



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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

July 22, 2024

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI) Comprehensive Planning for the 2024-2025 School Year

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 2024-2025 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, download and then utilize slides that meet the informational needs for various stakeholder groups.

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:

Annual LEA Reporting Requirements

2024-2025 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 Specialist (LRS) and Principals

LEA Resources and Funding

Professional Learning Opportunities

- Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spellings (LETRS) Calendar of Sessions
- Professional Learning Opportunities for Administrators
- Professional Learning Opportunities for Full Support Principals
- Professional Learning Opportunities from Neuhaus
- Continuum for Teacher Development Professional Learning
- On-Demand Professional Learning Opportunities

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2024-2025 Assessment and Instruction

- Assessment Testing Windows for the 2023-2024 School Year
- Early Years Assessment Vendors
- First Grade Readiness Assessment
- NAEP
- ACAP Data
- 2021 Alabama Course of Study: English Language Arts Impact on Instructional Outcomes
- Foundational Literacy Tiered Instruction
- 2024-2025 Approved Comprehensive Core Reading Programs
- 2024-2025 Approved Intervention Programs
- Third Grade Portfolio Requirements as a Result of ACAP Reading Summative Assessment
- Before and/or Afterschool Tutoring
- Prevention- and Intervention-Effective Literacy Policies

Family and Community Outreach

- Family and Community Support
- Family Outreach Video about the *Alabama Literacy Act*
- Family FAQs

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/AM

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

FY24-2067