

HB 3040: BUILDING ON EARLY LITERACY SUCCESS

Background

In 2023, Governor Kotek partnered with legislators to pass the Early Literacy Success Initiative (HB 3198). The first year of implementation laid the critical foundation to help every child in Oregon read and write with confidence and competence, as about 80% of school districts have now adopted research-aligned core curriculum.

The following changes to the initiative, paired with additional investments, will strengthen and refine the program, equipping Oregon's educators with the tools and support they need to help all students become confident, capable readers and writers.

Professional Development and Curriculum

- → Local Professional Learning & Coaching: Creates a program within the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) that adds a regional network of literacy experts to build coherent and consistent educator coaching opportunities, supporting both district and school level literacy specialists.
- → Ensuring Research-Aligned Curriculum: Require school districts and public charter schools to adopt research-aligned early literacy high-quality instructional materials approved by the State Board of Education. Districts and public charters would be required to participate in training and improvement activities.
- → Instructional Assistants: Allow professional development funds to go towards training Instructional Assistants (IAs) in research-aligned literacy strategies, supporting key academic support personnel like tutors.
- → K-5 Curriculum: Allow funds to be used for 4th and 5th grades, exclusively for the purchase of curriculum. Districts often purchase K-5 curriculum. While the focus of early literacy remains K-3, this supports district purchasing of research-aligned curriculum.

Reporting and Data Collection

- → High-Dosage Tutoring: Clarify that school and district level data are required to be reported for high-dosage tutoring.
- → Planning: Clarify that districts must report on evidence of providing professional development to educators, not providing "plans."

Technical Fixes

- → Clarify requirements for communication and engagement for the application process.
- → Shift the deadline for ODE to submit a report to the Legislature from December 31 to February 1 each year.
- → Clarifies that Tribal consultation is required for Tribal grants but not required for community grants.

For more information, contact:

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