



Working Together for Educational Equity

About the Equity Gap

Many factors (barriers and opportunities) impact a student's acquisition of literacy skills (reading, writing, speaking). Some of the primary factors identified by the team include:

- Most reading curriculum is not designed with English Learners in mind and the content is not always culturally familiar or relevant. This is especially true for newcomer youth who not only have to learn high-frequency words and predictable text, but also the meaning of new customs, objects or colloquial terms.
- Immigrant youth, especially undocumented youth, may experience trauma which impacts their ability to learn.
- In any one class there are many different learning profiles to attend to - Students begin school at different levels, may progress at different paces in different content areas, and have different learning styles.

Our library branch managers are learning and sharing with their Action Team partners to collaboratively identify and create opportunities for quality literacy-based interactions, ultimately resulting in happy and more confident readers.

Sara Jones, Director of County Library Services

About the Action Team

From culturally relevant curriculum and summer reading loss, to reading time with a caring adult, this team has explored many different factors that impact early literacy skills. Out of this analysis has emerged an overarching theme - **the importance of taking a diversified, whole child approach** and, using shared data, **coordinating that approach among teachers in school, parents at home, and other caring adults in after-school and summer programs.**

About the Milestone

3rd graders will have mastered critical literacy skills necessary for continued academic success, as measured by meeting or exceeding the 3rd grade Common Core standard.

2028 Goal
80%

Percentage of Students Meeting this Milestone Throughout Marin

2018 Results

63%

All 3rd Graders

42%
Students of Color

78%
White Students

30%
Low Income

76%
Higher Income

Total assessed 3rd Graders in Marin: 2,479
Total assessed 3rd Graders of Color: 1,023
Total assessed Low-Income 3rd Graders: 736

Source: California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress (CAASPP) 2017-18

Focus of the Early Grade Literacy Team

Whole Population

All Kindergarteners-3rd Graders in Marin

9,877

Demographic Focus

- African American or Hispanic/Latino (110)
- English Learner (106)

150

110



Geographic Focus

From left to right: Loma Verde Elementary, San Pedro Elementary

Source: California Department of Education (2018-19); Students may be counted in multiple demographic categories.

25%

Of all K-3rd grade students in Marin are English Learners

Before 3rd Grade, **students are learning to read.**

After 3rd grade, **students are reading to learn.**

Data Source: California Department of Education (2017-18)

Systemic Practice Shifts

FROM utilizing a set reading curriculum TO using a diversified approach that incorporates leveled or guided reading, self-paced learning centers, and varied assignment formats; students are supported to progress at their appropriate pace from one literacy level to the next.

FROM schools as the primary source of literacy learning TO building an academic safety net; all adults in a student's life coordinate with each other to understand and support each student's appropriate learning style and level.

FROM focusing on specific curricular programs TO developing common practices; tools and techniques can be used both in and out of a school setting.

The Team

Bay Area Community Resources
 CampEdmo
 Catholic Charities Canal Family Services
 Community Action Marin
 Enriching Lives Through Music
 League of Women Voters
 LitLab
 Marin Community Clinics
 Marin Community Foundation
 Marin County Free Library
 Marin YMCA (Youth Court Program)
 Novato Unified School District
 Parent Services Project (Raising a Reader Program)
 San Rafael City Schools
 San Rafael Public Library
 South Novato Public Library
 Willow Creek Academy