



To: Mr. Watts, Superintendent
Ms. Malone, Chairperson of the Board
Members of Newport Board of Education

January 17, 2025

Phonics for Reading Implementation (Grades 3-6):

Overview of the Program:

This year, our special education staff implemented the **Phonics for Reading** program to provide targeted intervention for students in grades 3 through 6 who require additional support in foundational reading skills. This evidence-based program focuses on improving decoding, fluency, and comprehension, equipping students with the tools they need to succeed in classroom reading and broader academic tasks.

How Phonics for Reading Helps Students in the Classroom:

1. Foundational Skill Development:

- Teachers deliver explicit instruction in phonics and phonemic awareness, teaching students how to decode words accurately and fluently.
- Students build a strong understanding of word patterns and syllable structures, which improves their ability to read unfamiliar words with confidence.

2. Engaging and Multi-Sensory Instruction:

- Teachers use hands-on and multi-sensory techniques, such as manipulating letter tiles, blending sounds, and visual aids, to reinforce learning.
- These methods engage students actively in their learning and address diverse learning styles.

3. Improved Fluency and Comprehension:

- As students master foundational skills, they become more fluent readers, allowing them to focus on comprehension during classroom reading activities.
 - Students are better equipped to tackle grade-level texts and participate in discussions or written responses based on what they've read.
-

4. **Progress Monitoring and Targeted Support:**

- Teachers use ongoing assessments embedded in the program to track individual student progress.
- Instruction is adjusted in real-time to address gaps or provide enrichment, ensuring every student continues to grow.

Alignment with Other Programs:

The skills gained through **Reading Plus** directly complement other literacy programs like Orton-Gillingham by building the foundational skills necessary for students to succeed in more advanced reading tasks, such as silent reading fluency and vocabulary development. Together, these programs provide a comprehensive approach to literacy intervention.

Current Data for 2024-25 School Year:

- Students Receiving Instruction through Reading Plus: 47
- Staff Implementing Program: 5
- Grades 3-5

KY Registration of Kentucky Students Who Are Legally Blind and Visually Impaired

Purpose:

The Kentucky Registration of Students Who Are Legally Blind and Visually Impaired is conducted annually to identify and document students requiring specialized educational support due to visual impairments. This registration ensures appropriate services, resources, and funding are allocated to meet the unique needs of these students.

Process:

1. **Identification and Documentation:**

- Collaboration with teachers, school nurses, and vision specialists to identify students meeting the criteria for legal blindness or visual impairment.
- Verification of medical documentation and eligibility criteria as outlined by state guidelines is collected.

2. **Data Submission:**

- Input of accurate and complete student data into the state registration system, including demographic information, educational needs, and any additional accommodations required.

3. **Review and Confirmation:**

- Final verification of all submissions to ensure compliance with state requirements and accuracy of records occurred on 1/17/2025.

Current Data for 2025 SY:

- **Number of Students Registered:** 3
 - **Grade Levels Represented:** K-12
 - **Types of Support Provided:**
 - Braille instruction
 - Orientation and mobility training
 - Assistive technology for visual impairment
 - Classroom accommodations and modifications
-

Implications:

- The registration ensures that students receive appropriate state and federal resources, including access to specialized instructional materials (e.g., braille books, large-print texts) and special technology (large computer screens, etc.).
- It enables the district to plan effectively for professional development, additional staffing needs, and necessary equipment to support visually impaired students. Equipment, devices, and other materials that students need to access the general curriculum can be borrowed from KIMRC Center of KY.

Special Education Service Programming Rates:

- Special Education Population
217 Students
- Related Service Enrollments:
Speech & Language- 108
Occupational Therapy – 33
Physical Therapy – 7
Orientation & Mobility- 1
Mental Health Therapy- 43

Alternate Service Locations:

- Restore Program – 8
- Home/Private School Students – 1
- Newport School of Innovation- 4
- Campbell Regional Detention -12

504 Programming Rates – 32 Students

- NPS- 5
- NIS – 15
- NHS – 12
- NSOI- 0

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Swanson
