

FLOYD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
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Linda C. Gearheart, Board Chair - District 1
William Newsome, Jr., Vice-Chair - District 3
Dr. Chandra Varia, Member- District 2
Keith Smallwood, Member - District 4
Steve Slone, Member - District 5

Consent Agenda Item (Action Item): Consider and approve Teacher Stipends in the amount of \$1,500 per teacher for participation in the Kentucky Department of Education LETRS program.

Applicable State or Regulations: Board policy states that only the board of education can approve additional funding for teachers.

Fiscal/Budgetary Impact: Funding source to be utilized school Level Title I Pd Funds. Each teacher, thirty two total, will receive a stipend of \$1,500 for a total cost of \$48,000.

History/Background: The Kentucky Department of Education offered a comprehensive learning opportunity beginning in the summer of 2022 for teachers in the primary grades across the state to learn about the Science of learning to read. This training is evidence-based and participants learn why and how students learn to read, stumbling blocks to the process of learning to read and how to effectively deliver Reading instruction to beginning readers. Thirty-two Floyd County educators are participating in this high-quality learning opportunity. These teachers are completing comprehensive modules that deepen their understanding of the Science behind Reading and require a great deal of work on their own time beyond the school day. Floyd County School students will benefit from having highly equipped teachers in the classroom to teach Reading skills to early readers K-2, thus having a positive impact upon students throughout their educational careers as effective Reading skills are essential for student success.

Recommended Action: Consider and approve Teacher Stipends for participation in the Kentucky Department of Education LETRS program.

Contact Person(s): Rachel Crider & Serena Anderson

N/A
Principal

Rachel Crider
Director

Anna W. Shepherd
Superintendent

Serena Anderson

Date:

READING IS A LIFE-LONG SKILL

*******A GREAT WAY TO CLOSE GAPS in READING!** K-5 Reading Academies

“Kentucky’s youngest readers must have every opportunity to develop their literacy skills, but as our schools tackle unprecedented challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic, teachers must have unprecedented support. In response to this critical need, the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) has a new, exciting partnership to bring the Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) professional learning (PL) to educators across the Commonwealth, called the Kentucky Reading Academies.” *(Statement from KDE)*

LETRS is an **EXCELLENT** opportunity to provide teachers the professional development they need to learn how to teach reading and to close reading gaps.

DISTRICT CONTACT: Mrs. Serena Anderson, Executive Officer for Instruction,
Serena.anderson@floyd.kyschools.us; Ext. 5542

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS NEEDED:

Principals and Leadership at the School Level need to choose (12) K – 5 teachers to invite into the reading academies. The idea is to have **two teachers** per grade level. Teachers will partner and support their grade level teaching with implementation of the (LETRS) Reading Academy skills and strategies.

*****Submit names to the District by May 2, 2022 (Submission Form available).**

****Teachers must complete the registration for the LETRS Reading Academy. It is a simple process. In this registration, teachers will learn the guidelines for a two year (2year) commitment.**

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdFAaktBbw8XxfE07Y_mYEkFaFRlgVOWYfoybqJD-f1QAIVAg/viewform

District will provide: A total stipend of **\$1,500** to be awarded as \$750 for each year. Stipend is to be awarded at the end of the completion of the 2023 and 2024 school years.

If a teacher cannot complete the training for some unknown reason, the stipend or a percentage of the stipend will be awarded to KDE. This is a KDE requirement to ensure that people are truly making a commitment.

Additional Requirements for School Leadership and Teacher:

The teacher is being trained with specific skills to support his/her grade level. Therefore, the teacher should remain in this same grade level for the two years of training and onward for at least five years to fully impact ALL grades (two years of training + three years).

