



West Orange
Public Schools

ELA Update: Council of PTAs

February 13, 2024



ENGAGE

EXPLORE

EXPLAIN

APPLY

SHARE

REFLECT

EXTEND

ELA Committee Purpose

To conduct a formal evaluation of the ELA program, to include curriculum, instructional components, instructional materials, and assessment, that:

- aligns to the NJSLS,
- addresses all of the pillars of instruction in literacy,
- through an evidence-based English Language Literacy program,
- that is grounded in scientific research literature,
- and effective strategies for instruction in reading and writing

Primary Considerations

- Current Research around Literacy
- Revision of ELA Standards
 - New 2023 ELA standards adopted October 4, 2023

- Student Performance Data
- ELA Committee / Teacher Feedback
- 5 Year Cycle Review

Process & Timelines

February - June 2023

- Began ELA Program Review
 - Literacy Framework
 - Instructional Materials
 - Curriculum Review

Fall 2023

- Action Planning
- Determining Lookfors
- Teacher Survey
- Selection of Review Tool (EdReports)
- Review of Instructional Materials

Winter 2024

- Pilots K-5, 1 classroom grade level per school
- Teacher Classroom Visits
- Material Review / Selection

Spring 2024

- Implementation Plan
- Professional Development
- Curriculum Development Begins*

Summer 2024

- Curriculum Development Continues

2024-2025 Implementation

Feedback & Program Types

Supplemental

- Supplemental materials are used in conjunction with core instructional materials of a course.
- Supplemental materials are also those that go beyond what is provided by the comprehensive core program because the core program does not provide enough instruction or practice in a key area to meet the needs of the students in a particular classroom or school.

For Example:

- Heggerty: Phonemic Awareness
- Foundations: Phonics

Core Comprehensive

- Primary instructional tool that teachers use to implement effective reading instruction
- Organizes the scope and sequence of lessons in which specific skills are taught so that teachers don't have to create or search as they go
- Aligned to grade level and State standards
- Addresses the needs of the diverse learners in the school
- Helps students move from "learning to read" to "reading to learn"
- Addresses the five critical components of literacy: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics and Word Study, Fluency, Vocabulary, Reading Comprehension, in addition to Grammar

VS.

Pillars, EdReports, Research

Key Areas of Interest

- Foundational Skills
- Building Knowledge
- Standards / Grade Level Alignment
- Diverse Learners
 - Multilingual
 - Special Education
 - Academic Support

5 Pillars of Reading and a Structured Literacy Approach

- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Comprehension +Grammar

Gateways

- Text Quality
- Alignment
- Usability

Instructional Materials Reviewed

December 14th Presentations

Core Comprehensive

- Fundamentals, Schoolwide
- Into Reading, HMH
- MyView, Savvas
- Wonders, McGraw Hill

Supplemental

- Magnetic Reading, iReady

Other Instructional Materials Explored

- CKLA Skills & Core Knowledge, Amplify (Core Comprehensive)
- SuperKids, Zaner-Bloser (Foundational Reading K-2)
- Wit & Wisdom, Great Minds (Reading K-5)

Supplemental Materials

- Really Great Reading, Great Minds (Phonics)
- 95 Phonics (Phonics & Word Study K-5)
- Morpheme Magic (Word Study)
- Conventions & Craft (Grammar)
- Patterns of Power (Grammar)

ELA Material Selection

TOP 2

MyView (1st choice)
Into Reading (2nd choice)

The instructional materials address the critical components of literacy:

- Phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, word study, writing and grammar
- Can be implemented alongside Heggerty and Foundations, if desired

Besides the general education population, the instructional materials also support:

- Multilingual learners, special education students and interventions for academic support

The instructional materials support / include:

- Tiered classroom interventions
- Differentiation of instruction (small groups)
- Diverse texts, genres & authors
- Bilingual resources
- Home connection

Benefits that are unique to the individual programs:

- Thematic units aligned to science and social studies for an interdisciplinary approach
- Alignment to Foundations
- Use of authentic texts
- Tabletop mini lessons for MLs
- SEL integration

Challenges that are unique to the individual programs:

- Professional development needed in phonics
- Writing supports
- Mentor texts and printing

Runner Up

not recommended

Wonders: Top Choice (0), 2nd Choice (1), 3rd Choice (9), Did not choose (8)

While the instructional materials:

- address the following critical components of literacy, and
- support diverse learners

Major challenges and cons that were noted include:

