

FY27 Early Literacy and Reading Support: Program Expansion and Implementation

Overview

The FY27 Early Literacy and Reading Support initiative represents the largest expansion of New Mexico's structured literacy efforts to date. Building on the success of previous years and supporting implementation of the High-Quality Literacy Instruction Act (SB 37), the program will provide literacy coaching, professional learning, and sustainability supports to schools across the state.

FY27 Key Accomplishments and Readiness

Implementation Infrastructure in Place

- A coherent coaching model for all schools receiving support (grades K–12)
- 102 coaches hired to support participating schools
- Professional learning series launched to support best practices for diverse learners
- Training has been provided to administrators across the state on the Structured Literacy Walkthrough Tool and data-driven instruction

Early Adopter Success

- Of the 111 schools identified in the bottom quartile for reading proficiency, 88 schools voluntarily committed to becoming early adopters of SB 37 literacy supports. Coaching supports are being provided across 32 LEAs statewide.
- These schools are receiving enhanced literacy coaching and implementation support one year ahead of statewide requirements.
- The At Home Reading Plan Family Guide and template have been released.
- 75,735 K–3 students will each receive 40 books each throughout the school year.

Sustainability and Model School Support

In addition to supporting early adopter schools, the initiative continues to invest in schools that have already demonstrated commitment and achieved success through structured literacy implementation:

- **Group 1:** 88 Early Adopting Bottom Quartile Schools
- **Group 2:** 13 Schools receiving Year 2 sustainability support

- **Group 3:** 12 Structured Literacy Model Schools and Sustaining Model Schools

Statewide Impact

32 LEAs participating/113 schools receive coach support during FY27, representing the largest literacy coaching network in New Mexico's history.

Additionally:

- **19 schools** are receiving a **\$25,000 Structured Literacy Sustainability Grant** to provide continued support for implementation efforts and maintain literacy gains.
- Literacy coaches also provide job-embedded professional learning, instructional support, data analysis, and implementation guidance aligned to evidence-based literacy practices in these schools.

Expected Outcomes

FY27 investments will:

- Expand access to high-quality literacy coaching.
- Support implementation of SB 37 requirements.
- Strengthen educator capacity through structured literacy practices.
- Sustain literacy gains in previously supported schools.
- Increase equitable access to evidence-based literacy instruction for students across New Mexico.
- Build the foundation for full statewide implementation of literacy supports in future years.

FY27 Total Reach: 113 schools • 3,000 teachers • 60,000 students supported through statewide literacy coaching and structured literacy implementation • 75,735 students receiving a home library

