



March 26, 2025

Dear Superintendent:

Thank you for submitting the Foundation Academy Reading Achievement Plan Progress Report. Upon review, the Department of Education and Workforce sees progress and appreciates your time and commitment in implementing the comprehensive literacy plan.

Below, the Department's literacy team has provided feedback and resources in response to the information provided in the Reading Achievement Plan Progress Report:

- We appreciate your community school's introspective response about the progress made on your Reading Achievement Plan. Specifically, the school notes the importance of ongoing support for the 120-minute ELA/Writing block, including training, resources, and coaching for teachers. However a balanced literacy framework including the use of instructional strategies such as guided reading, and reading and writing workshop are not evidence-based literacy practices grounded in the science of reading. Core instruction and intervention practices should be explicit, systematic, and structured. A balanced literacy framework does not align to the principles of an evidence-based structured literacy approach.

Funding guidance to explore:

- [Science of Reading and Allowable Use of Federal Funds](#)
- [Disadvantaged Pupil Impact Aid Funds](#) – Allowable uses of these funds include Reading Improvement and Intervention (which may include hiring literacy or reading specialists and coaches), professional development, and Academic Intervention for grades 6-12.)
- [Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant | Ohio Department of Education and Workforce](#)

Implementation Resources for School Leaders:

- [Implementation Resources for Literacy](#) (Guidebooks across each grade band)
- [Literacy for English Learners](#)

For professional learning in literacy:

- [Literacy Academy on Demand](#).

If you have any questions about the feedback and resources provided, please contact [ReadingPlans@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ReadingPlans@education.ohio.gov). Thank you for all of your efforts to increase literacy achievement for your students.

Sincerely,

Melissa Weber-Mayrer, Ph.D.  
Chief of Literacy Achievement and Academic Success