



**Literacy Adoption  
For  
Albemarle County Public  
Schools**

**September 14, 2023**

# Virginia Literacy Act

In 2022 the General Assembly passed the Virginia Literacy Act (VLA), to improve early literacy outcomes for Virginia's young learners.

Beginning in the 2024-2025 every student in grades K-3 will receive core literacy instruction based in the Science of Reading.

# Current State

- Our current program for K-5 is Being a Reader.
- VLA will require school divisions to use a VDOE-approved program for reading instruction beginning 24-25.
- Being a Reader did not make it onto the list of approved programs. Being a Reader scored well in many areas (developing comprehension and background knowledge, small group instruction, independent practice, writing) but did not meet expectations in areas related to phonological awareness and phonics.
- To shore up phonics instruction, K-3 classroom teachers are supplementing with UFLI (University of Florida Literacy Institute) Foundations, which is an explicit and systematic phonics program that follows an established scope and sequence.

# Purpose

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**ACPS follow a fair and transparent process to adopt a new ELA program for K-5 schools.**

Our goal is to follow a process that is:

- Transparent to parents/guardian and community members, staff, and the School Board;
- Inclusive - work to hear all voices;
- Thoughtful - think about today's learners and the learners who are coming to us in the future; and
- Clear process with attention to the details.

# Steering Committee

- Central Office Leadership
  - Dr. Chandra Hayes, Assist. Supt. of Instruction
  - Mrs. Michele Castner, Executive Director of Elementary Ed.
  - Mr. Craig Dommer, Director of Instruction, Tiered Supports
  - Mr. Chris Gillman, Director of Accountability and Research
  - Mr. Kley Todd, Assistant Director for Technology Integration
  - Mrs. Karen Heathcock, Lead Coach K-5 Language Arts
  - Dr. Andrea Blount, Lead Interventionist
  - Mr. Steven Turner, Equity Specialist
  - Mrs. Regina Anderson, Instructional Coach

# Division Adoption Committee

- 5 Building Level Administrators (Principals/Assistant Principals)
- 15 teachers (K-5)
- 15 SPED/EL teachers
- 15 interventionist (Reading Specialists)
- 5 Community Partners

# Adoption Timeline

9/20	10/25	11/29	1/3	1/11
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common understanding of process.</li><li>• Establish program non-negotiables.</li><li>• Review decision-making process</li><li>• Select program to review</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Share feedback from each group.</li><li>• Narrow down to two programs.</li><li>• Materials will be sent to each school so every teacher can go through kits and provide input.</li><li>• Materials in schools by 10/30.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review feedback from schools</li><li>• Have both publishers present to committee and answer questions.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure we have reviewed ALL feedback.</li><li>• Complete Textbook Adoption Forms for each of the two programs.</li><li>• Forward both to Dr. Hayes with committee's final recommendation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information item on School Board agenda.</li><li>• Program available to public for 30 days review and comment period.</li></ul>



Amplify CKLA

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**HMH INTO READING**

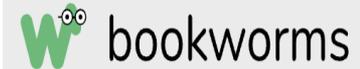
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