

R277. Education, Administration.

R277-326. Early Literacy Coaches.

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

(1) This rule is authorized by:

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

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

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

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

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

R277-326-2. Definitions.

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

R277-326-3. Early Literacy Coaches.

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

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

(b) An early literacy coach shall meet minimum qualifications established by the ~~Superintendent~~ Board including:

(i) training in the science of reading;
(ii) training in adult learning theory;
(iii) data analysis training and experience, including in the benchmark reading assessment;

(iv) experience providing professional learning to adults;
(v) a master's degree in education is preferred; and
(vi) a minimum of five years of elementary teaching experience is preferred.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(i) educators in kindergarten through grade 3; and

(ii) elementary principals and vice principals;

(b) coaching of educators in kindergarten through grade 3; and

(c) training of paraprofessionals consistent with Section 53G-10-804.

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

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