



STRONG POLICY MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN EARLY LITERACY



The Alaska Reads Act, signed into law in 2022 by Governor Mike Dunleavy and co-sponsored by former Senator Tom Begich, is designed to ensure all students can read at grade level by the end of third grade. This landmark legislation seeks to transform early literacy education by incorporating systematic, evidence-based instructional practices rooted in the Science of Reading and rigorous educational and professional teaching standards.

LITERACY FAST FACTS

1

MAJOR FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN LITERACY
Alaska was awarded \$50 million in 2024 through the Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) grant to strengthen literacy from birth through Grade 12

2

CLSD GRANT AWARDS
26 Alaskan districts applied for the CLSD grant, each articulating plans to improve literacy from birth through grade 12, and all will receive funding to implement evidence-based strategies aligned with the AK Reads Act

3

ALASKA EDUCATORS ENDORSED
As of June 2025, 2,932 educators hold an official Alaska Reads Act endorsement—including teachers, administrators, and early education

4

SCIENCE OF READING SYMPOSIUM ROCKS!
Over 4,000 educators have participated in Alaska's Science of Reading Symposium since its launch—connecting research with Alaska's classrooms

5

VIRTUAL LEARNING IS THRIVING
The Alaska Virtual Learning Consortium supported 2,400 course completions, awarding 861 Continuing Education Units (CEU) to educators across the state

6

DEPARTMENT READING PROGRAM
50 schools across 7 districts will participate in the 2025-26 Department Reading Program, which provides intensive reading support to the lowest 25% of schools through coaching and school-wide improvement plans

KEY STRATEGIES IN THE READS ACT TO IMPROVE EARLY LITERACY



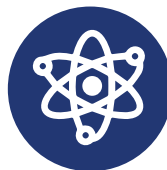
Literacy Screeners

Utilizing standardized tools to assess early reading skills



Curriculum Aligned to Science of Reading

Implementing evidence-based reading instruction methods



K-3 Science of Reading Endorsement

Providing rigorous professional development for educators to deepen their understanding of effective reading instruction



Individual Reading Plans

Developing tailored educational strategies to meet the unique needs of each student



Intensive Tutoring & Summer School Options

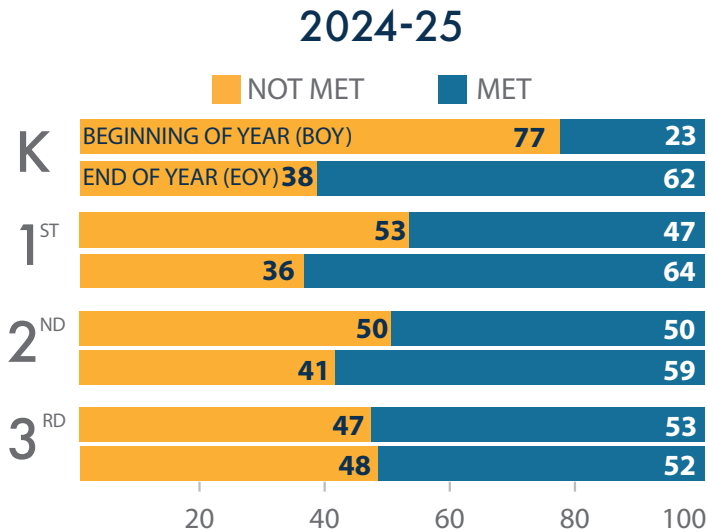
Offering additional support and learning opportunities to ensure students meet literacy benchmarks



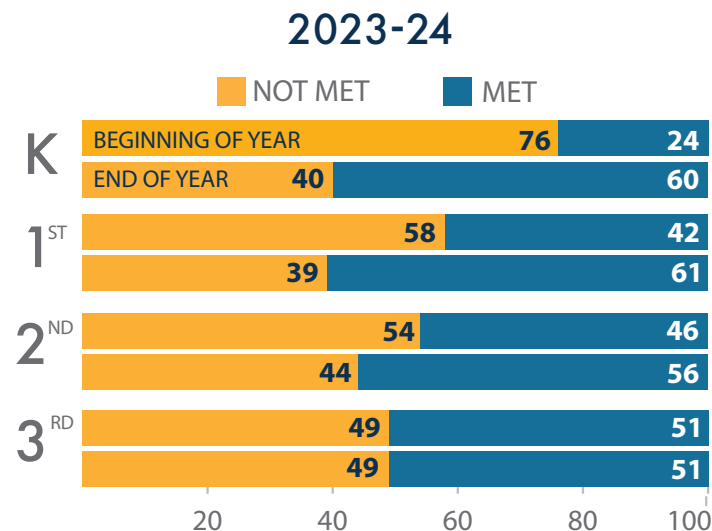
Continuous Parent Communication & Collaboration

Engaging parents in their children's educational progress to foster a supportive learning environment

AK GRADE LEVEL SKILL ACHIEVEMENT



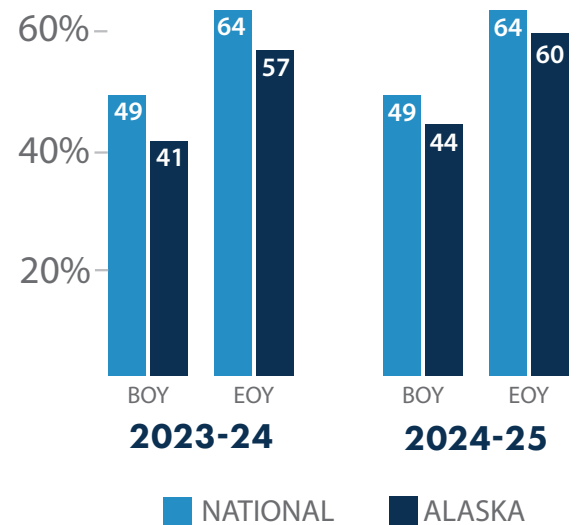
 **KG INCREASED
STUDENT LEARNING
FROM 23% TO 62%**



 **KG INCREASED
STUDENT LEARNING
FROM 24% TO 60%**

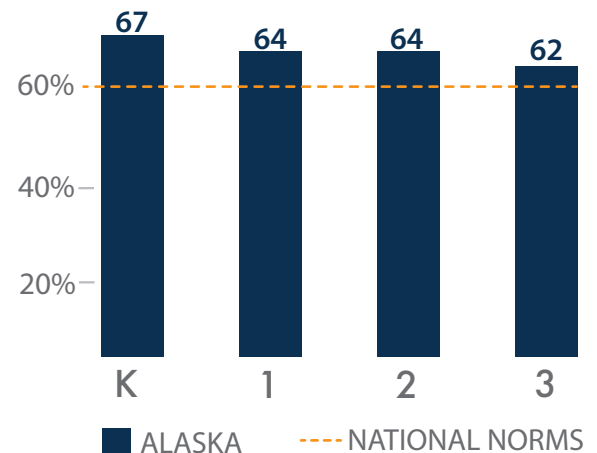
GROWTH IN STUDENT LEARNING

% OF STUDENTS AT/ABOVE BENCHMARK



ALASKA K-3 STUDENT GROWTH EXCEEDS NATIONAL NORM

DIBELS 8: Growth by Grade K-3



Source: Data from the mCLASS® DIBELS® 8th Edition Early Literacy Screener, Alaska and national user bases, prepared by Amplify Education, Inc., using beginning- and end-of-year results, June 2025.