

**Memphis College Preparatory**  
**Foundational Literacy Skills Plan**

**Approved: May 29, 2021**

This Foundational Literacy Skills Plan has been approved by the Tennessee Department of Education and meets the requirements of the *Tennessee Literacy Success Act*. All portions of the Foundational Literacy Skills plan were submitted to the department and approved. To view the supplemental artifacts, please contact the district directly.

**Daily Foundational Literacy Skills Instruction in Grades K-2**

Memphis College Preparatory has dedicated a minimum of 160 minutes of daily ELA instruction since its inception. 90 minutes of that is dedicated to teaching foundational skills in grades K-2. We are committed to making sure that this minimum is met when scheduling for the 2021-2022 school year. Memphis College Preparatory has adopted Amplify CKLA as our core curriculum for grades K-2 for the 2021-2022 school year. This TN State standards-based and aligned curriculum is all-encompassing and is built based on a two-strand approach—skills, and knowledge. The skills strand provides comprehensive instruction in foundational reading skills—phonological awareness, phonics, and word recognition. It addresses language skills, including conventions of English, spelling, and grammar. Additionally, this curriculum hones in on reading comprehension and writing instruction. The knowledge strand is centered on complex narrative and informational read-alouds. This strand focuses on background knowledge and vocabulary acquisition, analysis of complex texts, and speaking and listening. Reading fluency is a component of the foundational literacy block in all grade levels and foundational skills instruction is the primary form of instruction used in all K-5 ELA instruction. Many of our teachers have been piloting portions of Amplify CKLA throughout the 2020-2021 school year and will fully implement it, beginning the 2021-2022 school year. We have been in conversations with our teachers and administrative teams, regarding the planning that will go forth in creating master schedules for the 2021-2022 school year as we are committed to all K-2 schedules allowing for 90 instructional minutes for foundational skills. In the 2020-2021 school year we adopted parts of the Lucy Calkins Units, Tools, and Methods for Teaching Reading and Writing and the Units of Study in Phonics as our Tier I curriculum for grades K-2. This TN State standards-based and aligned curriculum is all-encompassing and continues to supplement our core instruction through Amplify CKLA. The Reading and Writing Project's approach to instruction recognizes that "one size fits all" does not match the realities our educator's experience in the daily classroom. Our ELA classrooms are designed to help educators address each child's individual learning, explicitly teach strategies scholars will use not only the day they are taught, but whenever they need them, and support small-group work and conferring, with multiple opportunities for personalized instruction. The routines and structures of reading and writing workshops are kept simple and predictable so that the educator can focus on the complex work of teaching in a responsive manner to accelerate achievement for all learners. The Units of Study in Phonics supplements our core Amplify CKLA instruction and provides a lean and concise instructional pathway in phonics that is

realistic and doable, and that taps into kids' skills and energy for tackling the fabulous challenge of learning to read and write, and introduce high-leverage phonics concepts and strategies in a way that keeps pace with scholars' reading and writing and helps them understand when, how, and why they can use phonics to read and write. In addition to Amplify CKLA and Units of Study we also will be supplementing instruction with Heggerty phonemic awareness and Orton Gillingham.

### **Daily Foundational Literacy Skills Instruction in Grades 3-5**

Memphis College Preparatory has dedicated a minimum of 120 minutes of daily ELA instruction since its inception for grades 3 – 5. 45 minutes of that block is dedicated to foundational skills. We are committed to making sure that this minimum is met when scheduling for the 2021-2022 school year. Memphis College Prep has adopted Amplify CKLA as our core curriculum for grades 3-5 for the 2021-2022 school year. For grades 3-5, through an integrated strand approach, students will practice reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, spelling and morphology through the lessons within each unit. This curriculum also engages learners in fluency, reading comprehension, and vocabulary. In the 2020-2021 school year, Memphis College Preparatory fully adopted the Lucy Calkins Units, Tools, and Methods for Teaching Reading and Writing and the Units of Study in Phonics as our Tier I curriculum for grades 3-5. This TN State standards-based and aligned curriculum is all encompassing and builds off the work of foundational literacy in grades K-2 to build strong and independent readers and writers. Our ELA classrooms are designed to help educators address each child's individual learning, explicitly teach strategies scholars will use not only the day they are taught, but whenever they need them, and support small-group work and conferring, with multiple opportunities for personalizing instruction. The routines and structures of reading and writing workshop are kept simple and predictable so that the educator can focus on the complex work of teaching in a responsive manner to accelerate achievement for all learners.

### **Approved Instructional Materials for Grades K-2**

Amplify - K-5 Core Knowledge Language Arts

### **Approved Instructional Materials for Grades 3-5**

Amplify - K-5 Core Knowledge Language Arts

### **Additional Information about Instructional Materials**

In addition to Amplify CKLA and Units of Study we also will be supplementing instruction with Heggerty phonemic awareness and Orton Gillingham.

### **Universal Reading Screener for Grades K-5. This screener complies with RTI<sup>2</sup> and Say Dyslexia requirements.**

We use the full suite of assessments for FastBridge Learning.

### **Intervention Structure and Supports**

Memphis College Preparatory has 45-60 intervention minutes daily for each grade level (See attached sample schedules.) We have an ELA/math interventionist that specifically support our most struggling scholars, those that have been identified as Tier 3. Grade level educators also support

reading interventions during the grade level's specific intervention time for Tier 1 and Tier 2 scholars. Reading interventions that are used to support elementary scholars with reading deficits are Fountas and Pinnell, Heggerty, Orton Gillingham, and iReady. Scholars, K-5, that fall below the 40th percentile on NWEA MAP reading assessments are further screened, using FastBridge to target skill deficits. Scholars that fall below the 25th percentile in targeted areas within FastBridge are screened for characteristics of dyslexia. Our Response to Intervention team is composed of the Managing Director of School, Director of Academics, Literacy Coordinator and Specialist, and Mathematics Coordinator and Specialist. They meet every two weeks to discuss scholar outcomes and monitor scholars' responses to the provided interventions and make data informed decisions focused on the scholar's placement as well as the intervention being provided.

### **Parent Notification Plan/Home Literacy Reports**

Following each screening window (fall, winter, and spring) and school-level data team meetings, letters are sent to all MCPFamily&U community members of K-5 students who have been identified as a student who should receive reading intervention to address a specific area of deficit (identified by scoring below the 15th percentile). This letter sent to parents identifies the screening process, specific plan for reading intervention (including the provider and times/schedule), the area(s) of deficit the intervention will focus on, and access to resources to support parents. The letter is accompanied by a report detailing the child's scores and outlines the specific gaps in the student's reading skills. We plan to utilize the State's Reading 360 plan and program to emphasize at home reading, quarterly meeting with our MCPFamily&U community on our Data & Desserts data meeting review nights, MCPFamily&U Connection newsletter.

All supplemental support activities are no-cost to MCPFamily&U. We have submitted information to our entire MCPFamily&U regarding the Reading 360 plan and provided incentives for families to participate. Included in this material was documentation on the importance of being a strong reader by Grade 3 and the tools, skills and standards needed to get each scholar there. We plan to make this push a part of our annual Pre-Registration enrollment event each year and conduct on-site enrollments for the Reading 360 plan.

### **Professional Development Plan**

Memphis College Preparatory will require all of our educators to participate in literacy training July 19 – 30. We will utilize the TN Foundational Skills Curriculum Supplement and Amplify CKLA PD in addition to training in all supplemental material to prepare all staff members for the beginning of the year.