

RPS District CORE Values: We C.A.R.E.

Continuous Reflection and Improvement • Academic Excellence and Innovation • Respectful and Responsible Relationships • Engaged and Equitable Community

**Randolph Public Schools**  
"Building Tomorrow, Today"



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## For Immediate Release

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### GOVERNOR HEALEY VISITS RANDOLPH PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO CELEBRATE LITERACY SUCCESS!

**Randolph, MA** – February 7, 2024 – On Monday, February 5, 2024, Governor Healey, Lt. Governor Driscoll, Secretary of Education Tutwiler, and Commissioner Riley visited the Martin E. Young Elementary School (Young School) to celebrate strong literacy practices in action in Randolph Public Schools. After collecting some worrisome literacy data four years ago, Randolph educators created a Literacy Action Plan committing to a strong vision, goals and action steps all focused towards one end, our ultimate goal: 80% or more of our students reading at or above benchmark by June of 2027.



The following are the high leverage actions steps that have contributed to our early success:

- Leaning into learning from experts in the field including Dr. Chris Parker at Ideal Consulting and HILL for Literacy - increasing our knowledge and skills in foundational science-based literacy instruction and building key, internal data, assessment, and progress monitoring systems.

- Selecting a variety of high quality instructional materials that are designed with researched based practices AND that match priorities and needs specific to OUR district, OUR data, and OUR students.
- Engaging in DESE sponsored grants, academies, networks, institutes, and programs deepening our work and establishing key partnerships with One8, Springboard Collaborative, and Ignite Reading to name a few.

I am proud to share that in year 2 of our Literacy Action Plan, we are on target to meet all of our goals!

The Healey-Driscoll Team, along with many state and local leaders, observed strong instruction at the Young School and gathered to celebrate their new initiative, Literacy Launch: Reading Success from Age 3 through Grade 3. This new multi-year strategy aims to improve early literacy education by expanding access to high-quality, evidence-based reading instruction for students across Massachusetts. Governor Healey has recommended \$30 million in her fiscal year 2025 (FY25) budget for the first year of Literacy Launch, on top of \$5 million in continuing early literacy programming from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

“Every student in Massachusetts needs to be able to read and read well – and we’re going to give them the tools to do just that with Literacy Launch,” said Governor Maura Healey. “The districts that have the right materials and methods – including districts like Randolph that partner with DESE – are getting results. We want to bring the effective strategies we saw here today at the Young School to students, classrooms, and schools across the state.”

Randolph Public Schools is a strong example of a district partnering with the state to improve literacy instruction. The district used a \$200,000 Accelerating Literacy with High Quality Instructional Materials grant from DESE in order to purchase the highly rated EL Education curriculum, which they now use. They also partner with DESE to provide intensive literacy tutoring to students, and participate in DESE’s Dyslexia Institute, which provides Massachusetts educators with best practices on early literacy screening, identification, and specialized interventions for students with dyslexia. Randolph Public Schools also participates in DESE’s GLEAM (Growing Literacy Equity Across Massachusetts) grant for pre-k and has been awarded \$228,500 since 2020 to improve literacy curriculum learning in preschool classrooms.

“It is so important that every student in every community has access to high-quality, evidence-based reading material,” said Randolph Town Manager Brian Howard. “With the support of DESE, Randolph has been able to improve our curriculum and provide literacy tutoring. We’re excited to see the administration expanding this critical support to districts across the state.”

“We are thrilled that Governor Healey and Secretary Tutwiler could visit Randolph Public Schools and see our incredible literacy work in action. We’ve been proud to

partner with DESE on improved evidence-based literacy supports, and we're excited to see the Healey-Driscoll administration propose increasing access to those effective programs to many other districts," said Superintendent of Randolph Public Schools Thea R. Stovell.

See the full program [HERE](#).