

October 31, 2024

Dear State Superintendent,

The following correspondence is to provide an update regarding the implementation of [DC Law 23-191, Addressing Dyslexia and Other Reading Difficulties Amendment Act of 2020](#) (DC Official Code § 38–2581.01 *et seq.*) In accordance with the legislation, please find information below for [DC Public Schools](#) as of [October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024](#)

### I. UNIVERSAL SCREENING

Per the legislation, all DC public and public charter schools must select and implement a universal screener for students in kindergarten through grade 2. The purpose of this screener is to identify students who may be at-risk for dyslexia or other reading difficulties. The legislation requires that the following factors be screened for:

- Phonological/Phonemic awareness;
- Rapid automatized naming skills;
- Correspondence between sounds and letters; and
- Decoding.

#### SCREENER IMPLEMENTED BY LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY (LEA):

Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE): [Kindergarten-Second Grade Universal Screener List](#)  
[Kindergarten – Second Grade Universal Screeners](#)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acadience Reading K-6                | <input type="checkbox"/> aimswebPlus                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EarlyBird                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Fastbridge (aReading, CBMreading, earlyReading) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mClass DIBELS 8th Edition | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

#### CERTIFICATION OF SCREENER IMPLEMENTATION PLANS FOR 2023-24 School Year:

By checking this box, I certify that <b>all kindergarten through grade 2 students</b> were screened in the beginning, middle, and end of the 2023-24 school year and that intervention instruction was provided to explicitly address the area of need identified by the screener.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
By checking this box, I certify that <b>written notification was sent to the parent or guardian of all students identified as being at risk for reading difficulties</b> and that these notifications included the screener results, the supplemental reading instruction that was provided to that student, and a request for a meeting to discuss individualized student support.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## II. DYSLEXIA AWARENESS TRAINING

The legislation specifies that **all DC educators are required to complete Dyslexia Awareness training modules**. OSSE has made the training modules available via the [Learning Management System \(LMS\)](#).

OSSE defines an **educator as a professional directly involved in the regular creation of learning environments that foster the development of students**.

- **INCLUDES** Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Classroom Assistants, School Administrators (Principals, Vice Principals, Academic Directors), Instructional Specialists (Coaches, Literacy Specialists, English learner [EL] Specialists), Instructional Coordinators and Supervisors, Librarians/Media Specialists, School Counselors/Directors, Special Education Teachers and Support Staff: Audiologists, Psychologists, Physical Education Teachers, Therapeutic Recreation Specialists, Speech-language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Social Workers, and Guidance Counselors
- **EXCLUDES** LEA Administrators (Chief Executive Officers, Chief Financial Officers, Executive Directors) LEA Administrative Support Staff, School Administrative Support Staff, Student Support Staff (Secretarial Staff and other Non-Academic Positions).

### CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING COMPLETION:

By checking this box, <b>all educators</b> have completed the dyslexia awareness module aligned to their grade-band.	<input type="checkbox"/>
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## III. K-2 TRAINING ON READING DIFFICULTIES

Pursuant to Section (a)(1) general educators working with students in kindergarten through second grade will have completed professional development on reading difficulties. This training can be provided by OSSE, an LEA, or a third party with expertise in reading and reading difficulties.

OSSE defines a general K-2 **educator as a professional directly involved in the regular creation of learning environments that foster the development of students in K-2**.

- **INCLUDES:** K-2 Teachers, Coaches, Academic Directors, Instructional Coordinators and Supervisors, Special Educators serving K-2 students, Reading Specialists and Interventionists, EL Specialists.

This professional development requirement was provided by:

- OSSE's K-2 Reading Difficulties Training
- By the LEA
- By a third party

**CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING COMPLETION:**

By checking this box, I certify that <b>all general educators working with students in kindergarten through second grade</b> have satisfactorily completed professional development on reading difficulties provided by OSSE, an LEA, or a third-party with an expertise in reading and reading difficulties.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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**IV. SCIENCE-BASED LITERACY PROGRAM**

Per the legislation, beginning with the 2024-25 school year, each LEA shall adopt a science-based reading program. OSSE defines “adopt” to mean “acquire, purchase, or develop” and “implement” to mean “trained staff and regularly use to drive instruction.”

<b>OPTION 1:</b> [LEA name] currently has or plans to adopt a science-based literacy program [Name of Program]	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OPTION 2:</b> DC Public Schools has submitted evidence of alignment for Passport to Learning, Morpheme Magic, and small-group instructional tools using OSSE’s High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) rubric.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**V. COMPLIANCE SUMMARY**

Please select from the options below to summarize the status of compliance for DC Public Schools.

<b>OPTION 1:</b> [LEA name] has completed all necessary steps and is <b>fully in compliance</b> with the <a href="#">DC Law 23-191 (DC Official Code § 38-2581.01 et seq.)</a> as of [Date].	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>OPTION 2:</b> DC Public Schools has <b>not</b> completed all necessary steps and is <b>out of compliance</b> with the <a href="#">DC Law 23-191 ((DC Official Code § 38-2581.01 et seq.)</a> as of <b>October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*If OPTION 2 is selected and an LEA has failed to comply with the requirements of the legislation, the LEA shall state the name of the school, the deficiency and timeline, including specific dates and milestones for curing said deficiency on an attached document.*

**VI. SIGNATURE**

Name of LEA Representative: Dr. Helen Behr

Signature of LEA Representative: Helen Behr

Date: 10-31-24

Name of LEA Representative: Dr. Shareen Cruz

Signature of LEA Representative: Shareen Cruz

Date: Oct 30, 2024