

MILESTONE 2

READING AT GRADE LEVEL BY THE 3rd GRADE

Lead Stakeholders:

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Indicators:

Data should be separated by gender as well as race and ethnicity.

- Percentage of students reading at grade level: by the end of the 3rd grade
- Percentage of students meeting English proficiency: grades 3-8
- Chronic absenteeism: grades 3-8

Background:

Low levels of 3rd grade students are achieving mastery of grade level reading skills. Some of the obstacles faced by 3rd grade students include deficient decoding skills and low oral language skills, thus decreasing their chances of academic success.

Creating an environment where literacy is practiced and encouraged at home is critical to increasing oral language and reading levels.

MBK Challenges:

- Decreasing group sizes for intervention services to targeted students from kindergarten through 3rd grade.
- Increasing parental involvement in schoolwide literacy activities.

Overarching Principles:

- Parent engagement from cradle to career
- Positive youth engagement to ensure youth involvement

MBK Actions for Transformation:

Develop a community-based reading intervention program in collaboration with the School System, 5000 Role Models, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Take Stock in Children, and Children's Trust to provide targeted, scripted intervention to struggling readers in grades K-3 in a small group setting.

- 1) Individual schools provided parent meetings and/or trainings for parents per their school improvement plans on the importance of literacy instruction school-wide.
- 2) i-Ready, FSA, and Growth Monitoring data is reviewed continuously throughout the school year to review grade-level trends, diagnose reading weaknesses, and plan for targeted differentiated instruction for students that are not reading on grade-level in grades K-3.
- 3) The Parent Academy provided 36 workshops to 780 caregivers on intervention strategies for parents to implement at home. Additionally, The Parents-Helping-Parents initiative provided a webinar series in three languages regarding literacy for elementary families – 341 attendees.
- 4) The Parent Academy provided 36 workshops to 780 caregivers on intervention strategies for parents to implement at home. In addition, a Read-at-Home plan was created for students who exhibit a substantial reading deficiency with strategies for parents to employ at home based on the student's reading deficiency.
- 5) Individual schools collaborate with community-based leaders and volunteers to work with selected grade-levels, teachers, and students.
- 6) School-site administrators reflect on the effectiveness of the intervention programs at their schools and adjust as necessary. In addition, the reading coaches and/or teacher leaders reflected on intervention best practices during the last professional development session held in May 2018.