



**To:** Board of Education  
**From:** Michelle Hilla  
**Re:** Curriculum and Instruction Update  
**Date:** June 8th, 2026

### **K–5 English Language Arts Curriculum Implementation Update**

During the 2025–2026 school year, the Chelsea School District completed the first year of implementation of Collaborative Literacy, the district's newly adopted K–5 English Language Arts curriculum. This implementation supports Goal 4 from the curriculum review process, which aims to increase reading proficiency to 80% by Spring 2028 for both the incoming Kindergarten and Grade 3 cohorts.

#### **Year 1 Student Outcomes**

At the conclusion of the first year of implementation, grade level NWEA reading proficiency rates for the targeted cohorts were:

- Kindergarten: 76% proficient
- Grade 3: 74% proficient

#### **Implementation Supports Provided**

Prior to implementation, the district committed to providing professional learning, coaching, and data-driven instructional support for staff. During Year 1, the following supports were provided:

- All K–5 teachers received initial curriculum training and instructional materials during Spring 2025.
- Teachers were offered paid Curriculum Camp opportunities during Summer 2025 to prepare for implementation.
- Additional professional learning was provided by Collaborative Classroom during each District Professional Development Day throughout the 2025–2026 school year.
- The district literacy leadership team, including literacy specialists, building principals, and the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, participated in ongoing implementation training and met with the Collaborative Classroom implementation specialist five times throughout the year to build internal capacity and provide support to teachers.
- Teachers were provided release time on three occasions during the school year to analyze



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student data, collaborate with colleagues, and adjust instruction.

- Additional instructional resources and materials were purchased throughout the year to ensure full implementation of the curriculum.

### Next Steps

As the district enters Year 2 of implementation, our focus will shift from establishing the curriculum to refining instructional practices that maximize student growth.

Key priorities include:

- Strengthening small-group instruction to increase differentiation, targeted intervention, and progress monitoring.
- Continuing our partnership with the Collaborative Classroom implementation specialist through coaching cycles and instructional rounds.
- Refining the balance between coaching and intervention responsibilities for our literacy specialists to maximize support for both teachers and students.

The district remains committed to monitoring student outcomes annually and evaluating progress toward the 2028 proficiency targets established during the curriculum review process.

Respectfully,  
Michelle Hilla  
Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Chelsea School District