

**Quarterly report was given on Early Childhood and Reading Development Director- NO ACTION TAKEN**

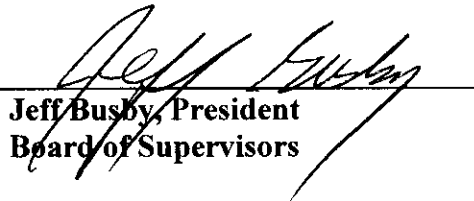
**ORDER: ADOPT PROCLAMATION OF SEPTEMBER AS ATTENDANCE  
AWARENESS MONTH**

Motion was made by Kevin Frye, duly seconded by Mike Roberts, to adopt proclamation of September as Attendance Awareness Month.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Supervisor Kevin Frye, voted yes  
Supervisor Jeff Busby, voted yes  
Supervisor David Rikard, voted yes  
Supervisor Chad McLarty, voted yes  
Supervisor Mike Roberts, voted yes

After the vote, President Busby, declared the motion carried, this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2019.

  
Jeff Busby, President  
Board of Supervisors

  
Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk

**Early Childhood and Reading Development Partnership  
Oxford School District-Lafayette County School District-City of Oxford-Lafayette County  
Progress Report  
May 2019 - July 2019**

Prepared by: Tamara Hillmer, Director of Early Childhood and Reading Development

**A. PROJECT SUMMARY**

The community partnership will build an Early Childhood and Reading Development Program in the Lafayette County and Oxford Community dedicated to ensuring that all children can read proficiently by the end of third grade. The Early Childhood and Reading Development Program will build and strengthen community partnerships in the areas of school readiness, school attendance, out of school learning opportunities, and children's health and wellness.

**B. STATUS OF ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD**

| May 2019  |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <b>Collaboration Partners for the Month:</b>  |                                  |
| United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County   | LOU Reads                        |
| Oxford School District  | Lafayette County School District |
| National/Mississippi Campaign for Grade-Level Reading   | myON, Renaissance                |
| Oxford Housing Authority  | Oxford Farmer's Market           |
| LOU ELC Partner Sites   | MS Department of Education (MDE) |
| <b>Activities/Events:</b>   |                                  |
| Webinar with myON about the Summer Reading Program for OSD and LCSD PK-Third Grade students (May 2)   |                                  |
| Tamara Hillmer, Suzanne Ryals, Allison Crain, and Teasha Sanders presented a Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Webinar about partnerships with Housing Authorities (May 7) |                                  |
| Literacy Bus at the Oxford Farmer's Market (May 7)  |                                  |
| Out-of-School Time Coffee Hour Meeting with Good Food for Oxford Schools (May 15)   |                                  |
| Attendance Sub-Group Meeting to plan for the 19-20 school year (May 21)   |                                  |
| Tamara Hillmer and Linda Glaze attended a Conscious Discipline Training in Hattiesburg. Conscious Discipline will be implemented in the LOU ELC. (May 28-29)              |                                  |
| Planning with the LOU Early Learning Collaborative partners for the 2019-2020 school year   |                                  |
| Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)  |                                  |

June 2019

**Collaboration Partners for the Month:**

|   |  |
|---|--|
| United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County             | LOU Reads  |
| Oxford School District                                | Lafayette County School District                             |
| National/Mississippi Campaign for Grade-Level Reading | myON, Renaissance  |
| Voyager Sopris Learning                               | McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement |
| OIS/OMS Summer Meals Program                          | Oxford Housing Authority                                     |
| MS Department of Education (MDE)                      | LOU ELC Partner Sites  |

