

## Dickson County Early Literacy Vision

In Dickson County, we will ensure that ALL students enter third grade as proficient readers. Teaching reading is science, so we will provide students with highly trained educators who use high quality materials and create a safe environment for students to learn. No matter what teacher a student has, what classroom they are in, or what school they attend- they will have access to an equitable learning environment.

Families are our partners. We have a responsibility to provide information about what students are learning, and to be honest about how well they are learning. We recognize that families want to help their students- so we will provide information so they can support their children with becoming proficient readers.

We also recognize that it is normal for some students to need extra help. In addition to direct, explicit, and systematic instruction in whole group teaching, we will provide extra intervention and support for students who need it. Data must inform our actions- when a student is not learning, we need to reflect, reassess, and reteach.

We are additionally committed to:

- A minimum of 120 minutes every day devoted to teaching literacy in K-2, including time for whole group teaching and small group intervention.
- Regular communication with families regarding student progress.
- Family meetings to communicate ways to help students at home with foundational skills prior to entering kindergarten
- Using common assessments and common curriculum that align to the science of reading.
- Using our chosen high quality instructional materials (Benchmark Advance and Heggerty) to teach Foundational Skills.