



Early Literacy Screener Task Force

June 23, 2021
1:30-4:00 p.m.

Welcome

Co-Chair Trina Hall, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning, welcomed everyone to the meeting and shared an overview of the agenda for today.

Review Purpose of Task Force

- To select an Early Literacy Screener in response to 2018 legislation for implementation beginning fall 2021.
- Implementation and support within a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) structure.
- Keep students at the center as our ‘why’.

Survey Results to Date:

Data was shared showing the results of the initial review. The Screeners were narrowed down to three: mCLASS (DIBELS 8th) by Amplify, PALS by Illuminate, and i-Ready. These three surfaced as the top three regardless of how the results/input was sorted. It was determined that Amira and AimswebPlus would come off our list for selection.

Publisher Presentations

Members listened to publisher presentations of the following Early Literacy Screeners: PALS by Illuminate, mClass, and i-Ready. Each presentation was 40-minutes in length with time for questions. Members processed as a group following the presentations and generated strengths and questions about each. They did a rank order of our “in the moment” thinking related to our top choices. It was unanimous for i-Ready as the top choice, with PALS and mClass being mixed nearly equally as people’s number two and three.

Implementation

Members talked about implications related to:

- Budget:
 - Early Literacy Screener within budget set aside in LAP (state allowed 20/21),
 - RAN included or as separate (additional cost if separate)
- Staff
 - Literacy Specialists on Special Assignment (partial FTE) for district wide support,
 - Literacy Specialists (& others) as key leads within schools,
 - Connection to Foundational Skills, and
 - Connection to the District Assessment Plan for literacy.

Next Steps

- Deeper dive into finalists – beginning with i-Ready
- Develop details of implementation plan and staff training

Next Meeting: The Early Literacy Screener Task Force will resume meeting in fall 2021.

