



Week of March 4, 2024

District survey results of Science of Reading materials released

The Department of Education and Workforce (DEW) this week released survey results on school districts' and community schools' use of (1) high-quality literacy instructional materials, (2) intervention materials, (3) professional development, and (4) literacy coaches. A copy of the survey for the first two items is [accessible here](#), and a copy of the survey results for the latter two items is [accessible here](#). The results did not indicate the utilization of state-approved materials as that list is still under development. This survey data may be the basis of DEW's payments to districts for purchasing the required high-quality instructional materials. That process is still under development.

Key insights from the results indicate:

- a total of 995 educational entities responded to the state-required survey (599 of 603 districts, 49 of 51 ESCs, 339 of 345 community schools, and 7 of 8 independent STEM schools);
- 93% of districts and schools reported using published curricula, while the remaining 7% reported using locally created instructional materials for core literacy instruction; 14% of suburban districts reported using locally created materials instead of published materials, representing the largest of all typologies;
- of those districts using locally created materials, nearly 20% have an Early Literacy rating of four or five stars.
- 92% of districts and schools reported using published materials for reading interventions; 17% of rural districts reported using locally developed materials, representing the largest of all typologies;
- 69% of districts and schools reported that their teachers have already completed Science of Reading professional development prior to this school year; suburban districts had the highest completion percentage of any typology.

DeWine announces career-tech equipment grants

Gov. **Mike DeWine** on Monday announced the recipients of the Career Technical Education Equipment Grant Program. Supported by \$68 million from the state operating budget, these grants assist schools with purchasing updated equipment for career-technical education. The second round of grant funding will open later this spring. School districts interested in applying for the second round can visit Workforce.Ohio.gov/CTEEquipment.

A list of the awards and schools is [accessible here](#).

Heard around the Statehouse

"They're already paying taxes to the local district but have not received any benefits for their kids." - Sen. **Andrew Brenner**, responding to a [Cleveland.com article](#) that details the EdChoice Expansion growth is largely due to existing private school students.