



Alaska Reads Act

Year 1 Evaluation Findings



The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) seeks to address the education challenges in Alaska by utilizing DEED’s strategic plan which has identified five positive trajectories, with the first being to “Support ALL students to read at grade level by the end of third grade.” **The Alaska Reads Act was signed into law in June 2022 and led to the creation of four new programs:**

- 1) District Reading Improvement Plan
- 2) Department Reading Program
- 3) Virtual Learning Consortium
- 4) Early Education Programs

DEED began its partnership with Pacific Research and Evaluation (PRE) in September 2024 to conduct a third-party evaluation of the AK Reads Act.

- Student literacy outcome data from the 2023-24 school year will be used as baseline data in future study years to demonstrate the impact of the AK Reads Act over time.
- A comprehensive account of the findings from the Year 1 evaluation can be found in the Alaska Reads Act Evaluation Report: Year 1.

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District Reading Improvement Plan

As of March 3, 2025 across all school districts...

1,534	Teachers have received the AK Reads Act K-3 Teacher/Administrator Endorsement.
223	Administrators have received the AK Reads Act K-3 Teacher/Administrator Endorsement.
108	Teachers have received the AK Reads Act Reading Teacher Endorsement.
52	Early Education Teachers have received the AK Reads Act Early Education Lead Endorsement.

Source: DEED Alaska Reads Act Endorsement Data

1 District Reading Improvement Plan

Of the 38 Districts that completed the DEED Reading Survey in October 2024...

84%

...revised their K-3 intervention plan since the implementation of the Alaska Reads Act.

58%

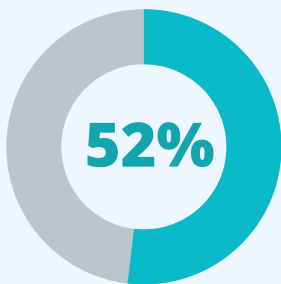
...reported that their reading intervention program aligned with their core curriculum.

90%

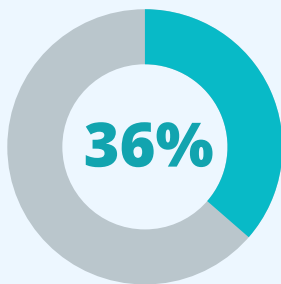
...are confident that their core reading curriculum is evidence-based.

Source: DEED District Reading Survey (2024)

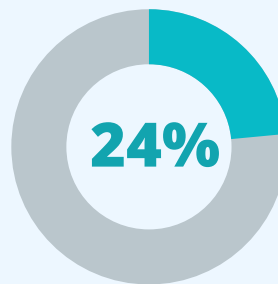
Among the K-3 students who scored below or well below proficient on the DIBELS literacy screener in the fall of 2023...



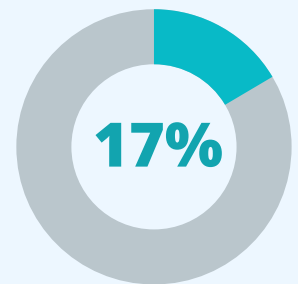
Kindergarten



1st Grade



2nd Grade



3rd Grade

...reached proficiency by Spring of 2024.

Source: 2023-24 DIBELS Literacy Screener Data

Progression of Third Grade Students (SY 2023-24)

99%

of all third grade students enrolled in the 2023-24 school year progressed to fourth grade.

28%

of all third grade students progressed to the fourth grade with a waiver from the 2023-24 school year, due to being below or well below proficient in literacy.

Source: DEED; 2023-24 Progression Data

2 Department Reading Program

The Department Reading Program was first implemented in the 2024-25 school year and **18 schools** across **7 school districts** were accepted into the program:

18 Schools



Across 7 Districts



DEED reading specialists will coach, train, and mentor teachers and school staff as well as help to design a K-3 Intensive School Reading Improvement Plan (ISRIP) to be implemented the following school year.

Source: DEED Reads Act Team

3 Virtual Learning Consortium

The VLC currently offers 5 courses:

- mCLASS Calibration
- Keys to Beginning Reading
- Heggerty
- UFLI
- Student-Focused Coaching

2,033

teachers/staff have
completed a course in
the VLC

Source: DEED Reads Act Team

4 Early Learning Programs

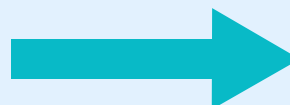
DEED awarded a total of 9 Early Education Program (EEP) grantees and 1 additional district (Anchorage School District) was approved as meeting EEP standards for a total of 10 programs.

505

students enrolled
across 10 EEP
programs in Spring
2024

Percentage of EEP students **proficient** in literacy:

53%
Fall 2023



95%
Spring 2024

Source: 2023-24 TS GOLD Assessment data.