



# Escambia County Public Schools Elementary ELA Updates

Need ELA help? Complete this form <https://bit.ly/ELAAssist>

January  
2024-25

## P.D. Opportunities

### **Sunday System** training

for grades 2-5 teachers with reading endorsement and ESE teachers\*\*

Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025

from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

in room 146 at Spencer Bibbs

[Register with this survey](#)

The ELA Department will provide coding for substitutes.

\*\* Teachers will need to have a Sunday System 1 kit with them during training.

Email Alison Brantley with any questions.

**Need Reading Endorsement?  
Need 40 hrs for recertification?**

Go to the [Reading Endorsement Page](#) for information.



**Gr. 4/5 Canvas Tip:** Update your tracker before you give an assessment to make sure you have the most current assessment.



## **2nd Grade Teachers**

Second graders should be reading the passages and questions independently. (Follow IEP accommodations, of course)

Administering 2nd grade ELA assessments in Canvas is optional. Beginning with Module 6, assessments will be added to the curriculum maps so that teachers can sync them for use in Canvas, but they are not required.

Schools should decide how the grade level will administer the test. If schools want the data entered in Canvas, we highly recommend that students read the passages on paper before answering on the computer.

## **Celebrate Literacy Week 2025**

January 27-31

**Building Literacy:  
Constructing the Foundation  
for Success!**

[Please submit your school's plan on the template to Kim Gunn](#)

## **Sandy Sansing Spelling Bee**

January 16, 2025

**Washington High School Auditorium**

Contestants should report to the registration table located inside the auditorium lobby by 5:30 P.M.

The competition starts at 6:00 P.M.

[Spelling Bee Rules](#)

## **Writing Progress Monitoring**

Week of January 27, 2025

1. [Grades 4 and 5 can administer](#) via: Canvas assignment, Paper and Pencil, or Paper and Google Doc shared with the teacher.
2. Grades 4 and 5 passages are from the 2024 FAST Released tests.
3. K-3 Writing prompts can be found in the addendums.
4. Score with Building Better Writers/FAST Rubrics.
5. Keep student writing in a portfolio (paper or electronic).

## **Amira Benchmark 2 is set for January 13-February 14.**

This means that beginning January 13th, when students log on, they will be directed to take a benchmark assessment. It is a good idea to prepare students in advance and have the environment set for best performance.

**AMIRA Champions virtual meeting January 9 at 2:30**

E-mail Lisa Marsh (mmarsh) if you would like the link.

## **ELA Team**

K-12 Specialist:  
Melissa (Lisa) Marsh

Teachers on Special Assignment:  
Alison Brantley  
Jodie Landry-Hoke  
Kim Gunn

Literacy Coach:  
Tonya DeLorm

Educational Support:  
Phyllis McDurmont  
Kim Brown

Office Phone:  
429-2950

## **Important Dates**

Literacy Rep. Meetings  
In person at Spencer Bibbs Room 147

January 13  
February 10

**Spelling Bee**  
Jan. 16 at 6 p.m.

**Celebrate Literacy Week** Jan 27-31

ECPS Writing Progress Monitoring  
Jan 27-31

ELA Canvas Hub  
<https://escambia.instructure.com/enroll/4PLH4D>

**Escambia Literacy Association Survey Please!**

<https://bit.ly/3ZoYw4Z>





## Escambia County Literacy Association Good News

**A top goal of the Escambia County Literacy Association for this year is to shine a spotlight on teachers for their commitment to literacy instruction.** The intent is to create a community of literacy educators that cheer each other on. Thanks to all who completed the surveys for teachers and students they would like to see acknowledged.

For the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year, the association would like to shine a spotlight on Audrey Webster of Oakcrest Elementary. Mrs. Webster’s second grade students grow because she teaches sound-spelling correspondence with the use of a sound wall. She differentiates her instruction to meet students where they are and move them to grade level performance and beyond. Mrs. Webster promotes writing and uses writing instruction to strengthen comprehension.

**The Literacy Association would also like to recognize students in our district who have made improvement in literacy during the second quarter of school.** Shout outs for the first semester go to Abigail Gilmore, Molino Park Elementary and Jazhaun Boggan, Pine Forest High School.

With the help of her teacher, Abigail overcame her reluctance to read and is now reading Magic Tree House books in one or two days. She has discovered her desire and ability to learn and there is no stopping her. She puts a lot of effort into her work now, and she is seeing the positive results.

Jazhaun sought out his assistant principals and asked for some advice on how to get better at reading. After receiving strong encouragement from his administrative team, Jazhaun has shown tremendous growth in reading and continues to show that he now has ambitions to strive higher.

These students are role models for other students in our district and show examples of what hard work and perseverance looks like!

The Escambia County Literacy Association will be communicating information about the Literacy Teacher of the Year in the coming months. To indicate your interest in joining the association, complete the survey at <https://bit.ly/3ZoYw4Z>

## New STAR READING Reporting Benchmarks

We have updated the STAR School Benchmarks to reflect the percentile ranks that correlate with FAST achievement levels. This structure blends the percentile ranks used for MTSS with district expectations for growth. On Track indicates that if a student continues to score in this range or above, they are likely to score on-grade level on FAST. The Meeting and Beyond Expectations benchmarks align with FAST Achievement levels 4 and 5. The Intervention benchmark has the widest range, indicating the need for Tier II or Differentiated Tier 1 support for gains. When you log on to the Star Record Book, you will see the School Benchmark by default. To change to MTSS (District Benchmark) or projected State Achievement Levels (STAR Reading), click on the settings wheel in the corner and then change your benchmark setting.

**Benchmark Structure**  
Number of Categories: 5  
Minimum Proficiency Level: ■ On Track

Star Reading  
School Benchmark

**Benchmarks**  
Choose the benchmark settings to use on this screen

Star Reading

- School Benchmark
- District Benchmark
- State Benchmark

Cancel Save

  

Grade	<span style="color: red;">■</span> Intensive Intervention	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Intervention	<span style="color: blue;">■</span> On Track	<span style="color: green;">■</span> Meeting Expectations	<span style="color: darkgreen;">■</span> Beyond Expectations
Kindergarten	Below 11 PR	11-49 PR	50-69 PR	70-89 PR	At/Above 90 PR
Grade 1	Below 11 PR	11-49 PR	50-69 PR	70-89 PR	At/Above 90 PR
Grade 2	Below 11 PR	11-49 PR	50-69 PR	70-89 PR	At/Above 90 PR
Grade 3	Below 11 PR	11-49 PR	50-69 PR	70-89 PR	At/Above 90 PR
Grade 4	Below 11 PR	11-49 PR	50-69 PR	70-89 PR	At/Above 90 PR
Grade 5	Below 11 PR	11-49 PR	50-69 PR	70-89 PR	At/Above 90 PR