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More.

Update on Literacy Curriculum Review

*Presented to the School Board
Dec. 17, 2024*

Why We Need New Literacy Curricula

“A district or charter school must use evidence-based curriculum and intervention materials at each grade level that are designed to ensure student mastery of phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary development, reading fluency, and reading comprehension.”

Minnesota Statutes 2023, section 120B.1118; subdivision 4.

- Evidence-based literacy instruction is “explicit, systematic, and culturally responsive. It includes phonemic awareness, phonics and decoding, spelling, fluency, vocabulary, oral language, comprehension that can be differentiated to meet the needs of individual students. Evidence-based instruction does not include the **three-cueing system.**”



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Current Reality

Our current curricula is not approved by Minnesota Department of Education (MDE):

- K-3 Letterland (Foundational Skills)
- K-2 Heggerty (Foundational Skills)
- Grades K-5 Lucy Calkins Units of Study (Knowledge Building)

New

Requirements:

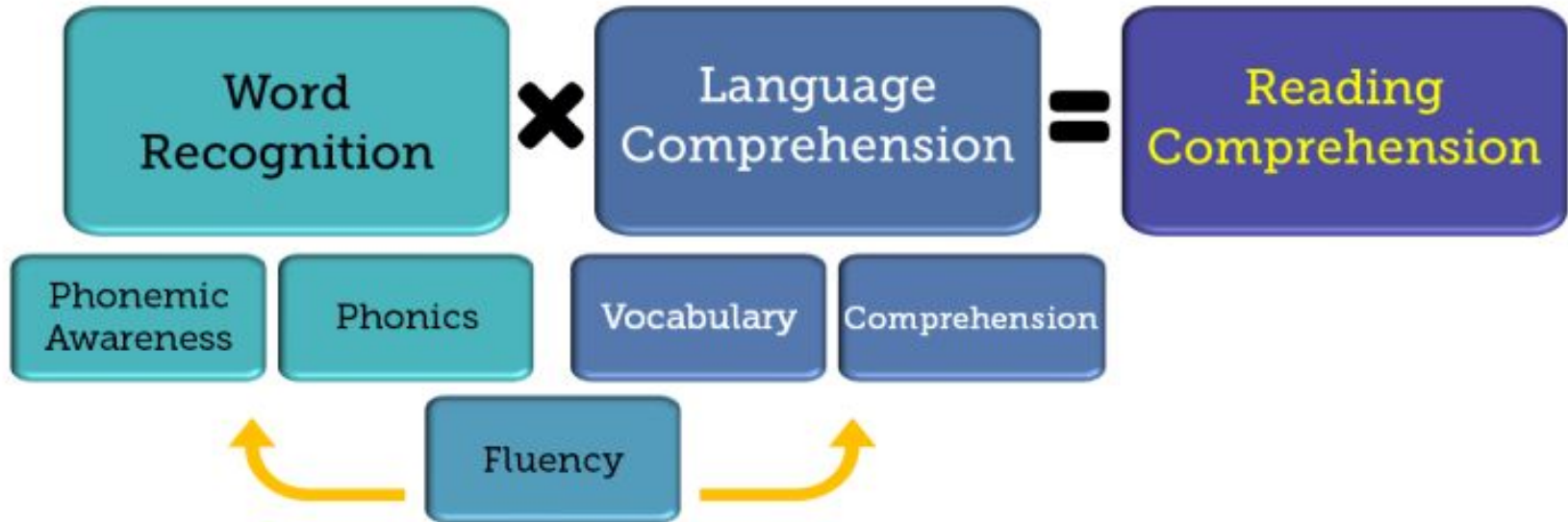
- K-2 Foundational Skills Curriculum
- Grades 3-5 Morphology Skills Curriculum
- K-5 Knowledge Building Curriculum

