



The Academic Insider

Shelby County Board of Education Academic Performance Committee Update



MEETING SUMMARY

On October 5, the Academic Performance Committee met to discuss various items including October KPIs, the Literacy Implementation Network, Teacher Created Materials®, Reading Horizons Elevate®, and more.



OCTOBER KPIs

For the month of October, KPIs are aligned to the District's Priority 1 and Priority 2 of Strengthening Early Literacy and Improving Secondary Readiness. Findings presented during the meeting revealed that the majority of schools, regardless of grades served, either saw a decline or no change in their TVAAS composite score.

A key figure presented that both SCS and the state saw declines in proficiency rates (On Track and Mastered) in ELA and math in grades 3-8 from 2019 to 2021. The largest declines were in math proficiency, where the percentage of students in the lowest performing category almost doubled for SCS students.

[Click here](#) to read October KPIs in full.

TURNAROUND PILOT PROGRAM

Recommendations were made for the Board to approve the 18-month contract to Behavior Services of Mid-South to provide ongoing professional development and training of trauma-informed curriculum and interventions. SCS is extending the existing contract to provide social and emotional support training for all newly onboarded Pre-K teachers and assistants.



Committee Chair
Miska Clay Bibbs

SCS BOARD MEMBERS



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LITERACY IMPLEMENTATION NETWORK

Guided by The New Teacher Project (TNTP), SCS was one of 48 school districts selected to receive the High-Quality Instructional Materials (TNTP) Literacy Network Grant as a part of the Reading 360 Initiative offered by the TN Department of Education. As a participant in the network, SCS will:

- Attend network meetings and seminars guided by TNTP.
- Conduct district and school leader walkthroughs.
- Participate in surveys and assessments.
- Share, discuss, and evaluate data from walkthroughs, surveys, and assessments with other districts in the network as guided by TNTP to collectively enhance each participating district's literacy instruction practices.

Recommendations were made for the Board to approve the five-year contract with TNTP.

READING HORIZONS ELEVATE SOFTWARE

Recommendations were made for the Board to approve the one-year contract for the Reading Horizons Elevate® software. Using assessment-driven instruction to help older students get on track with reading, the software program provides additional instruction on the specific skills that are preventing a student's reading success.

Reading Horizons Elevate® software meets a variety of student needs as it:

- Provides individualized reading instruction that targets student reading gaps
- Monitors student progress and alerts teachers when there is a need for more targeted intervention and direct instruction in literacy skills
- Allows students to learn independently at their own pace
- Offers online access to accelerate learning for students desiring extra practice at home

Senior Reading Advisors in 17 middle and high schools will implement the direct instruction and assign students lessons in the software that are aligned to their individual literacy needs.



LITERACY KITS FOR SPECIALIZED EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

Recommendations were made for the Board to approve the purchase of 750 Specialized Education Assistant (SEA) Literacy Kits. Produced by Teacher Created Materials®, they are designed for use during small group instruction. The new kits will include a webinar that explains and demonstrates how to use the materials to deliver high-quality learning.

- 750 K-2 SEAs will be equipped with a literacy kit that includes manipulatives, resources, and materials to engage small groups of students in instruction and intervention in phonemic awareness, phonics, word recognition, and fluency.
- K-2 SEAs in 90 elementary and K-8 schools will utilize the small group literacy kits to implement the foundational literacy skills instruction aligned to students' literacy needs.

For more information and to review the details of the committee reports, [click here.](#)

Committee meetings are for Board members to have in-depth discussions with District leadership on specific topics and provide feedback/input on items that affect the District. There are no official actions or votes during these meetings.