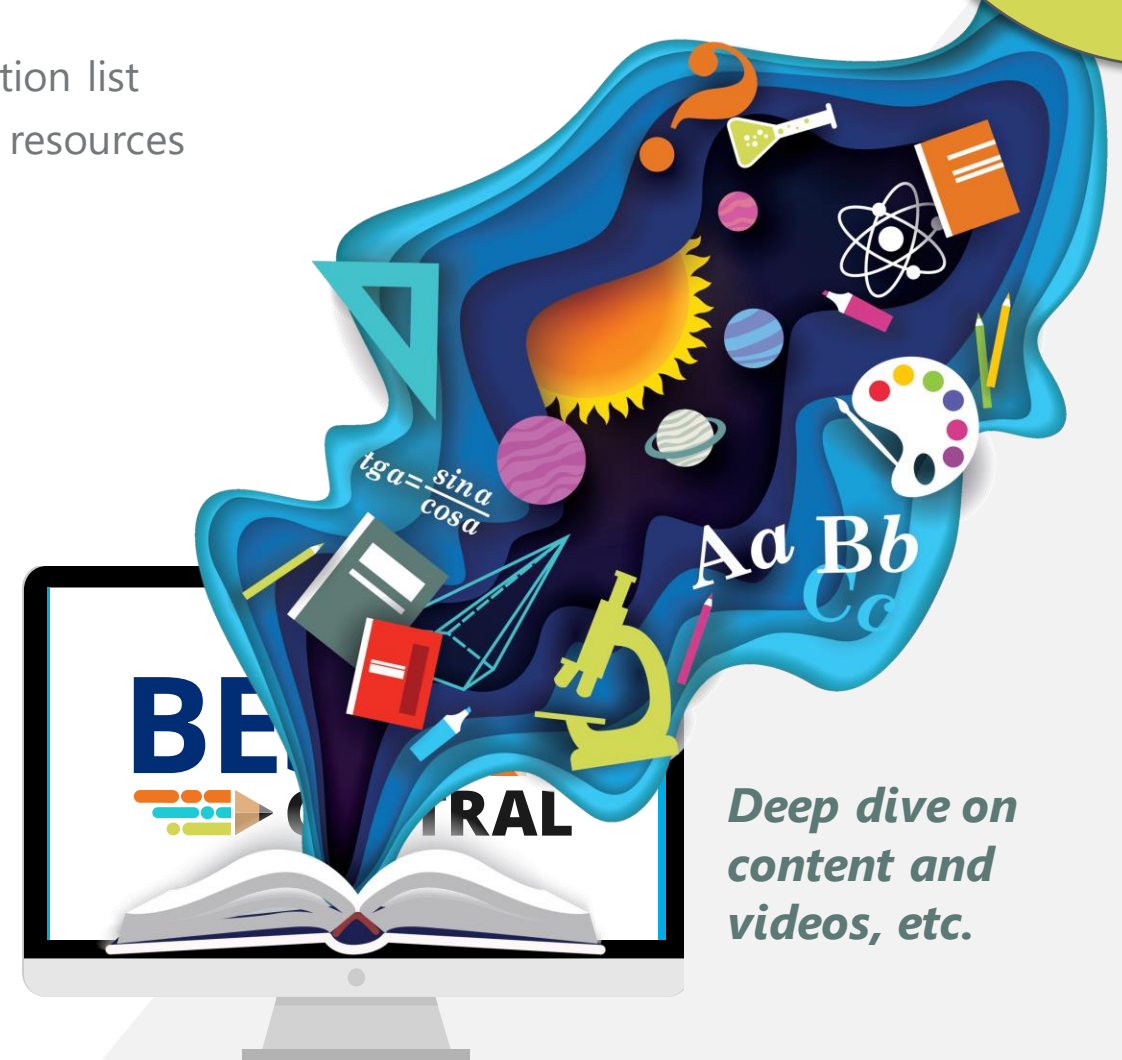
- K-8 ELA scope and sequences for several curricula on state adoption list
- Videos, lesson plans, and implementation guidance and support resources

