



Standards-Based Instruction

By Dr. Liann Hanson, Director of Standards-Based Instruction

K-5 Literacy Updates

In 2021, the 67th Legislative Assembly passed the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) section [15.1-21-12.1](#) requiring teachers and principals serving students in grades K-3 to:

1. Receive training in scientifically-based reading instruction practices.
2. Utilize scientifically-based instructional materials and approaches.

As a district, the decision was made to train all of our kindergarten-fifth grade teachers with these research-based strategies.

For students to be proficient in reading, instruction must begin at the foundational level, which includes skills related to word recognition and language comprehension. Fargo Public Schools is committed to enhancing core instructional programming and strategies to improve learning outcomes for each student. To fulfill the requirements of the NDCC 15.1-21-12.1 and to ensure equitable access to reading instruction, FPS will implement a 2-year professional development plan.

We have updated information regarding the training that will be provided to our K-5 staff starting in January 2023. With the support of the South East Education Cooperative (SEEC), we will be offering:

- [A Shared Responsibility](#) to content teachers that do not directly teach literacy
- [Reaching All Learners](#) to K-5 Classroom Teachers, Reading Specialists, Special Ed Teachers (including SLPs), Special Ed Coaches, Instructional Coaches, ESSER Coaches, Administration, Librarians, G/T, EL, School Psychologists

Reaching all Learners has decreased in hours from 30 hours total to 20 hours total. We have adjusted our calendar to reflect that change. You can find the updated plan of Professional Development for K-5 staff [HERE](#).

We will also be working with groups of teachers, coaches, and administrators throughout the year on our district's literacy plan, literacy data, and how components of research-based strategies fit with the philosophy of literacy instruction in Fargo Public Schools.

Key literacy folks that will support this work and will help roll out changes, learning, and support are:

- Lisa Roeske, K-5 Literacy Facilitator
- Susan Peterson, K-5 Intervention Facilitator
- Jen Hess, Coordinator of Instructional Resources and Library Programming
- Dr. Jen Sahr, Coordinator of MTSS and Mental Health
- Lindsay Seelig, Coordinator of K-12 Literacy
- Dr. Liann Hanson, Director of Standards Based Instruction

Please reach out with questions or areas of support!