Curriculum must be on the approved MDE list



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Science of Reading



Purpose of Literacy Curriculum Committee

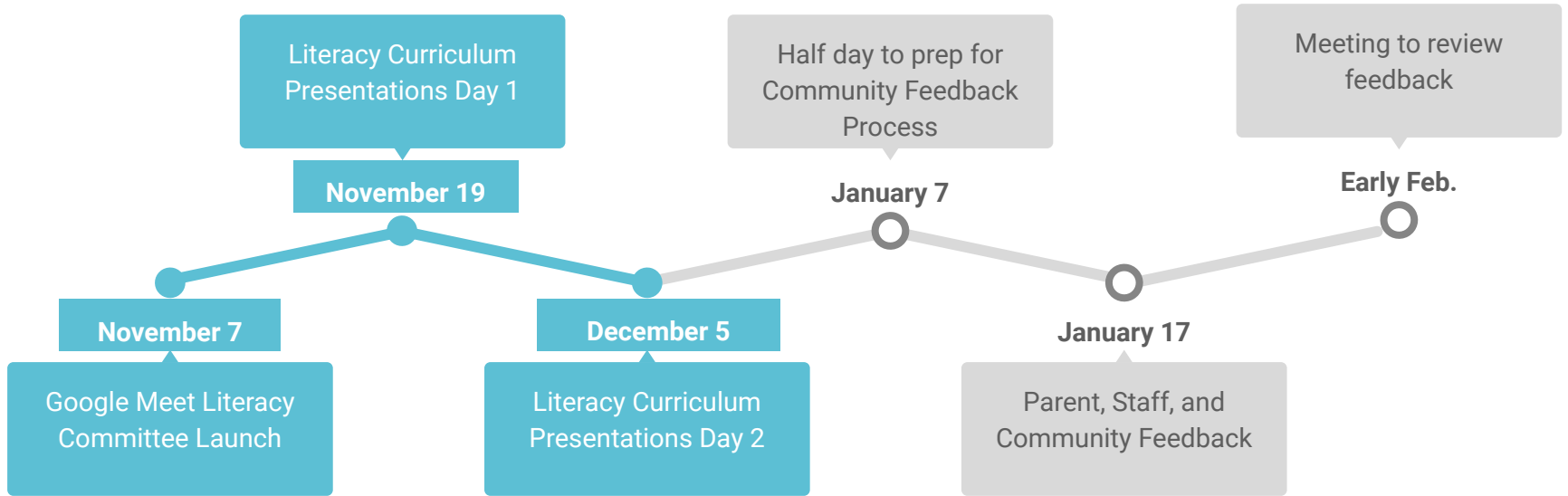
Guide the selection of literacy curricula for elementary schools within the district:

1. Evaluating curriculum options
2. Ensuring research-based and effective instruction
3. Gathering stakeholder input
4. Alignment with district goals



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Initial Committee Timeline



Curriculum Evaluation Process

Foundational Skills K-2	Knowledge Building k-2
UFLI	Wit and Wisdom
Benchmark Advanced Phonics	Benchmark Advanced
Open Up EL Phonics	Open Up EL
Magnetic Reading	
Functional Phonics	
Foundational Skills 3-5	Knowledge Building 3-5
Functional Morphology	Wit and Wisdom
Benchmark Advanced on it's own	Benchmark Advanced
	Open Up EL



Implementation Considerations

- Curricula (*what we teach*) is one tool for improving students' literacy skills
- Professional development (*how we teach*), specifically in the science of reading, has a significant impact on student outcomes
- Considerations for adoption and implementation of curricula and professional development are both fiscal and philosophical



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Funding Sources

Read Act Literacy Incentive Aid	Read Act Literacy Aid	Teacher Compensation Aid
<p>Approved uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Literacy leads/staffing● Approved literacy materials● Intervention materials● Non-Read Act PD/trainings● Subs for literacy committee● Subs for LETRS training	<p>Approved uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Approved curriculum● Literacy staffing<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Caution: 1 time funding</i>	<p>Approved uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Stipends for training to become Read Act certified● Must be negotiated

Additional expenditures will be allocated as part of our capital outlay plan. Implementation may be staggered by grade-band over multiple years.



Elementary Curriculum Implementation Timeline

2024-25 ● Pilot literacy curricula

2025-26 ● Implement adopted K-2 literacy curricula

2026-27 ● Implement adopted grades 3-5 literacy curricula
● Pilot math curricula

2027-28 ● Implement new K-5 math curricula



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Next Steps

- Bring recommendations to the school board with expenditures and revenue sources:
 - Curricula recommendations
 - Implementation plan
 - Professional development
- Begin implementation in fall 2025 to align with the MDE ELA standards implementation timeline





Staff & Community Open House: Curriculum Viewing & Feedback

Jan. 17, 2025 from 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Oak Park Learning Center, 6355 Osman Ave North, Stillwater, MN 55082

Feedback given on this day will be taken to the next meeting with the literacy committee and will be considered in our final decision on board recommendations