## Foundational Skills Curriculum Supplement

- Daily lesson plans for PK-2nd grades
- District-friendly implementation schedules and professional learning support videos
- District implementation models and daily video lessons
- Literacy practice resources: decodables, code charts, big books and intervention lessons

## At-Home Reading Family Resources

- Read alouds of stories and at-home videos
- Two-minute video activities for families
- One-page activity guides to support family reading time



*Deep dive on content and videos, etc.*





# Assessment of Literacy

## Early Grade Literacy Screener

- Used multiple times/year
- Meets reading screening requirements for RTI and dyslexia

- ✓ Phonological awareness
- ✓ Sound-symbol correspondence
- ✓ Letter blending and decoding
- ✓ Reading fluency
- ✓ Developmental spelling and letter formation



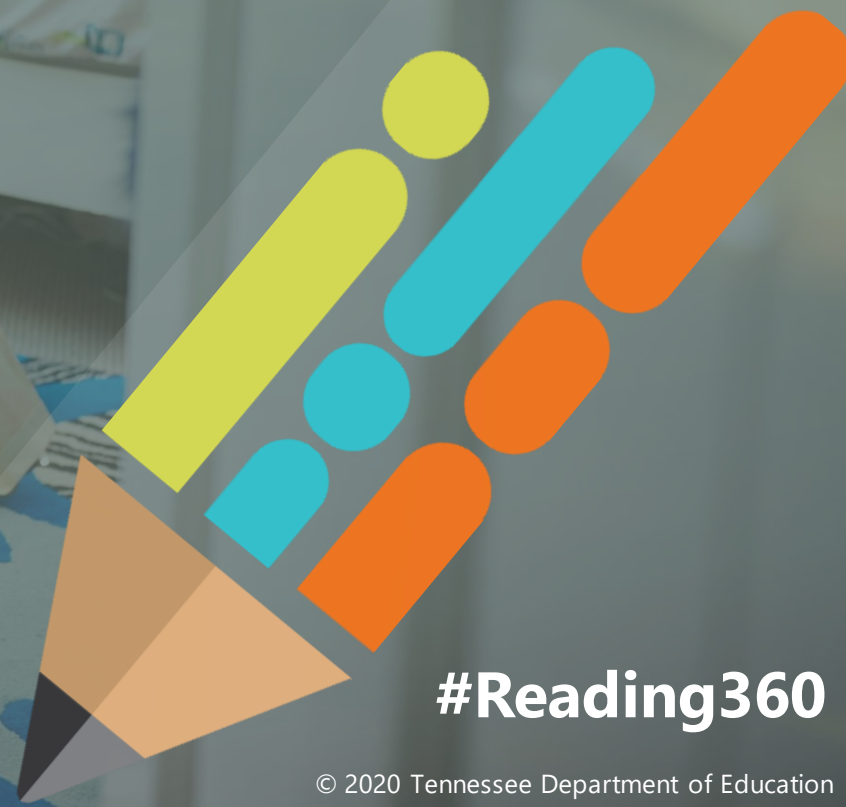
## Literacy Data System

- Tracks student progress throughout the year for quicker intervention
- Integrates with Online Literacy Tool and progress dashboards
- Connects teachers, leaders, and parents to resources, tools, and supports based on student need



# Families

*“Fill your house with stacks of books,  
in all the crannies and all the nooks.”  
— Dr. Seuss*



# Connected Literacy Microgrants

- **Initiative provides over 13,000 students & their families with grants** for spring & summer tutoring for children from approved provider list.
- **Providers** must ensure that all tutors complete and pass the **two-week training series** as well as commit to using the TN Foundational Skills curriculum.
- Options will provide on average **36 hours of early literacy tutoring for each student** across a 12-week tutoring cycle.
- Information will be shared with families through districts





# At-Home Reading Series

PARTNERSHIPS TO  
SUPPORT FAMILIES



- 75+ rural TN districts received almost 600,000 books for 59,500 students
- 10 books for each K-3rd grade student in participating districts
- 1-page “Family Reading Time” guides to pair with each book
- Additional teacher packs delivered to coordinate at-home and in-school opportunities



