

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0142

Literacy screening assessment and intervention.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Jarvis, Brown, L, Clouston,
Erickson, Posey and Williams and Senator(s)
Anderson and Crago

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to literacy screening assessment and
2 intervention; providing requirements for screening
3 assessments, evidence based interventions and evidence
4 based core literacy instruction for specified grade levels;
5 requiring schools and school districts to submit
6 improvement plans; requiring specific skills for literacy
7 proficiency used in data collection; requiring school
8 districts to maintain records; requiring professional
9 development; requiring school districts to employ or
10 consult with persons with literacy endorsements as
11 specified; specifying additional duties for the Wyoming
12 professional teaching standards board; repealing the
13 reading assessment and intervention program; requiring
14 reporting; requiring rulemaking; making conforming

1 amendments; providing definitions; specifying
2 applicability; and providing for effective dates.

3

4 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

5

6 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-3-402 is created to read:

7

8

ARTICLE 4

9

LITERACY SCREENING ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION

10

11 **21-3-402. Literacy screening assessment and**
12 **intervention.**

13

14 (a) As used in this section, "reading difficulties"
15 means conditions or patterns that interfere with the
16 development of accurate and fluent word recognition,
17 spelling or comprehension, including but not limited to
18 dyslexia and developmental language disorder, as
19 demonstrated by a student's performance on literacy
20 screening assessments.

21

22 (b) Each school district shall implement literacy
23 screening assessments and multi-tiered system of support

1 literacy programming that shall include literacy screening
2 assessments, evidence based intervention programming and
3 evidence based core literacy instruction for grades
4 kindergarten through five (5). Each school district shall
5 select and implement literacy screening assessments that
6 use one (1) or more instruments identified by the state
7 superintendent under subsection (g) of this section that
8 identify students at-risk for reading difficulties. The
9 literacy screening assessments shall be administered three
10 (3) times per year to all students in kindergarten through
11 grade three (3) and students in grades four (4) and five
12 (5) who scored below the proficient standard in English
13 language arts on the statewide assessment administered
14 under W.S. 21-2-304(a)(v) during the previous school year.

15

16 (c) As soon as practicable after the applicable
17 literacy screening assessment administration period has
18 concluded under subsection (b) of this section, each school
19 district shall provide a copy of the literacy screening
20 assessments results, including an explanation of the
21 results, to the parent, guardian or other person having
22 control of a student whose composite score on the literacy
23 screening assessments indicates high risk for reading

1 difficulties. Students identified to be at the highest risk
2 level for reading difficulties on literacy screening
3 assessments under this section shall be placed in the most
4 intensive level of the school district's evidence based
5 intervention programming with an individualized reading
6 plan anytime between the middle of the school year in
7 kindergarten through the end of grade five (5), only if the
8 student's parent or guardian provides written consent. If a
9 student's parent or guardian does not provide written
10 consent under this subsection then the student may receive
11 classroom based skill-specific evidence based literacy
12 instructional supports during intervention or enrichment
13 times. Each school district shall maintain individual
14 reading plan records of all evidence based interventions
15 implemented for each student identified as at-risk for
16 reading difficulties, including but not limited to,
17 progress monitoring data. Literacy interventions shall not
18 occur during literacy core instructional time. For students
19 under an individualized education plan (IEP) or English
20 language learning plan (ELP) that addresses reading
21 difficulties, the IEP or ELP shall be deemed sufficient to
22 meet the requirements of this subsection and no additional
23 documentation shall be required.

1

2 (d) Each school district shall implement multi-tiered
3 evidence based intervention programming that shall provide
4 skill-specific evidence based interventions for students
5 identified by the literacy screening assessments or
6 additional literacy diagnostic assessments as at-risk for
7 reading difficulties.

8

9 (e) Each school district shall implement evidence
10 based core literacy instruction to all students. The
11 evidence based core literacy instruction implemented under
12 this subsection shall include instructional opportunities
13 for:

14

15 (i) Grades kindergarten through three (3) in
16 phonological or phonemic awareness;

17

18 (ii) Grades kindergarten through five (5) in:

19

20 (A) Decoding and encoding;

21

22 (B) Reading comprehension;

23

1 (C) Language comprehension, including
2 vocabulary; and

3

4 (D) Written expression.

5

6 (iii) Grades one (1) through five (5) in oral
7 reading fluency.

8

9 (f) Not later than June 30, 2026 and each June 30
10 thereafter, each school district shall annually report to
11 the department of education on the progress of each of its
12 schools toward achieving the goal of eighty percent (80%)
13 of all students in grades kindergarten through three (3)
14 scoring low risk for reading difficulties as determined by
15 the end of the school year literacy screening assessments.
16 This report shall also include grade level data for
17 kindergarten through grade five (5) for those students
18 identified as high risk for reading difficulties by the
19 literacy screening assessments. The report shall include a
20 list of the evidence based core literacy instruction and
21 intervention programming resources implemented in each
22 grade level. Each school not meeting the eighty percent
23 (80%) goal specified under this subsection or not showing

1 improvement the past three (3) years toward meeting the
2 eighty percent (80%) goal shall submit an improvement plan
3 to the school district, and the school district shall
4 submit an overall improvement plan for that school to the
5 department not later than November 15, 2026 and each
6 November 15 thereafter. At a minimum, each school district
7 improvement plan for each school not meeting the eighty
8 percent (80%) goal shall outline its evidence based
9 strategies for increasing literacy proficiency for the next
10 school year and shall specifically address the changes in
11 evidence based instruction, intervention or professional
12 development. Each school district that is required to
13 submit a school improvement plan to the department under
14 this subsection may combine any literacy requirements under
15 this subsection with the improvement plan submitted under
16 W.S. 21-2-204(h)(v).

