

1 **R277. Education, Administration.**

2 **R277-326. Early Literacy Coaches.**

3 **R277-326-1. Authority~~[,]~~and Purpose~~[, and Oversight Category]~~.**

4 (1) This rule is authorized by:

5 (a) Utah Constitution Article X, Section 3, which vests general control and
6 supervision over public education in the Board;

7 (b) Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which allows the Board to make rules to execute
8 the Board's duties and responsibilities under the Utah Constitution and state law; and

9 (c) ~~[Subsection 53E-3-1002(2), which directs the Board to make rules to~~
10 allocate] Section 53F-2-424, which establishes funding for early literacy coaches, and
11 Subsection 53E-3-401(4), which authorizes the Board to make rules to administer and
12 allocate funding for early literacy coaches.

13 (2) The purpose of this rule is to establish criteria ~~[for assignment]~~ and minimum
14 requirements of early literacy coaches in accordance with Section ~~[53E-3-1002]~~53G-10-
15 804.

16 ~~[(3) This Rule R277-326 is categorized as exempt as described in Rule R277-~~
17 ~~444.]~~

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19 **R277-326-2. Definitions.**

20 "Early literacy coach" means ~~[a coach provided by the Board to assist LEAs with~~
21 ~~early literacy in accordance with Section 53E-3-1002]~~ an individual who provides early
22 literacy coaching to educators in kindergarten through grade 3 in accordance with
23 Section 53G-10-804.

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27 **R277-326-3. Early Literacy Coaches.**

28 (1)(a) ~~[The Superintendent shall provide, train, and assign early literacy coaches~~
29 ~~in accordance with Section 53E-3-1002]~~ Each regional education service agency and

30 each school district that is not within a regional education service agency shall provide,
31 train, and assign early literacy coaches in accordance with Section 53G-10-804.

32 (b) An early literacy coach shall meet minimum qualifications established by the
33 Superintendent.

34 (c) An early literacy coach ~~[may]~~shall perform responsibilities ~~[as directed by the~~
35 ~~Superintendent]~~consistent with Section 53G-10-804 and as directed by the employing
36 regional education service agency or school district including those identified in
37 ~~[Subsections 53E-3-1002(2)(c)(i) through (viii)]~~Subsections 53G-10-804(2)(b)(i) through
38 (viii), and beginning in the 2028-2029 school year, support the integration of social
39 studies content into literacy instruction to enhance reading comprehension and content
40 knowledge, in alignment with Section 53E-4-205.

41 (d) An early literacy coach may not undertake duties unrelated to literacy
42 coaches, as outlined in ~~[Subsection 53E-3-1002(2)(d)]~~Section 53G-10-804.

43 (2) An LEA receiving funds for early literacy coaches may not charge indirect
44 costs.

45 ~~[(3)(a) The Superintendent will determine which schools qualify for assistance~~
46 ~~from early literacy coaches taking into account the previous year's end-of-year~~
47 ~~assessment data from:~~

48 ~~—— (i) Acadience Reading, benchmark, and growth; and~~

49 ~~—— (ii) RISE, English Language Arts proficiency.~~

50 ~~—— (b) The Superintendent shall exclude data:~~

51 ~~—— (i) for students who were not enrolled a full academic year; and~~

52 ~~—— (ii) for schools scheduled to close the following year.~~

53 ~~—— (4)(a) The Superintendent shall prioritize services under this program for schools~~
54 ~~identified in Subsections 53E-3-1002(a)(i) and (ii).]~~

55 (3) A regional education service agency or school district shall ensure that early
56 literacy coaching supports:

57 (a) professional learning in the science of reading for:

58 (i) educators in kindergarten through grade 3; and

- 59 (ii) elementary principals and vice principals;
- 60 (b) coaching of educators in kindergarten through grade 3; and
- 61 (c) training of paraprofessionals consistent with Section 53G-10-804.

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64 **KEY: professional learning, prek-3, early learning, teacher development**

65 **Date of Last Change: August 7, 2025**

66 **Notice of Continuation: June 10, 2025**

67 **Authorizing, and Implemented, or Interpreted Law: Art X Sec 3; 53E-3-401(4); 53F-**
68 **5-214**

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