

Read to Succeed Utah

Quarterly Brief | Spring 2026



Utah's early literacy work continues to strengthen instructional practice, leadership capacity, and family engagement across the state. This quarter highlights expanded coaching support, high-impact professional learning, and growing regional and higher education partnerships that reinforce effective Science of Reading implementation.

Key Highlights

Statewide Coaching and Professional Learning Deepen Instructional Impact: Coaching, leadership development, and expert-led professional learning continue to build system-wide capacity to support high-quality, Science of Reading-aligned instruction.

Regional and Higher Education Partnerships Expand Literacy Support: Family literacy events and higher education alignment efforts are strengthening collaboration across communities, institutions, and educator preparation programs.

Coaching and Implementation

- 31 early literacy coaches supporting K–3 teachers in 32 schools across 11 LEAs
- 1,590 unique coaching sessions delivered with LEA Literacy Leaders
- Coaching focuses on developing strong instructional leadership and strategic literacy systems
- Coaches are participating in ongoing training with Pati Montgomery to strengthen coaching practice

Leadership Development and Professional Learning

- The final Change Management cohort launched February 17–19 with 350 registered participants
- Cohort 3 will complete its final learning sessions June 15–16
- February sessions of the Collective Efficacy Institute, featuring Jenni Donohoo, were held in Salt Lake with 100+ participants
- An additional Collective Efficacy Institute is scheduled for June 9–10 in Salt Lake

Professional Learning Highlights

- Nearly 1,200 educators registered for the From the Science to the Classroom webinar series

this year; with remaining sessions will focus on oral language, vocabulary, and syntax

- Anita Archer provided In-person training for 150 literacy coaches and leaders and a statewide webinar engaging 500+ educators, focused on Explicit Instruction
- Ongoing collaboration with Jake Downs from Utah State University is supporting:
 - » 200+ grade 3–6 teachers and coaches
 - » Six comprehension-focused sessions during the school year
 - » A four-day summer institute in June

Community and Family Engagement

- Two regional literacy events co-hosted in San Juan and Iron County in February
- Additional events scheduled: Box Elder, Juab and Cache (March). And Davis and Ogden (April).
- Year 4 of Kids Read Now officially launched
 - » 108 eligible LEAs invited to participate
 - » Schools are onboarding, with students selecting books in March and April
- Partnership with Kids Read Now includes:
 - » Communities of Practice for local leaders
 - » Caregiver sessions offering practical family literacy strategies

Higher Education Alignment and Recognition

- Eight of nine Utah Educator Preparation Programs exceeded the 75% proficiency threshold
- Statewide pass rates increased 18% over the previous year, reaching 88%
- University and program awards have been presented to recognize excellence in Science of Reading implementation
- During the 2025–2026 school year, six Science of Reading awards have been presented statewide, with additional recognition forthcoming

Curriculum Review and Recognition

- 70 total curriculum submissions received during the current review cycle
- 14 appeals are under review, with final determinations expected by May 2026

For more information:

Julie Clark | Literacy and Early Learning Coordinator

Julie.clark@schools.utah.gov

The [Quarterly Brief](#) from prior editions are available for a comprehensive picture of what has been accomplished thus far.