

Professional Learning in Literacy 2022-2023

For the past two years, educators and administrators have been working collaboratively to improve student literacy across the district. Our major focus this year is the adoption of a new evidence-based K-5 Language Arts curriculum for 2023-2024 that embeds the Science of Reading research in all components of the curriculum. In order to implement a curriculum with fidelity, teachers must have ongoing professional development in highly effective reading instruction.

Monticello Public Schools is taking countless steps to help students achieve grade level proficiency in reading. Our teachers and administrators have dedicated many hours of training, learning from our Literacy Specialist, Lindsey Rettmann and their colleagues. They are also receiving intensive training and coaching from consultants from the University of Minnesota - CAREI (Center for Applied Research and Educational Improvement) and the Minnesota Department of Education (Chris Bretz, MDE Literacy Specialist). [Here is the professional learning plan](#) for January - June that outlines some of the intensive training our teaching staff is engaged in. We encourage anyone who wants to learn more about the history behind current reading instructional practices to listen to the podcast [Sold a Story](#) by Emily Hanford. We are following a [detailed timeline](#) for the K-5 Language Arts curriculum review process that will prepare our K-5 teachers to successfully implement new curriculum resources and deliver improved reading instruction next year.

Any questions or comments may be directed to Cindy Fasching, Director of Teaching and Learning at Monticello Public Schools. cynthia.fasching@monticello.k12.mn.us