**Activities/Events:**

|  |
|--|
| Two VISTA workers began working with ECRD to plan summer book distributions and National Summer Learning Week (Jun 3)  |
| Tamara Hillmer completed the LETRS for Early Childhood Educators Facilitator Training in Dallas, TX. LETRS for ECE will be implemented in the LOU ELC. (Jun 4-7) |
| Book Distribution at OIS Summer Meals Program (Jun 11- info attached in Section F)   |
| Book Distribution at Carrot Camp (Jun 13- info attached in Section F)  |
| Literacy Bus at the Juneteenth Celebration (Jun 15- info attached in Section F)  |
| LOU ELC teachers and assistants attended the Early Childhood BootCamp in Belden, MS, to complete requirements for the LOU ELC (Jun 17-28)                        |
| Book Distribution at OMS Summer Meals Program (Jun 18- info attached in Section F)   |
| Literacy Bus at Oxford Housing Authority's Party in the Park (Jun 22- info attached in Section F)  |
| Book Distribution at OIS Summer Meals Program (Jun 26- info attached in Section F)   |
| Planning with the LOU Early Learning Collaborative partners for the 2019-2020 school year  |
| Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)   |

July 2019

**Collaboration Partners for the Month:**

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County                    | LOU Reads                        |
| Oxford School District                                       | Lafayette County School District |
| National/Mississippi Campaign for Grade-Level Reading        | myON, Renaissance                |
| UM Center for Math and Science Education                     | Author Juanita Gambrel Floyd     |
| University of MS Museum                                      | Good Food for Oxford Schools     |
| McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement | OIS/OMS Summer Meals Program     |
| MS Department of Education (MDE)                             | LOU ELC Partner Sites            |

**Activities/Events:**

|   |
|---|
| National Summer Learning Week at OMS Summer Meals Program (Jul 8-12- info attached in Section F)                              |
| Book Distribution at OMS Summer Meals Program (Jul 17- info attached in Section F)  |
| Webinar for OWL Curriculum with LOU ELC teachers and assistants. OWL will be implemented in the LOU ELC. (Jul 19)             |
| LOU ELC teacher, assistants, and administrators attended the MS Early Childhood Education Conference in Natchez (Jul 22-25)   |
| MS Campaign for Grade-Level Reading Lead Meeting in Jackson (Jul 26)  |
| Webinar for LOU ELC Leads about the STAR Early Literacy Assessment. STAR EL will be given in the LOU ELC classrooms. (Jul 30) |
| Literacy Bus at OPC Day Camp (Jul 31- info attached in Section F)   |
| Planning with the LOU Early Learning Collaborative partners for the 2019-2020 school year                                     |
| Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)  |

**C. PROGRAM GOALS FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD (May-July 2019)**

| Goals  |
|--|
| Partner with local schools to plan MS Reads One Book activities in Fall 2019 (info attached- Section G)                  |
| Complete myON summer Reading Program for June-August 2019 - (report attached - Section H)                                |
| Plan Attendance Awareness Events for the month of September  |
| Begin the new PreK classrooms and improvement of instruction of PreK classrooms in our LOU Early Learning Collaborative. |
| Mobile Literacy Project Enhancement with Partners  |

**D. Upcoming Events**

| Events/Info  |
|--|
| August 2019 - Recruit for LOU ELC: Mary Cathey Head Start still has open slots for 4K (info attached- Section I) |
| August 12 - Breakfast at the Bus Stop at 6am (Brittney Woods and Laurel Grove)                                   |
| August 20 - LOU Reads Summer Coalition Meeting at the Oxford Chamber of Commerce 3:30-4:30pm                     |
| August 24 - Literacy Bus at Taylor Farmer's Market   |
| September 13-14 - MS Literacy Summit in Jackson, MS  |
| September 20 - Breakfast at the Bus Stop at 6am (Wayne Johnson)  |
| September - Back to School Nights for OSD and LCSD: Time/Location TBA  |
| October 29 - LOU Reads Fall Coalition Meeting: Time/Location TBA   |
| NOTE: For up-to-date info and pics, follow LOU Reads on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram - @loureads38655        |

## E. Mississippi PreK Tax Credit Information

We have received \$101,150.00 in MS PreK Tax Credit donations to date.