17

18 (g) The state superintendent, in consultation with
19 Wyoming school districts, professionals in the area of
20 literacy and administration and other stakeholders, shall
21 promulgate rules to assist school districts in the
22 selection of literacy screening assessments to assess the
23 skills in paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this subsection. Based

1 on the criteria incorporated by rule, the state
2 superintendent shall identify literacy screening assessment
3 instruments and recommended diagnostic assessments that are
4 approved for use by school districts to provide data that
5 informs identification and intervention of students at-risk
6 for reading difficulties as required under subsection (b)
7 of this section. The rules shall provide mechanisms for the
8 state superintendent to support schools and school
9 districts in meeting the goals of school improvement plans
10 developed pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. The
11 rules shall establish procedures for the state
12 superintendent to impose corrective action on any school
13 district that for three (3) consecutive years after being
14 placed on a school improvement plan has failed to show
15 improvement toward meeting the eighty percent (80%) goal of
16 all students scoring low risk for reading difficulties
17 pursuant to subsection (f) of this section. To accomplish
18 the purposes of this subsection, the department of
19 education shall collect kindergarten through grade five (5)
20 statewide longitudinal data from literacy screening
21 assessments selected and performed by each school district,
22 which measures the risk levels in the following areas of
23 literacy in:

1

2

(i) Grades kindergarten through five (5) in:

3

4

(A) Decoding and encoding;

5

6

(B) Oral reading fluency;

7

8

(C) Reading comprehension; and

9

10

(D) Language comprehension, including

11

vocabulary.

12

13

(ii) Grades kindergarten through two (2) in

14

phonological or phonemic awareness.

15

16

(h) Commencing with school year 2026-2027, each

17

school district shall require each district employee who

18

holds an elementary education endorsement, an early

19

childhood education endorsement, an exceptional generalist

20

endorsement or exceptional specialist endorsement, who

21

provides instruction in grades kindergarten through five

22

(5) within the district and who does not hold a Wyoming

23

structured literacy certificate endorsement, dyslexia

1 specialist endorsement or a reading endorsement to receive
2 not less than fourteen (14) hours of professional
3 development annually in evidence based literacy
4 instruction, intervention and assessment until the district
5 employee obtains a Wyoming structured literacy certificate
6 endorsement, a dyslexia specialist endorsement or a reading
7 endorsement. Commencing with school year 2026-2027 and
8 every three (3) years thereafter, each school district
9 shall require each school district employee that provides
10 or supports instruction in grades kindergarten through five
11 (5) within the district or who holds a Wyoming structured
12 literacy certificate endorsement, a dyslexia specialist
13 endorsement or a reading endorsement to receive not less
14 than three and one-half (3.5) hours of professional
15 development in evidence based literacy instruction. The
16 rules required under subsection (g) of this section shall
17 contain criteria recommendations identifying appropriate
18 and suitable professional development for district
19 employees in evidence based literacy instruction.

20

21 (j) Commencing with school year 2029-2030, each
22 school district shall employ or consult with not less than
23 one (1) person who holds a Wyoming structured literacy

1 certificate endorsement, a dyslexia specialist endorsement
2 or a reading endorsement to support school district
3 literacy professional development.

4

5 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-2-802(a) by creating a new
6 paragraph (iv) and 21-3-110(a)(xxiii) are amended to read:

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8 **21-2-802. Powers and duties; teacher certification;**
9 **suspension and revocation; certification fees; disposition**
10 **of collected fees; required data submissions to department**
11 **of education.**

12

13 (a) The board shall promulgate rules and regulations:

14

15 (iv) Not later than school year 2027-2028,
16 establish a structured literacy certificate endorsement and
17 a dyslexia specialist endorsement for grades kindergarten
18 through twelve (12).

19

20 **21-3-110. Duties of boards of trustees.**

21

22 (a) The board of trustees in each school district
23 shall:

1

2 (xxiii) Implement and administer ~~the reading~~
3 literacy screening assessment and ~~intervention program~~
4 multi-tiered system of support literacy programming for
5 students in kindergarten through grade ~~three (3)~~ five (5)
6 as required by W.S. ~~21-3-401~~ 21-3-402;

7

8 **Section 3.** W.S. 21-3-401 is repealed.

9

10 **Section 4.** This act shall apply to school year
11 2026-2027 and each school year thereafter.

12

13 **Section 5.** The department of education and the
14 Wyoming professional teaching standards board shall
15 promulgate all rules necessary to implement this act.

16

1 **Section 6.**

2

3 (a) Except as provided by subsection (b) of this
4 section, this act is effective July 1, 2026.

5

6 (b) Sections 5 and 6 of this act are effective
7 immediately upon completion of all acts necessary for a
8 bill to become law as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of
9 the Wyoming Constitution.

10

11

(END)