

OFFICE OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
September 18-19, 2014

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY EDUCATION (K-5)

07. Approval of methodology to award competitive grants to school districts to support kindergarten through 3rd grade literacy instruction and intensive intervention

Purpose: The K-3 Literacy Support Grants will support local schools with implementation of the *Literacy-Based Promotion Act*.

Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from school districts. Funds must be used to assist in improving literacy outcomes for all students in grades K-3. Acceptable expenditures include, but are not limited to, evidence-based intervention programs, leveled reading materials, reading manipulatives, summer literacy programs, professional development specific to intensive evidence-based reading interventions, and support provided by local literacy coaches or interventionists working directly with teachers and students in the area of literacy. Districts selected to receive a grant through a competitive RFP process must:

- Develop and submit a comprehensive literacy plan using an MDE-approved template, which includes a detailed narrative about the K-3 literacy program, performance goals, interim benchmarks, explicit data components, and instructional practices based on the five components of reading;
- Use curriculum and intervention supported by scientifically-based research;
- Monitor student progress at least 3 times annually;
- Meet annual performance goals and outcomes to be eligible for continued funding; and
- Participate in required MDE training.

Funding Source: State funds

Basis for Awarding the Grants: Request for Proposals

Funds will be awarded based on need and the current level of literacy support from the Mississippi Department of Education.

Recommendation: Approval