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# Virginia Literacy Act & Biennial Division Literacy Plan

Lexington City Schools  
June 2025



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# Highlights from 2024-2025:

- ❖ Our division literacy plan focused on K-5 during the first year.
- ❖ K-5 teachers implemented a new reading program (HMH Into Reading) as the core curriculum resource for language arts.
- ❖ Our elementary literacy leaders - Sherry Miller and Ellie Bahhur (Reading Specialists) and Hannah Straub (Intervention Teacher) met weekly to support Waddell's literacy work and conducted classroom coaching cycles with all grade level reading teachers.
- ❖ The new VALLSS literacy screener was introduced in grades K-3. Individual student reading plans were developed for students whose VALLSS score identified them as "high risk" for reading difficulties. The plan was developed collaboratively by the teacher, reading specialist, intervention teacher, and family.
- ❖ All classroom teachers and middle school core and SPED teachers completed state-required online training to learn about evidence-based literacy practices.
- ❖ HWES provided after-school intervention/tutoring for recommended students.
- ❖ HWES hosted a Family Literacy Night, shared monthly family literacy updates, and sent at-home literacy kits to kindergartners with individual reading plans.



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# Individual Student Reading Plans for 2025-2026

Students in Grades K-8 who do not meet literacy “benchmarks” through approved screeners, fail the Reading/English SOL, or pass the SOL but have intervention needs will have an Individualized Student Reading Plan developed collaboratively with the reading or English teacher, reading specialist, other academic specialists, and the family.

The plan will identify:

- ❖ School support staff
- ❖ Areas of identified need
- ❖ Targeted reading goals
- ❖ Targeted interventions
- ❖ Progress monitoring
- ❖ Family resources



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# What will be NEW for next year?

The biennial division literacy plan now includes Grades 6-8. VALLSS will be implemented in grades 4-8, and individual student literacy plans will extend through middle school for identified students.

LDMS will be using **Lexia PowerUp** as a supplemental online intervention tool for select students. The reading specialist will be the primary teacher utilizing this program with students.

LDMS English teachers, reading specialists, and special education teachers will collaborate to conduct VALLSS testing and develop individual student reading plans.

Krista Martino, LDMS reading specialist, will work closely with English teachers through a coaching cycle to support literacy instruction and intervention.

LDMS will be focusing on “Writing Across the Curriculum” as a school emphasis.

LDMS will offer after-school tutoring programs for Reading and Math.

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# The biennial division literacy plan addresses:

- ❖ Communicating the division's literacy vision
- ❖ Selection of High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM)
- ❖ Evidence-based literacy training used by the district
- ❖ Assessments, screenings, and tools that will measure student progress
- ❖ Tools used to monitor literacy progress in the division
- ❖ Plans for engaging families in the development of student reading plans

The biennial division literacy plan will be submitted to the Virginia Department of Education before June 30th. The division plan will be posted on the division and VDOE website.





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# What's Next?

- ❖ The plan will be submitted to VDOE.
- ❖ A modified version of this presentation will be shared with all LCS families and posted on the website.
- ❖ Once the plan is formally approved, the plan will be posted to the LCS website.
- ❖ LCS literacy leaders and administrators will share an overview of updates with staff in August and make plans for literacy support and programs for 2025-2026.
- ❖ Student performance data will be shared with the School Board as part of the SOL performance data presentation this coming fall.





**We are continuing on this journey  
together. Thank you for your continued  
support and encouragement!**

