

Duluth Public Schools Committee of the Whole

READ Act Professional Development: Staff Informed with the Science of Reading and Instruction

March 3, 2026



Phase 1 Staff

- **Staff required to complete or make progress towards completion by July 2026**
 - Special Education Staff
 - Reading Interventionist
 - PreK - 3rd Grade Teachers (4th and 5th have the option to do Phase 1 or 2)
 - 5 local trainers
- **LETRS (160 hours) or Early Childhood LETRS (40 hours)**
 - EC LETRS: 44 staff have completed in 2024, 1 teach in process
 - LETRS: 273 staff completed in 2025-2026
 - 55 staff will complete 2026
 - 53 staff will complete 2027



Structured Literacy for Paraprofessionals

- **Required to complete in 2026-2027 school year**
 - 4 modules: Theoretical Frameworks, Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary and Comprehension
 - 5 local trainers

- **August, November, December, January, March, May PD Days**
 - Complete: 163 staff
 - 131 staff in training to finish March 2026



Phase 2 READ Act PD



What is in Phase 2?

STRIVE videos and activities done whole group during PD days.



[February 2026 STRIVE FAQ for Participants](#)

STRIVE TLC Structured Literacy for Secondary Teachers



- Training is approx 35 hours - online modules plus activities
- 7 asynchronous modules plus three 45 minute synchronous sessions
- Synchronous Sessions facilitated by Train the trainer option (cost \$500 per trainer through a 2-hr live online training session)
- Asking MS interventionists to facilitate and possible HS staff



Staff in Phase 2

- Teachers who provide **foundational reading instruction*** to students in grades 4-12.
- Teachers who provide reading instruction to students in a state-approved alternative program.
- Teachers who provide reading instruction to students in dual language immersion programs (educators in pre-K through third grade should complete a Phase 1 training; educators in grades 4-12 should complete a Phase 2 training).
- Grades 6-12 Curriculum Directors.
- Employees who select literacy instructional materials for grades 6–12.

Any educator from Phase 2 who has already participated in Phase 1 professional development has met the requirement and would not qualify for a second training.

Training must be completed by July 1, 2027



Staff in Phase 2

42 staff required to complete Phase 2 training

No cost to the training - registered through MDE

- 9 4th and 5th grade classroom teachers
 - 5 from Piedmont, 1 each from MW, Lester, Laura MacArthur, Homecroft
- 23 HS and ALC/AEO ELA teachers
- 10 MS ELA teachers
 - 7 MS ELA teachers are currently participating in or finished LETRS

INCLUDE 10 Principals, Asst Principals, Deans



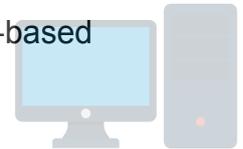
Training Goals - STRIVE TLC Structured Literacy for Secondary Teachers

- Meet the READ Act Phase 2 requirements with secondary ELA staff
- Have a teaching staff that's informed in the latest science of reading research, data gathering processes and analysis, and application of instructional literacy strategies to meet the needs of students struggling to access core instruction on grade level standards due to literacy challenges
- Improve student outcomes on standards based assessments including the MCA IV and graduation requirements
- Increase lifelong potential for students in our community
- Potential for more than just ELA teacher training, options for including other staff



Module strengths - STRIVE TLC Structured Literacy for Secondary Teachers

- Provide immediate usable Tier 1 classroom application with strategies to support literacy needs in all school subjects.
- Improve assessment of students' literacy development, analysis of the data, and make responsive instructional decisions to support students' literacy needs; tailored to CaptiReadBasix, MCA, MN 2020 ELA standards
- With comprehension being the highest level (and outcome) of literacy, early training addresses students' needs in this area, as it will be relevant to the largest number of students.
- by end of semester 1, support instruction in another big ticket area - teaching vocabulary and oral language.
- The last three modules of training focus on foundational levels of literacy struggles - fluency, phonics, and phonological awareness - help teachers understand the underpinnings of students' struggles that have contributed to their current challenges with Tier 1. These modules will also help our ELA staff and interventionists provide research-based interventions and accommodations that support our students at the lowest levels of literacy.



Additional Condensed Strive Training on Structured Literacy for *All Staff*

Disciplinary Literacy Course

1. **8.5 hrs** online asynchronous course with activities:

Disciplinary Literacy Module L.I.T.E.R.A.C.Y. book and system (Learning through Intentional Targeted Engaging Routines and Strategies to Access all Content and Yield Results)

2. Active Participation kit and bonus module
3. Cost: \$250 per teacher



Disciplinary Literacy Course Participants

100 Core Content Area

Middle School and High School staff

- Middle School: 37 teachers
- ALC/AEO: 12 teachers
- High School: 51 teachers



Module	Video time	Flexible activity time
1. Disciplinary Literacy	5 hr 22 min	3 hrs
2. Data-Based Decision Making	1 hr 8 min	45 min
3. Comprehension	2 hr 48 min	3 hrs
SYNCHRONOUS SESSION	45 min	
4. Vocabulary and Oral Language	3 hr 30 min	1 hr 35 min
5. Fluency	5 hr 12 mn	1 hr + optional 1 hr
6. Phonics and Advanced Word Work	1 hr 37 min	2 hrs
SYNCHRONOUS SESSION	45 min	
7. Phonological Awareness	1 hr 30 min	1 hr 50 min
SYNCHRONOUS SESSION	45 min	
Optional Module Active Participation		
Optional Module Dyslexia		
Approx: 35 hours	21 hrs 12 min video + 2 hr 15 min synchronous = 23 hrs 37 min	13 hrs

Phase 2 STRIVE Modules

Schedule

