

# Louisiana Believes

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Louisiana Early Literacy Commission  
December 10, 2020


# Agenda

- Welcome
- Roll Call
- Approval of Minutes
- Consideration of Commission Recommendations and Draft Report

# Welcome

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

The background of the slide is a watercolor-style illustration. It features a central white area that tapers towards the top and bottom, creating a shape reminiscent of a stylized letter 'A' or a wide arrow. This white area is surrounded by various shades of blue, from light sky blue to deep, dark teal. The colors are blended and layered, giving the background a soft, artistic, and textured appearance.

# Consideration of Commission Recommendations and Draft Report



# Early Literacy Commission

Louisiana [Senate Resolution 182](#) and [House Resolution 222](#) established the Early Literacy Commission to study and make recommendations on developing and implementing an aligned system to provide effective evidence-based reading instruction for children from birth through third grade.

In January the Louisiana Early Literacy Commission submitted a [report](#) **recommending a significant increase in the types of training and support available to reading teachers and an annual state investment of \$15 million to carry out such efforts.**



# Proposed Outline of Report Addendum

## **A. Early Literacy Must Be a Louisiana Priority**

- The need is significant
- The Commission stands by its initial recommendations

## **B. Early Progress**

- Preliminary investment of \$2 million
- K-2 Pilots

## **C. Building on Progress**

- K-2 Pilots
- K-2 Accountability

## **D. Continued Commitment**

# Early Literacy Must Be A Louisiana Priority

The Commission reiterates its recommendation of an annual state investment of \$15 million for early literacy.

Funds will:

- increase the number of literacy coordinators from 2 to 25, an increase of 1250% over 2020, and
- also support school systems and schools as they implement these recommendations, including writing literacy plans and providing professional development in the foundations of reading, high quality teacher-student interactions and literacy coaching. School-level literacy coaches and state-level literacy coordinators will also become trainers of trainings in order to build capacity.

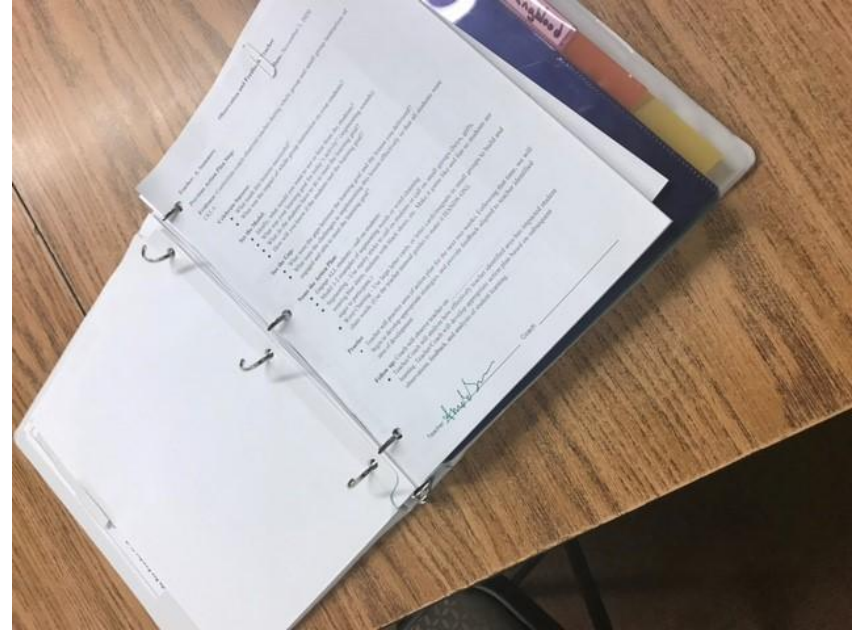
# Early Progress

Since the Commission's initial report, promising steps have been made.

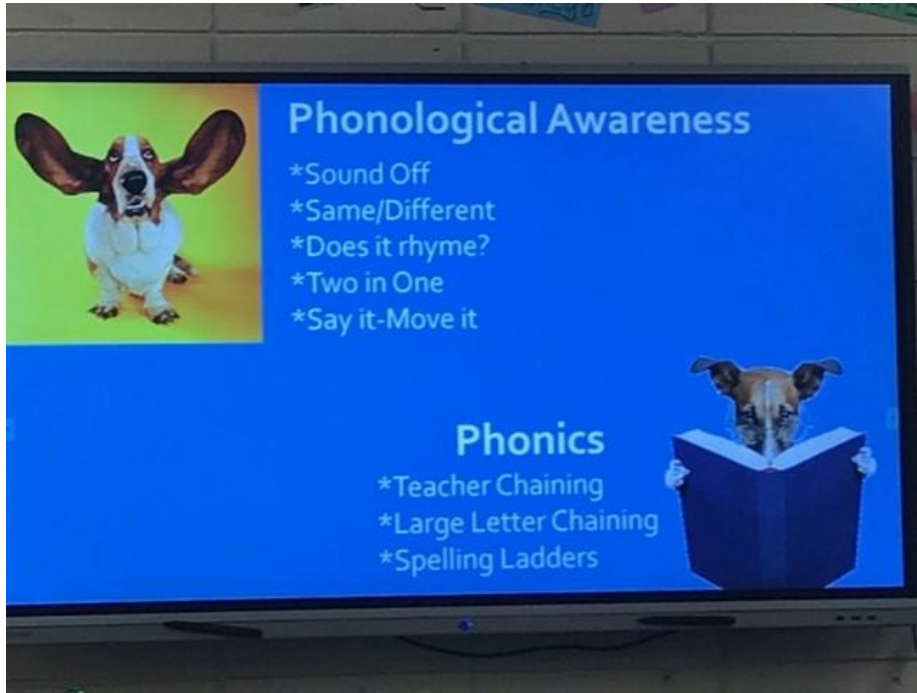
- **Preliminary investment.** The report prompted conversations that led to \$2 million in new state funding from the Louisiana legislature.
- **K-2 Pilots.** In 2020-2021 the Department is developing, implementing, and analyzing data from the K-2 Literacy Coaching Pilot. During 2020-2021 two state-level literacy coordinators (contractual) are supporting 2-3 school systems and leading a cohort of 6 school-level literacy coaches.