# At-Home Reading Series Book Packs

**PARTNERSHIPS TO  
SUPPORT FAMILIES**



## Families:

- Can order PK–3rd grade kits **at no charge**
- Kits delivered to homes
- Receive 1 kit for every child in grades PK-3

## Kits include:

- Guide to practice sounds-first reading
- 10 decodable books to practice reading
- Additional online activities, videos, and supports to foster home reading practice



# Ready4K App

**PARTNERSHIPS TO  
SUPPORT FAMILIES**



- A text-based app provided for all PK-3rd grade families in participating districts
- Parents receive three weekly text messages aligned to each child's age and to Tennessee standards
- Messages will provide engaging family activities that support home literacy learning



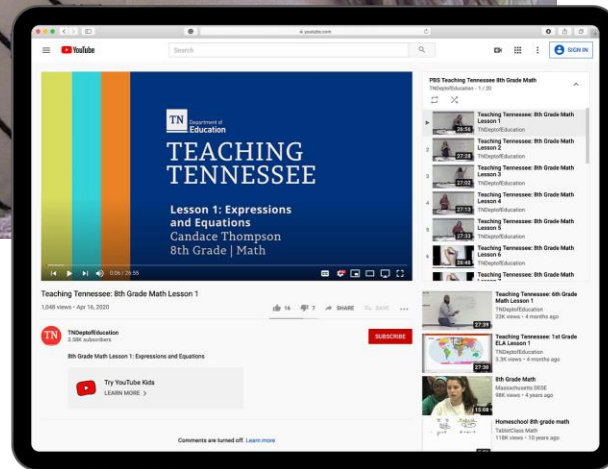


# PBS Teaching Tennessee

**PARTNERSHIPS TO  
SUPPORT FAMILIES**



- Continued **statewide partnership** with Tennessee's 6 PBS stations: *Spring 2020 - Summer 2021*
- Video lessons contain **instructional, standards aligned content** created for Tennessee students and teachers
- **400+ video lessons** by Tennessee teachers for PK–8th graders with select companion resources



# Community Partnerships

*“Intelligence plus character.  
That is the goal of true education.”  
— Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*





# Public Awareness Campaign

“Starting with Sounds,” to ensure parents and students understand the importance of reading, and how to work on developing strong phonics-based literacy skills at home



## COLLABORATIONS WITH COMMUNITY

- **Partnerships for strong research** to ensure all progress and improvement are captured, and that programmatic efforts can benefit from data-driven decisions and be targeted toward student need
- **Volunteer programs** to ensure Tennesseans who want to help our students have the opportunity, training, and resources they need to do so

**DEC**



**Literacy Announcement  
& Launch**

**MAR-MAY**



**Programming  
Communications**

**APR**



**Programming  
Launch**

**MAY**



**All Procurements  
Awarded**

**MAY**



**Baseline  
Assessment Data**



A comprehensive vision for Tennessee literacy

#Reading360





# SPECIAL SESSION



## Governor Bill Lee calls a Special Legislative Session on Education

January special session to address  
accountability, learning loss, literacy,  
and teacher pay

*"We know that the COVID-19  
pandemic has caused  
immense disruption for  
Tennessee's students, educators,  
and districts,  
and the challenges they face  
must be addressed urgently."  
- Gov. Bill Lee*





# Learning Loss

TN

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Education



# Learning Loss: Why It Matters

- Students across Tennessee experienced **different instructional environments in the spring**—with some students who had access to online instruction while others had work packets. This **variance coupled with traditional summer slide** led to learning loss for some students.
- Learning loss **widened persistent achievement gaps** for students from low-income backgrounds, students with disabilities, and English learners.
- Districts are realizing how **COVID-19 disruptions** such as quarantine time in the 2019-20 and 2020-21 school years are impacting early learners.

## KEY TAKEAWAY

Districts may need to provide extra support including **strong summer programming** and **tutoring for students** who need to catch up.

