

School Committee  
June 12, 2025  
Literacy Update

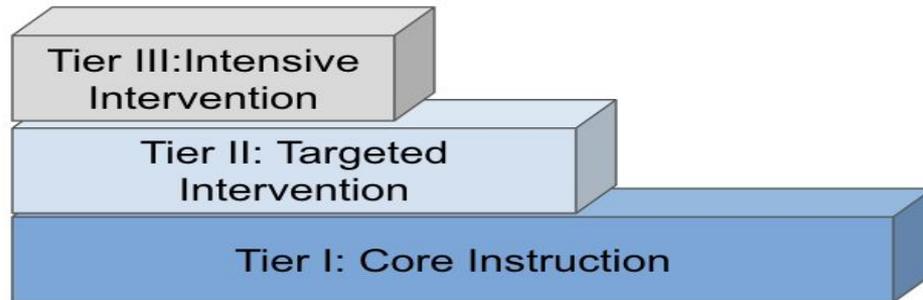
Office of Student Services &  
Office of Teaching & Learning

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# Strong ELA Practice Through Collaboration

## Building a Multi-Tiered System of Support

- Development process
- Structures for success
- Collaboration between OTL and OSS
- Sustainable Leadership & Organizational Structure



# Building a Tiered Literacy System & Continuum

## 2023-2024 School Year

### ELA Study Determined:

- PSB needed research based instructional materials and practices
- Improved data literacy practices
- Interventions that aligned to student need

### DESE

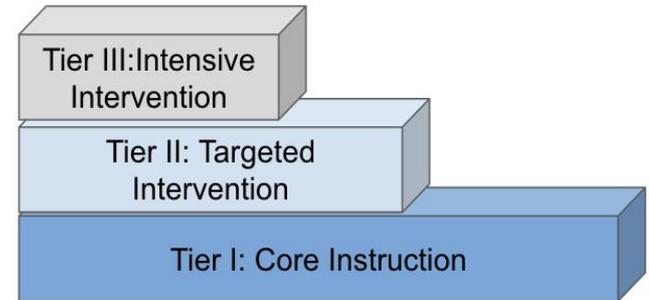
- Implemented Guidelines for Dyslexia
- Required universal screening of all students in K-3
- Communication with families of any child at risk for poor outcomes in reading

**The district determined that we needed to revise our MTSS model which would incorporate the required DESE work and improve the ELA outcomes for students.**

# Building a Tiered Literacy System & Continuum

- Cross functional team made up of teachers, school leaders and members of the offices of Teaching and Learning and Student Services participate in multiple collaborative learning opportunities.
- DESE Literacy Academy
- DESE Dyslexia Institute
- New Teacher Center (NTC) sessions

Each of these opportunities require reflection of current district practices and the creation of a district team to inform the PSB MTSS model.



# Action Steps 2023-2025

## September 2023-June 2024

- *Full Implementation of the DESE required screener K-3*
- *DESE Required communication with families for students who are at risk of poor outcomes in reading*
- Training Student Intervention Teams to analyze data

## September 2024 -June 2025

- Participation in the Literacy Academy
- *Identification and purchase of a research-based literacy curriculum*
- *Create District Literacy Plan through participation in the DESE Dyslexia Academy*
- Creation of the MTSS Team
- Design of Open Architects Dashboards
- Updated communication plans for families regarding universal screeners
- Initial training for literacy implementation
- ***Disproportionality Taskforce***

## July 2025-June 2026

- Introduce the MTSS plan using literacy as the model
  - Implement Fishtank with fidelity
  - Develop ELA Action Plan and Special Education Action Plan that are aligned with each other
  - Map assessment plan and Tier II/ Tier III curriculum resources

# OTL and OSS ELA Update

September 2024- June 2025

Joint Actions	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <i>Create District Literacy Plan through participation in the DESE Dyslexia Academy</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Shared understanding of how students learn to read</li><li>● Shared understanding of data resources, Tier I instruction, intervention practices</li><li>● Goals set to improve data literacy</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Participation in the Literacy Academy</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Schedules that align literacy instruction with data based interventions and other related services for students</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <i>Identification and purchase of a research-based literacy curriculum</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Research-based High Quality Instructional Materials in core instruction for all K-5 students</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Creation of the MTSS Team</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Public School of Brookline definitions for Tier I, Tier II, Tier III instruction</li><li>● <a href="#">Universal Data Protocol</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Assessment map</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Draft of MTSS Flowchart</a></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Updated communication plans for families regarding universal screeners</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Dissemination of the mCLASS “Family Report” document to all K-3 families</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Disproportionality Task force</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Tight coupling with OTL around general education best practices in literacy &amp; systemic work in special</li></ul>