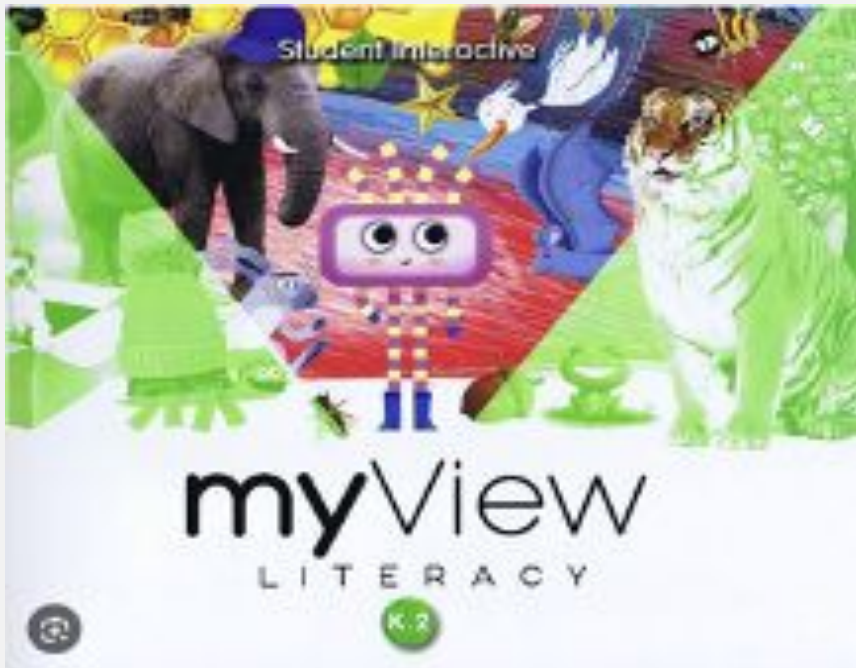
- Dated texts, i.e. Grade 1 big book published in 2004
- No explicit scope and sequence

- Lessons can be moved around
- Doesn't have all of the foundational components for the primary grades
- Not teacher friendly (manual is wordy and overwhelming)
- Appropriate for pull out resource but not for self-contained students
- Not enough comprehension or grammar
- Program is "heavy" and "bulky"
- Teachers will have a hard time using it, may have to pick and choose parts of the lessons
- Would have to abandon Foundations
- Writing not comprehensive

ELA Material Selection

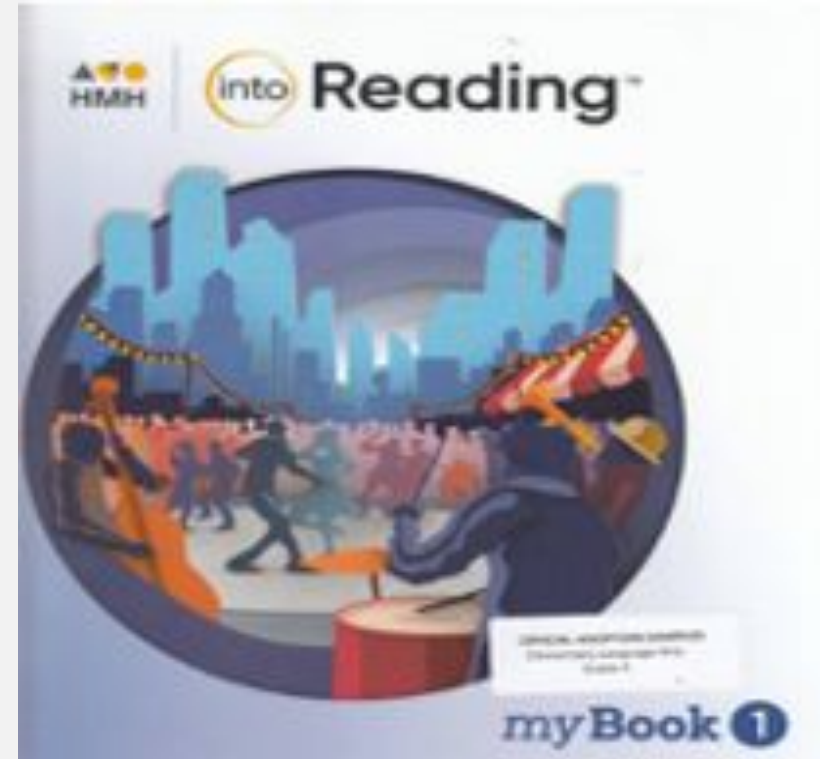
TOP 2

MyView, Savvas



EdReport

Into Reading, HMH



EdReport

A Note on Special Education & Multilingual Learners

The NJDOE requires the same curriculum for general education and special education students.

To meet the individual needs of SE and MLs, instruction can be differentiated and modified, to include additional supports and differentiated resources.

Curriculum Development

- Differentiation, specific to individual units, will be simultaneously developed for SE and MLs, alongside general education teachers.
- Professional development and guidance will be provided throughout the process.
- Differentiation will be specific to each unit.

Supplemental Resources

- Supplemental resources will be provided as needed for all ESL, multilevel, resource room and LLD classes.

ELA Material Review for Principals

February 7, 2024

- myView & IntoReading Presentations
- Instructional material review with consultants
- Grade level material review for pilot

Exploring ELA Materials / Classroom Visits

Pilots: myView & IntoReading

- February 12 through March 8
- Pilot launch training for teachers (February 7th)
- All grades are being piloted across the seven elementary schools
 - 1 grade level classroom per school
 - Gen Ed, Spec Ed
- Teacher Classroom Visits
- Teacher Survey: March 8th

PARENT NIGHTS

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

- 6pm Gregory
- 7:30pm Mt. Pleasant / St. Cloud

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

- 6pm Kelly / Redwood
- 7:30pm Virtual

Thursday, March 14, 2024

- 6pm Hazel
- 7:30pm Washington

- Overview of the new ELA Program
- Sample instructional materials and resources
- Family tools and digital platforms
- Feedback regarding what will be most helpful during transition process

Next Steps

- Writing
- DEAI Review
- Technology Platform & Assessment Review
- Professional Development Plan

February 22, 2024

- Review of digital platforms & diagnostics
- ELA Committee /Principals

March 4, 2024

- Unpacking Standards PD

April 15, 2024

- PD New ELA Program