

Legislation

July 1, 2023 PA No. 21-2 implement model or program preK-gr 3 Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success The law creates a Center for Literacy Research and Reading Success (“Literacy Center”) within the SDE. Requires the Literacy Center to review and approve at least five reading curriculum models or programs for use by boards of education. Beginning July 1, 2023, and each school year thereafter, the new law requires boards of education to implement a reading curriculum model or program for grades preK to three that has been reviewed and recommended by the Literacy Center. It also requires each board, by July 1, 2023, and biennially thereafter, to notify the Literacy Center which reading curriculum model or program the board is implementing.

Can request a waiver, The Commissioner must grant the waiver if the Commissioner finds that the board’s proposed alternative reading curriculum model or program is: (1) evidence- and scientifically based, and (2) focused on competency in the following areas: oral language, phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, rapid automatic name or letter name fluency, and reading comprehension. Boards must include the following in their waiver requests: (1) reading assessment data that has been disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, eligibility for free or reduced-price lunches, students whose primary language is not English, and students with disabilities, and (2) a strategy to address achievement gaps. © Shipman & Goodwin LLP 2021. All rights reserved.