# Critical Multi-Year District Work to Support Effective Implementation & Outcomes

## Data Dashboard:

- ❖ Continue to use educator feedback to update the [Open Architects](#) data dashboard
- ❖ Monitor trends in data

## Educator Professional Development:

- ❖ Science of Reading
- ❖ Research-based pedagogy for all tiers of instruction
- ❖ Data literacy
- ❖ MTSS model
- ❖ Provide Instructional Leaders with common lens to ensure tiered instruction is rolled out with integrity

## Scheduling Instruction:

- ❖ Building school schedules to ensure Special Education and EL services are aligned with ELA instruction
- ❖ Ensure “WIN” blocks are focused and based on data

## Building Systemic Coherence & Instructional Cohesion

### Wilson Language Training

- ❖ Foundations: foundational layer of literacy instruction K-3
- ❖ Wilson Reading System: Structured literacy instruction: Reprioritize PD & Coaching
- ❖ DIBELS: Formative Assessment

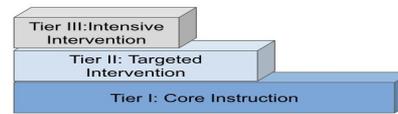
## Sustainable Leadership Structure

- ❖ OSS/OTL Coordinators/Directors/Principals
- ❖ Literacy Specialists
- ❖ Teachers: Gen Ed, Special Ed, EL, Specialists

## [Landmark Partnership](#)

## Sustainable Support, Focus & Resources

- ❖ PD, PD Time, Budget, Data Analysis



# Critical Literacy Work, Context & Constraints

- Implementation of K-5 Literacy Initiative Year I
- Piloting 6-8 Literacy Initiative Year I
- New Assessment, Progress Monitoring & Data Structures & Systems
  
- Leadership Transitions System-Wide
- PD funding was cut
- Structures for Professional Development
- Sufficient Time to Deliver High Quality, Sustained Professional Development
- Capacity Issue: Leadership of the work
- Capacity Issue: Data Structures & Systems

# Collaborative Leadership Team

## Office of Teaching and Learning:

Jodi Fortuna- Deputy Superintendent of Teaching and Learning

Michelle Herman- Senior Director of Teaching and Learning

Gabriel McCormick- Senior Director of Teaching and Learning

Kristin Gray- Interim K-8 ELA Coordinator

Mindy Paulo- Director of English Learner Education

Matthew Rosenthal- K-8 Math Curriculum Coordinator

## Office of Student Services:

Matthew Dubois- Senior Director of Clinical Services and Social Emotional learning

Anna Bauer-McTigue- Director of Special Education

Nadene Moll- Director of Special Education

## School-Based Educators:

Vanessa Bilello- Principal Lawrence School

Saeed Ola- Principal Baker School

Jennifer Doubilet- Literacy Specialist Driscoll School

Kaitlin Doherty- Teacher Baker School

Katy McGraw- Math Specialist Florida Ruffin Ridley School

Sara Zekri- Literacy Specialist Baker School

## FY 26 Co-Leaders

Anna Bauer-McTigue- Director of Special Education

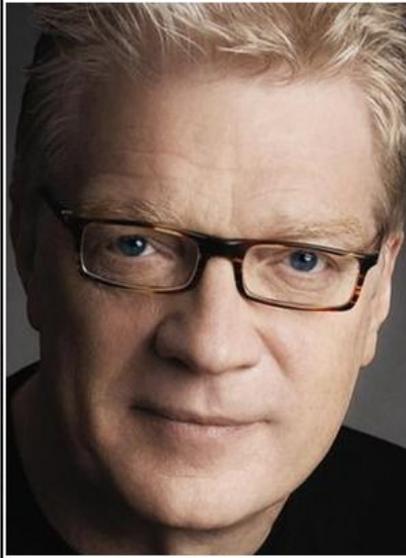
Vanessa Bilello- Principal Lawrence School

Kristin Gray- Interim K-8 ELA Coordinator

Jennifer Doubilet- Literacy Specialist Driscoll School

Mindy Paulo- Director of English Learner Education

# Critical Moment in PSB Leadership



The real role of leadership in education... is not and should not be command and control. The real role of leadership is climate control, creating a climate of possibility.

— Ken Robinson —

AZ QUOTES

## District Considerations:

This coordinated effort requires consistent leadership with an eagle's eye on equitable instruction for all students.

**"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." -**

John F. Kennedy

# Questions



