

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY
INFORMATIONAL REPORT
PRESENTATION ON THE
LUCY CALKINS UNITS OF STUDY FOR READING AND PHONICS
NOVEMBER 15, 2021

Background:

The purpose of this presentation is to provide an overview of the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading and Phonics, approved by General Curriculum Committee in June 2019. With the adoption of the Maryland College and Career Ready Standards, many of the instructional reading and phonics resources utilized by elementary teachers were outdated and no longer aligned to the current standards. Additionally, the 2019 Maryland Ready to Read Act is legislation requiring local school districts to implement a reading prevention model by first determining which students may struggle with reading, and then requiring targeted interventions before reading difficulties emerge.

The Office of Reading, English, and Language Arts utilized a three-year implementation process, as well as worked with Instructional Leadership Teams to identify greater support for the teaching of reading and phonics to elementary students. Through thorough research and a multi-stakeholder selection committee, the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading and Phonics were determined to be the programs elementary teachers would implement in classroom instruction. In addition, the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness program was adopted as intervention to support early literacy in foundational skills.

Discussion:

The following points will be discussed during the presentation:

- Overview of the Programs
- Classroom Implementation
 - Units of Study for Phonics, K-2
 - Units of Study for Reading, K-5
 - Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Program
 - Classroom Libraries
- Professional Learning
 - Teacher's College Partnership
 - Teachers and Administrators
- Evaluation of Programs
 - Data Collection and Analysis
 - Classroom Walkthroughs
- Program Critics
 - Response to the Criticism

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends the Board of Education accept this informational report on the Lucy Calkins Units of Study for Reading and Phonics.