

## **Huntingdon Special School District**

### **Foundational Literacy Skills Plan**

**Approved: June 1, 2021**

**Updated: December 21, 2023**

This Foundational Literacy Skills Plan has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Education and meets the requirements of the *Tennessee Literacy Success Act*. All portions of the Foundational Literacy Skills plan were submitted to the department and approved. To view the supplemental artifacts, please contact the district directly.

#### **Daily Foundational Literacy Skills Instruction in Grades K-2**

Our district uses McGraw Hill's Wonders ELA curriculum which is grounded in the science of reading and aligned to Tennessee ELA standards as approved by the state Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission. The Wonders curriculum includes foundational skills as the primary form of instruction. Huntingdon Primary School's literacy blocks for grades Kindergarten through second grade are 150 minutes total with 90 minutes devoted to knowledge instruction and 60 minutes for foundational skills instruction. Our foundational skills instruction contains activities and practices that teach the following skills: Phonological Awareness (recognizing rhyming words; blending/segmenting compound words; blending/segmenting/counting syllables; segmenting/counting phonemes; segmenting compound words; and isolating individual phonemes), Phonemic Awareness, Fluency, Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Phonics (identifying individual letter sounds, decoding regular words, decoding words with common rime families, identifying sounds for letter combinations, decoding one-syllable words with letter combinations, identifying common spellings for long and short vowel sounds, knowing/applying final -e conventions, reading words with r-controlled vowels, reading words with l-controlled vowels, reading words with inflected endings, reading words with prefixes and suffixes, reading two syllable words with various syllable types, reading multisyllabic words, and applying grade-level phonics and word analysis in text).

#### **Daily Foundational Literacy Skills Instruction in Grades 3-5**

Our district uses the Wit and Wisdom ELA curriculum for grades three through five which is grounded in the science of reading and aligned to Tennessee ELA standards as approved by the state Textbook and Instructional Materials Quality Commission. The curriculum covers reading and writing standards while integrating foundational skills during a deep dive each day. Our 3rd - 5th grade students have between 80 and 90 minutes of daily ELA instruction. Each 80 to 90 minute lesson has a focus lesson that integrates foundational literacy skills such as vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency throughout, then has an additional 15 minute lesson which dives deeper into foundational skills using texts from the main lesson. The deep dive portion of each lesson includes activities on morphology, grammar, and spelling. Small group instruction within the instructional block is used to address fluency and decoding skills at each student's individual level.

### **Approved Instructional Materials for Grades K-2**

McGraw Hill - K-5 Wonders

### **Approved Instructional Materials for Grades 3-5**

Great Minds - 3-5 Wit and Wisdom

### **Universal Reading Screener for Grades K-5. This screener complies with RTI<sup>2</sup> and Say Dyslexia requirements.**

AimswEB Plus is the web-based formative assessment tool used as the universal reading screener in Kindergarten through fifth grade at Huntingdon Special School District. AIMSweb plus complies with RTI<sup>2</sup> and Say Dyslexia requirements. We utilize the screener to assess reading and math in the fall, winter, and spring for all students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

### **Intervention Structure and Supports**

Students scoring within the 11th and 25th percentile on AIMSweb benchmark testing are placed in Tier II intervention. Those interventions are delivered by the child's classroom teacher. After Tier II identification, those students are administered survey level assessments to determine specific skill deficits. Teachers collaborate with our school's reading specialist to determine appropriate lessons to address those deficiencies. Students are progress monitored using AIMSweb plus on a biweekly basis. Students scoring below the 10th percentile on Benchmark testing are placed in Tier III intervention. Those interventions are delivered by our school reading specialist. Again, after Tier III identification those students are administered survey level assessments to determine specific skill deficits. Students in Tier III are progress monitored using AIMSweb plus on a weekly basis. Both Tier II and Tier III interventions can come from a variety of sources depending on the need of each student. Data teams meet at 6 week intervals to analyze student progress and discuss possible changes to interventions.

### **Parent Notification Plan/Home Literacy Reports**

Our district notifies parents in grades K-5 if their child is "at risk" for or has a significant reading deficiency immediately following fall AIMSweb Benchmark testing. Student scores are communicated through reports in parent friendly language which explain student skill gaps and instructional needs. Parents are informed of what intervention their child will receive and when the intervention will begin. Parents are notified of their child's progress and any needed changes to the current intervention plan throughout the year based on updated data. The parent notification will include information regarding free resources they can access to support their child's literacy growth at home as well as information about the importance of being able to read by the end of 3rd grade. These parent notifications are sent home a minimum of three times per year in grades K-3, and a minimum of twice yearly in grades 4 & 5. In addition to the parent notification letter, an aimsweb data report (written in parent friendly language) is sent home

outlining the student's skill gaps and skill strengths. Our current foundational literacy curriculum contains weekly letters to inform families about skills students will be learning as well.

### **Professional Development Plan**

Our K-5 teachers at Huntingdon Special School District will participate in Reading 360 Early Literacy online and in-person training. During the first week of online training, teachers will independently complete modules and must successfully pass a certification test. The second week of training will be completed in-person at various times throughout the summer. The goal of participating in these trainings is to gain a deeper understanding of our adopted foundational skills curriculum, Wonders and the Tennessee Foundational Skills Curriculum Supplement.