Senate Bill 241 - Early Literacy

The Utah State Legislature recently passed Senate Bill 241 (SB 241), a statewide initiative focused on strengthening early literacy instruction and intervention for students in kindergarten through third grade. The legislation establishes a statewide goal of having 80% of third-grade students reading on grade level by July 1, 2030.

For students who score below established reading benchmarks, SB 241 requires schools to provide additional support, including the development of an Individualized Reading Plan (IRP) when required. These plans are developed collaboratively with parents/guardians, teachers, and appropriate school support staff and identify a student's specific reading needs, targeted interventions, and how progress will be monitored.

SB 241 also introduces new requirements related to third-grade reading proficiency and retention. Beginning with the 2029-2030 school year, third-grade students who do not meet the required end-of-year reading proficiency standards may be subject to retention. The law provides additional assessments and good-cause exemptions for qualifying students, and a student's benchmark reading assessment is not the sole determinant of promotion.

The legislation also provides additional resources to strengthen early literacy instruction across Utah, including support for literacy coaching, professional learning, and reading intervention. It places an increased emphasis on evidence-based reading instruction and the science of reading in grades K-3.

At Bonneville Academy, we are committed to working collaboratively with our teachers, support staff, students, and families as we implement these new requirements. Our goal is to identify reading needs early, provide effective and targeted support, and help every student build the foundational reading skills needed for future success.

Families whose child requires an Individualized Reading Plan will receive additional information directly from the school and will have opportunities to participate in the development and review of their child's plan.

For more information please visit:

https://le.utah.gov/Session/2026/bills/static/SB0241.html