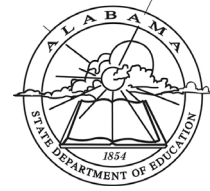




STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

July 2, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EJM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Alabama Literacy Task Force (LTF) Recommendations for K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs

The *Alabama Literacy Act* states each local education agency (LEA) shall offer a comprehensive core reading program to all students based on the science of reading, which develops foundational reading skills.¹ In addition, LEAs may not use any curriculum for public K-3 students that does not have instructional time included.

In addition to Assessment Systems and Intervention Programs, the Literacy Task Force (LTF) is also charged with providing recommendations for Comprehensive Core Reading Programs.² Multiple K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs were submitted for consideration as part of a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) process by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and were reviewed by a subcommittee of the LTF in order to assess their alignment with the science of reading.

After thorough review of the K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs, the LTF recommended two K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs:

- [Amplify-Core Knowledge Language Arts \(CKLA\)](#)
- [McGraw Hill-Open Court Reading](#)

As part of their review process, the LTF considered, among other factors, the following:

- Alignment to specific early literacy requirements as outlined in the *Alabama Literacy Act*.
- Alignment to the Science of Reading as determined by [The Reading League's Curriculum Evaluation Tool](#).

These recommendations should help guide and support your utilization of available funding to purchase high-quality instructional materials as soon as this year. The standard ELA textbook adoption process will continue and will result in a full ELA textbook list for both primary and supplemental resources to be presented to the State Board of Education prior to the 2022-2023 school year.

If you need further assistance from the ALSDE with K-3 Comprehensive Core Reading Programs recommendations, please contact Mrs. Bonnie Short with the Alabama Reading Initiative by telephone at (334) 694-4632 or by email at bonnie.short@alsde.edu.

EJM/BS

cc: Chief School Financial Officers
Alabama Literacy Task Force
Dr. Elisabeth Davis
Mrs. Bonnie Short

Grades K-3 Elementary Principals
Mrs. Angela Martin
Mr. Andy Craig

FY21-2093

¹Ala. Code Section 16-6G-5(a).

²Ala. Code Section 16-6G-3(a).

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