



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 State Superintendent of Education

Alabama
 State Board
 of Education

August 9, 2023

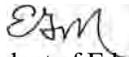
Governor Kay Ivey
 President

MEMORANDUM

Jackie Zeigler
 District I

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

Tracie West
 District II
 Vice President

FROM: Eric G. Mackey 
 State Superintendent of Education

Stephanie Bell
 District III

RE: Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) Comprehensive Planning and [Alabama Literacy Act 2019-523](#) (ALA) Reporting Requirements for the 2023-2024 School Year

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
 District IV

Thank you for your continued efforts in embracing the Science of Reading (SoR) by fully implementing the *2021 Alabama Course of Study: English Language Arts* that aligns with the [Alabama Literacy Act 2019-523](#) (ALA). Through ongoing collaboration with local education agencies (LEAs), the Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) recognizes the importance of providing key ALA implementation due dates and professional development opportunities to assist with 2023-2024 planning. Your consistent feedback was utilized in the review of the past year's key implementation components in continuing efforts to streamline the LEA paperwork requirement. In response to your needs, a PowerPoint has been developed that can be used with various stakeholder groups to share the information in this memorandum. The PowerPoint can be accessed [here](#). We encourage you to thoroughly review the PowerPoint, then download and utilize slides that meet the informational needs of various stakeholder groups.

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
 District V
 President Pro Tem

The comprehensive ALA implementation outline below represents a culmination of our continuing efforts to streamline and provide communication efficiently and effectively to assist LEAs. The PowerPoint covers the following elements:

Marie Manning
 District VI

Annual LEA Reporting Requirements

Belinda McRae
 District VII

2023-2024 LEA Local Reading Specialist (LRS)

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
- Quarterly (Q) Monitoring of ALA
- Local Reading Specialist Monitoring
- Professional Learning for Local Reading Specialists (LRS) and Principals

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
 District VIII

2023-2024 Assessment

- Assessment Testing Windows for the 2023-2024 School Year
- Early Years Assessment Vendors
- First Grade Readiness Assessment
- *2021 Alabama Course of Study: English Language Arts* Impact on Instructional Outcomes
- Third Grade Portfolio Requirements as a Result of ACAP Reading Summative Assessment
- Before- and/or After-School Tutoring

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
 Secretary and
 Executive Officer

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LEA Resources and Funding

Professional Learning Opportunities

- LETRS Calendar of Sessions
- Additional Professional Learning Opportunities
- ACT 2023-417: Revisions for the *Alabama Literacy Act*
- NAEP
- Family and Community Support
- Family Outreach Video about the *Alabama Literacy Act*

Thank you for collaborating with the ARI to implement measures of effectiveness, including both qualitative and quantitative data analyses to track acquisition of skills and knowledge, local reading specialist activities, and impact of effectiveness as it relates to increasing student reading proficiency as required by the ALA. While much is required by law, we should never forget the spirit of the law—grade-level reading proficiency by third grade for all students.

EGM/BS/SR

cc: Curriculum and Instruction Coordinators
ARI LEA Contacts
Assessment Coordinators
Alabama Literacy Task Force
Mrs. Angela Martin
Dr. Melissa Shields
Mrs. Shanthia Washington
Mrs. Bonnie Short

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