DISTRICT SUBMISSION FORM

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School Name: _____

Principal or Leadership: Aunaw, Shepherd

*****Please List Teachers Names in the table below. Return by May 2, 2022, to S. Anderson.**

Kindergarten	Kindergarten	First Grade	First Grade
Second Grade	Second Grade	Third Grade	Third Grade
Fourth Grade	Fourth Grade	Fifth Grade	Fifth Grade

https://www.lexialearning.com/user_area/uploads/LETSSuiteBrochure_Feb2022.pdf

The above link to the LETRS brochure provides you with helpful information overall. See pages 10-11 for a breakdown of the units of study for this Professional Development to learn reading strategies.

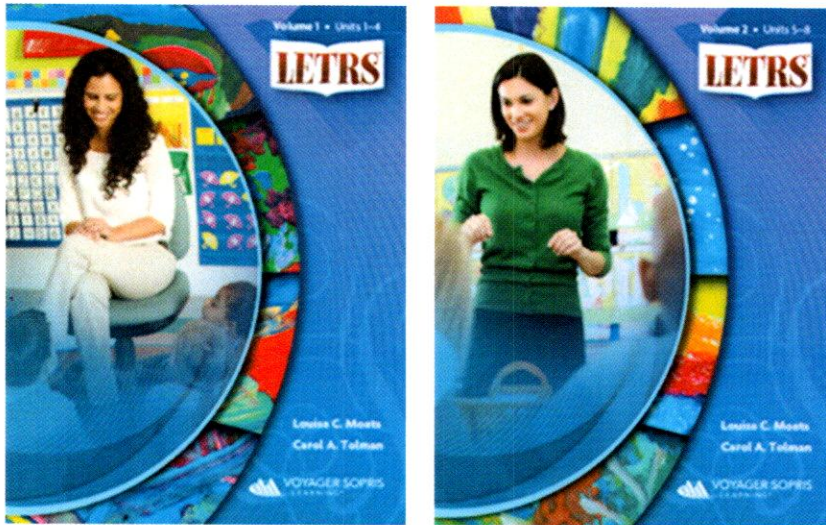
Information in the link below will tell you what is included in the LETRS course of study.

[https://help.lexialearning.com/s/article/What-is-LETRS#what is included](https://help.lexialearning.com/s/article/What-is-LETRS#what_is_included)

What is included in the LETRS course of study?

LETRS is composed of two volumes of content: Volume 1 (Units 1-4) and Volume 2 (Units 5-8). See [Learning Outcomes by Unit for Volume 1 and 2](#). Each unit is organized around four components that take deep, meaningful research and bridge that research into practice in the classroom: **LETRS Online Learning Platform**, **LETRS Bridge to Practice**, **LETRS Participant Manual**, and **LETRS Unit Trainings** (for customers who purchased professional learning sessions).

- **LETRS Online Learning Platform** — Each unit in the online learning platform consists of sessions. Units 1-4 each have eight sessions, and Units 5-8 each have six sessions. To reinforce your understanding, you will complete activities throughout each session. Each online session ends with a Check for Understanding assessment.
- **LETRS Bridge to Practice activities** — Each online session has a Bridge to Practice activity, where you'll be guided to transfer what you learned to your classroom.
- **LETRS Participant Manual** — The printed participant manual is a companion to the online content. You can reference the manual before, during, or after completing the online content and activities. (see images below).



- **LETRS Unit Professional Learning Sessions** (for customers who purchased Professional Learning Sessions) — The eight professional learning sessions align to the eight units of content in the online platform and participant manual. Each professional learning session is a one-day, six-hour training led by a highly-qualified LETRS facilitator. During a professional learning session, you will have the opportunity to:
 - Review what you've learned so far.
 - Take a deeper dive into LETRS content and theoretical models.
 - Engage in interactive activities to practice what you've learned.
 - Ask questions about the content you've learned so far.

How long does it take to complete LETRS?

The time to complete the reading, online, and Bridge to Practice activities will vary, but as a rough guide, each volume takes approximately 48-60 hours of individual study to complete.

- **Online course** (including reading/participant manual): approximately eight hours per unit.
- **Bridge to Practice** application activities (online course): approximately two and a half hours per unit.
- **Face-to-Face/Live Online Unit Professional Learning Sessions**: six hours per unit.