# K-2 Literacy Coaching Pilot



# K-2 Literacy Coaching Pilot

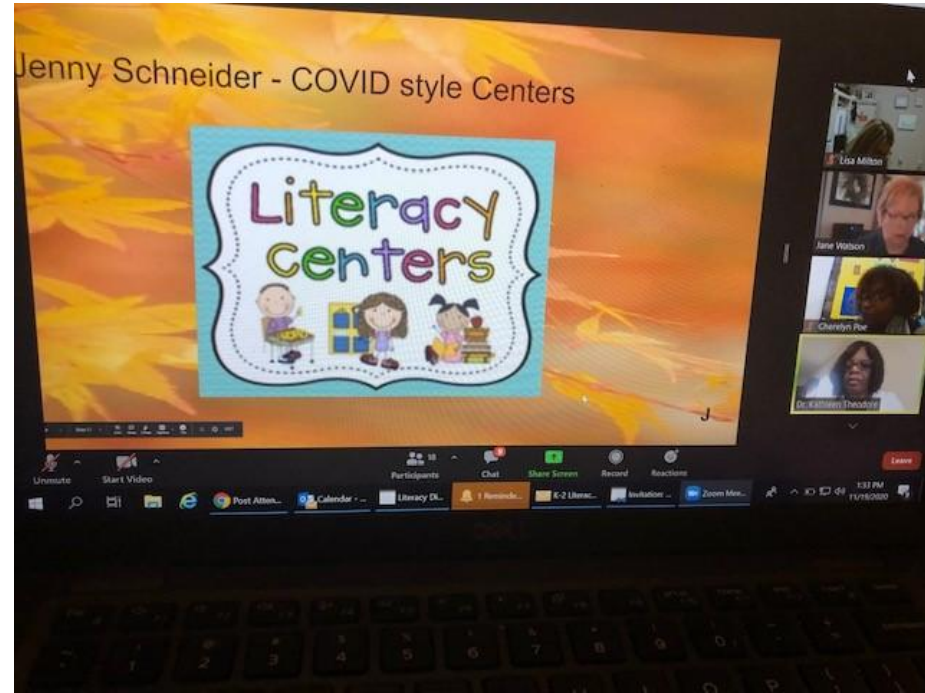


**Phonological Awareness**

- \*Sound Off
- \*Same/Different
- \*Does it rhyme?
- \*Two in One
- \*Say it-Move it

**Phonics**

- \*Teacher Chaining
- \*Large Letter Chaining
- \*Spelling Ladders



Jenny Schneider - COVID style Centers

**Literacy Centers**

Participants: 10

Unmute Start Video Participants Chat Share Screen Record Reactions

1 Remo... K-2 Liter... Evaluation... Zoom Me...

132 PM 1/15/2020

Leave

Lois Milton  
Jane Watson  
Charlynn Poe  
Dr. Katherine Theodore

# Building on Progress

Early literacy should focus on building on the progress of 2020-2021.

- **K-2 Pilots.** The long-term goal for the 2024-2025 school year is to have full-scale implementation of the K-2 Literacy Coaching Model. In full-scale implementation there is a school-level coach in every CIR and UIR school to support K-2 reading teachers.
- **K-2 Accountability.** Louisiana has a long history of accountability aligned to the academic focus on grades 3-12 and has recently expanded accountability to publicly-funded early childhood programs. However, Louisiana currently lacks measures to reflect the success of grades K to 2. The following are the goals of K-2 Accountability System development:
  - design a K-2 accountability system aligned to Department's academic strategy and state standards that bridges the gap between ECE and 3-12 accountability;
  - pilot, refine, and scale K-2 accountability to reach full implementation by no later than 2022-2023, with ratings with stakes attached released no later than Fall 2023; and
  - Design and implement an improvement strategy aligned to ratings that drives literacy achievement for children in K-2 classrooms.

# Continued Commitment

Ensuring that Louisiana students are proficient readers is going to require commitment.

- The Commission proposes that the Early Literacy Commission continues to meet and monitor the status of the implementation of its detailed recommendations.
- The Commission strongly reaffirms its January 2020 recommendation on state investment: Dedicate \$15 annually.



# Next Steps

- Public Comment
- Endorsement of Recommendations
- Submitting the Report





Looking Ahead

# Looking Ahead

Report addendum formatted, sent to commission members, and submitted

Email [chanda.johnson@la.gov](mailto:chanda.johnson@la.gov) with questions.

# Adjournment