



Alaska Department of
Education & Early Development

February 2026 CLSD 2024: Technical Assistance & Updates

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Alaska Reads
#akreads

CLSD 2024: Technical Assistance & Updates

Monthly News From Your AK Reads Team

February 2026

GMS Update

General Information

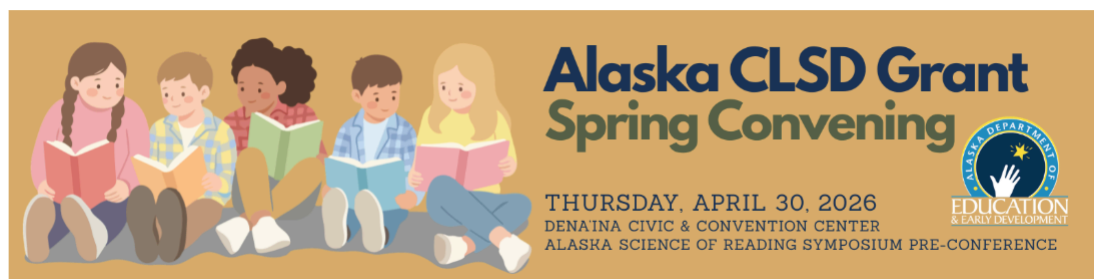
CLSD Reimbursements:

Quarterly reimbursements are due 30 days after the end of each quarter: October 31, January 31, April 30, and July 31. Final expenditure reports are due July 31 for State General Fund funding and August 15 for federal funding.

Note: Reimbursements must be approved by DEED in consecutive order. For example: first quarter reimbursements must be submitted and approved before second quarter reimbursements can be submitted. Early submission of quarterly reimbursements are encouraged. If you have any questions, please contact a Grant Administrator for assistance.

Announcements

Save the Dates



- **What and Who:** A highly interactive day of professional learning focused on supporting CLSD subgrantee teams, including CLSD project leads, district/school leaders, key CLSD teachers, and other CLSD support staff
 - **When:** Thursday, April 30th | 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Includes working lunch)
 - **Where:** Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center | Anchorage, AK
 - **CLSD Grant Convening Registration:** bit.ly/clsd-reg-apr26
 - **AK Science of Reading Symposium Registration:** <https://education.alaska.gov/AKSOR>
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Continuing the Climb: Evidence, Effort, Impact



Dena'ina Civic & Convention Center
Build your team and register today!

Anchorage, Alaska

**2026 ALASKA
SCIENCE OF
READING
SYMPOSIUM**
May 1 - 3, 2026



Registration is open!

Join us for the 2026 Alaska Science of Reading Symposium, slated for May 1-3 at the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in Anchorage.

This year's line-up of speakers and presenters includes nationally-recognized thought leaders such as Tim Shanahan, Jan Hasbrouck, Alfrieda "Freddy" Hiebert, Leslie Laud, Lindsay Kemeny, Molly Ness, Jamey Peavler, and MORE. Build your team and get excited about the amazing opportunities to grow your school's literacy success at the fifth annual Alaska Science of Reading Symposium!

REGISTER TODAY at <https://aksorsymposium.org/>

Missed a year or want to revisit sessions?

[2023 Symposium Recordings](#)

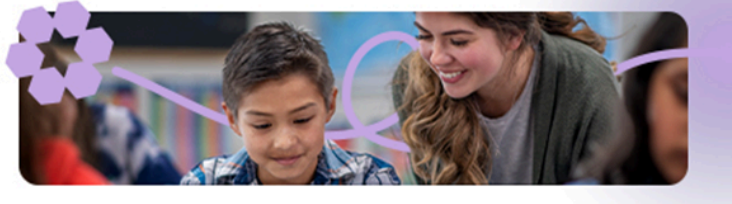
[2024 Symposium Recordings](#)

[2025 Symposium Recordings](#)

Questions about the symposium?

Email tamara.vanwyhe@alaska.gov for more information.

[Sponsorship opportunities available!](#)



Science of Reading Week: From Theory to Practice

March 2-4, 2026 8 AM - 9 AM AKST

[Register here!](#)

Science of Reading Week: From Theory to Practice is a three-day virtual event filled with practical insights from national experts, district teams, and fellow teachers who are aligning routines, instruction, and tools to help students grow. Navigating new literacy expectations, shifting mandates, and evolving student needs—with clear, practical guidance on how to make the science of reading work from day-to-day.

This event offers real-world takeaways to bring back to the classroom, plus insights that help advocate for the support, clarity, and consistency that is needed from school and district teams to improve student outcomes

Communities of Practice (COP)

We look forward to the participation of your team or district representative at these required collaborative gatherings.