# Intervening to Stop Learning Loss

## *Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act*

*SB 7002/HB 7004*

- Provides opportunity for students to catch up and accelerate
- Establishes summer programming, beginning in 2021
- **Summers 2021 and 2022:** 6 weeks for elementary + afterschool STREAM, and 4 weeks for middle school
- **Summers 2023 and beyond:** 4 weeks for rising 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- Establishes the ***Tennessee Accelerating Literacy and Learning Corps (TN ALL Corps)*** to ensure availability of qualified tutors



# Intervening to Stop Learning Loss

## *Tennessee Learning Loss Remediation and Student Acceleration Act*

*SB 7002/HB 7004*

- Provides **targeted, rigorous supports to students -- those who are furthest behind and most unlikely to catch up**-- before retention after 3rd grade
- Ensures any student who may be retained in 3rd grade has the option to receive the following supports instead:
  - Demonstrate proficiency by **retesting**,
  - Participate in the learning loss **bridge camp (summer programming)**, and/or
  - Be provided a **tutor for the entirety of 4th grade** through the TN ALL Corps
- Provides free universal math and reading screeners and benchmark assessments for districts
- Tennessee teachers, tutors, and staff **receive stipends for their work**
- State would fully fund this program through a combination of **TANF, LEAPS (21st Century Afterschool Federal Dollars), and state funds**



# Accountability

# Accountability: Why It Matters

- Tennessee's accountability system is central to the academic progress made in the state over the last decade and provides a critical view of how well educators, schools and districts are serving all students.
- Student assessment results are traditionally used in accountability scores for educators, schools and districts.
- Though educators have worked hard to overcome new challenges, they have faced extended time away from their classrooms and students.

## KEY TAKEAWAY

Educators want certainty around whether assessment will be used in teacher evaluations or school accountability this year so they can **focus on catching students up and accelerating learning.**

# Accountability to Inform

## *Common-Sense Adjustments to Accountability*

SB 7001/HB 7003

- Provides ***hold harmless changes*** to educator evaluation and school and district accountability framework for the 2020-2021 school year, provided districts meet an 80% participation rate for the spring TCAP assessments or receive a commissioner waiver
- ***Ensures parents and educators are still able to access assessment data*** to ensure an accurate picture of where our students are
- State will still require TCAP testing, and ***districts must ensure TCAP testing takes place*** in order to be held harmless on school and district-level accountability measures





# Literacy



# Literacy: Building Better Readers with Phonics

## **Tennessee Literacy Success Act**

SB 7003/HB 7002

- Ensures LEAs and public charter schools use **foundational literacy skills instruction, with a phonics-based approach**, to develop students as strong readers
- Requires LEAs and public charter schools to develop a **Foundational Literacy Skills Plan** to articulate the districts' locally-driven solutions to improve literacy outcomes for their students. Plans must be reported publicly
- Ensures **state-provided or state-approved reading screeners can be used by districts to satisfy multiple requirements** including dyslexia screening, RTI<sup>2</sup> screening, and as an approved alternative to portfolio assessments
- Requires **EPPs to provide training on foundational literacy skills**
- Requires K-3 teaching candidates to pass a **reading instruction assessment**



# Teacher Pay

# Teacher Pay: Why It Matters

- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Governor Bill Lee proposed in the state budget a 4% increase to the instructional component of the BEP. Necessarily, this proposal along with all new budget requests were stripped from the budget to prepare our state for response and recovery.
- Though teacher pay was a priority in Tennessee prior to COVID-19, teachers have worked especially hard throughout the pandemic to adapt to new challenges, new dynamics, and new instructional environments while still meeting the needs of all students.

## KEY TAKEAWAY

**Teachers work hard in their classrooms every day to support all students,** and with clearer budget implications after a difficult school year, the state can revisit proposals to boost teacher pay.

# Teacher Pay

## *Increasing Funding for Teachers*

### *State Appropriations*

- The governor announced last year his priority to give teachers a deserved pay increase
- Proposing an ***immediate, one-time 2% increase (retroactive to January 1<sup>st</sup>)*** to go towards teacher raises
  - ***Addresses need within the current fiscal year without negatively impacting district budgets***
- Proposes a ***full 4% into the instructional component of the BEP starting next year*** as a recurring amount





# Questions?

#TNBestForAll