- **Delivery:** Zoom Webinars hosted by DEED and Glean Education
- **Day & Time:** Tuesdays, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm*
 - March 17, 2026 - Instruction/Intervention
 - April 21, 2026 - Implementing & Sustaining
 - May 26, 2026 - EOY Data Analysis & Planning for FY27

* Dates subject to change due to extenuating circumstances.

COP February Meeting: Instruction/Intervention

DEED continues to support Alaska CLSD schools in building capacity for data-informed literacy instruction. Recent Community of Practice meetings focused on using mid-year data to inform instruction, strengthen early learning systems, and enhance reading and English language arts achievement for all students. Key discussions included:

- **Mid-Year Data Use**
- **Statewide Literacy Events:** Updates on the CLSD Spring Convening and Science of Reading Symposium
- **Marzano CLSD Survey Information:**
 - Survey communications sent February 18 - use results for local planning
 - *Consult Caitlin Scott for support*
 - Annual survey scheduled for week of March 2
- **MTSS & Intervention Effectiveness:** District Literacy Success Factor #3: Effective Interventions × Effective Implementation × Enabling Context = Significant Outcomes
- **Evidence-Based Practices:** Guidance from the Institute of Education Sciences (IES) Practice Guides
- **Intervention Capacity & Training:** Using data to inform instruction, adjust scope and pacing, reduce group sizes, and deliver targeted support with fidelity
- **Action-Oriented Framework:** District teams identified one concrete step to increase reading progress for students receiving Tier 2 support.

“The quality of a school as a learning community can be measured by how effectively it addresses the needs of its struggling students.” Jim Wright School Psychologist

Alaska Vendor Guide - *Application is open for submission!*

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) has partnered with [Rivet Education](#) to identify and approve professional learning providers qualified to support CLSD grant activities through high-quality, evidence-based literacy professional development.

Applications are now open for Curriculum-Independent Literacy Providers seeking inclusion on the approved provider list. **Submissions are due by Wednesday, March 4, at 1:00 p.m. ASKT.** For any questions, please contact tieagra.mcneil@riveteducation.org.

- [Rubric](#)
 - [Application](#)
 - [Application Submission Form](#)
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Alaska State Literacy Advisory Group

We are building on the work of the Alaska Reads Guiding Coalition and are opening applications for an Alaska State Literacy Advisory Group to ensure continued stakeholder input and engagement in statewide literacy initiatives.

If you are interested in serving, please complete the application linked below. We aim to establish a balanced group with representation from diverse stakeholders across the state, varied areas of expertise, and multiple grade spans. Previous membership in the Alaska Reads Guiding Coalition does not guarantee selection.

Application: <https://bit.ly/AKLiteracyStakeholderAdvisoryGroupApplication>



Newly Released!

[Demystifying the Science of Reading: Understanding the Reading Brain and the Structured Literacy Approach](#)

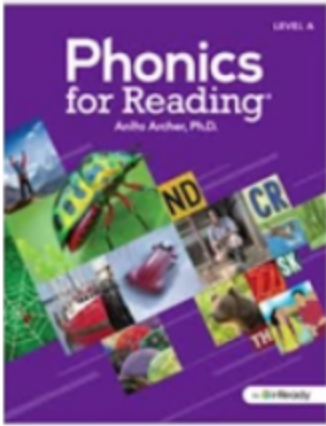
Audience: Educators

[CEU Information](#)

Course Description: This course explores the scientific frameworks that help shape the science of reading. Participants will discover how structured literacy applies the science of reading in the classroom. Instructional principles and elements will be outlined and explained in five 2 hour modules which connect the Orton-Gillingham approach to reading instruction.

Modules:

1. Demystifying the Science of Reading Understanding the Reading Brain and the Structured Literacy Approach
 2. The Science of Reading & Structured Literacy Phonology
 3. The Science of Reading & Structured Literacy Phonics
 4. The Science of Reading & Structured Literacy Orthography
 5. The Science of Reading & Structured Literacy Semantics
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Newly Released!
[Phonics for Reading](#)

This course provides introductory training for the 2024 Phonics for Reading Intervention Program with Dr. Anita Archer. The program uses evidence-based strategies to help students in grade three and above strengthen word recognition, phonemic awareness, and decoding skills to improve reading fluency and comprehension. Phonics for Reading is an approved evidence-based intervention under the Alaska Reads Act for students identified through screening measures.

Participants may earn 2 CEUs by completing the course and its implementation.



New Resources!
Now Available in the [VLC Digital Library](#)! The Keys to Literacy Video and Webinar Library offers free, on-demand professional learning for individual educators or schoolwide staff development. Resources include videos, webinars, and book studies focused on writing, reading, and language instruction across K–12 grade levels.

Reading Research & Resources

[Creating a Schoolwide Vocabulary Initiative in an Urban High School](#)

By Douglas Fisher

Questions on the Reads Act? Email AKReads@alaska.gov

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