# STATE TAX CREDIT



## The State Tax Credit

Individuals or corporations who make a contribution to support the local matching fund of an approved early learning collaborative may be eligible to receive a state tax credit for the donated amount up to \$1,000,000. The Mississippi Department of Revenue can approve 1:1 tax credits up to the amount the legislature appropriates to the *Early Learning Collaborative Act* each year. For 2018, the legislature appropriated \$6.5 million; therefore, the sum of the donations eligible for the tax credit may not exceed \$6.5 million. If you make a donation after the cap has been reached, you will not be eligible to receive the tax credit.



## Securing the Tax Credit

To donate to a collaborative and receive the state tax credit, follow these steps:

1

Contact the Lead Partner for the collaborative to which you wish to donate. A list of all the approved early learning collaboratives is found below, along with contact information for the person responsible for collecting donations.

2

The Mississippi Department of Education tracks qualifying donations towards the cap. They will share this information with all the lead partners of the collaboratives. When contacting the lead partner, verify that the cap has not been reached.

3

After you make a donation, the Mississippi Department of Education will issue you a donation certificate documenting that you have contributed to the local matching funds of an approved collaborative.

4


Indicate your donation when you file your state taxes. Use form 80-401, which can be found on the Department of Revenue's website.

# Support the L.O.U. Early Learning Collaborative

Bramlett Elementary,  
Lafayette Lower Elementary,  
Willie Price Lab School, and  
Mary Cathey Head Start

To make your donation, contact the L.O.U. Early Learning Collaborative Coordinator, Tamara Hillmer at [thillmer@oxfordsd.org](mailto:thillmer@oxfordsd.org) or (662) 234-3541.

## F. Summer 2019 Book Distributions

|  | <b>L.O.U READS BOOK DISTRIBUTION<br/>SUMMER 2019</b> |                        |
|---|--|------------------------|
| SITE  | DATES  | # OF BOOKS DISTRIBUTED |
| Summer Meals at OIS   | Tuesday, June 11, 2019                               | 127                    |
| Carrot Camp at OES  | Thursday, June 13, 2019                              | 31                     |
| Oxford Juneteenth Celebration   | Monday, June 25, 2019                                | 55                     |
| Summer Meals at OMS   | Wednesday, June 19, 2019                             | 140                    |
| OHA Party in the Park   | Saturday, June 22, 2019                              | 82                     |
| Summer Meals at OIS   | Wednesday, June 26, 2019                             | 92                     |
| Summer Learning Week - Bookworm Day   | Thursday, July 11, 2019                              | 18                     |
| Summer Meals at OMS   | Tuesday, July 16, 2019                               | 27                     |
| OPC Day Camp  | Wednesday, July 31, 2019                             | 147                    |
|   |  |                        |

# Mississippi Reads One Book®

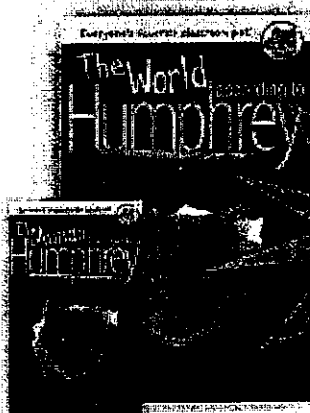
We are proud to offer this unique opportunity for everyone throughout the whole state to read the same book... together!

## Mississippi Reads One Book

Oct 7th, 2019

Follow along as a special guest "Mystery Reader" reads the first chapter aloud via exclusive videocast.

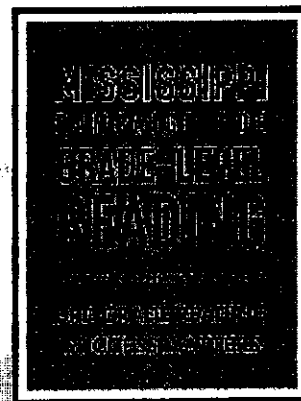
Then every family in your community will read *The World According to Humphrey* at home each night.



A family favorite full of sweet life lessons!

This year's book is  
***The World According to Humphrey***  
(available in English and Spanish)

**\$4.95 Student  
Registration Fee**



You'll receive the "Mystery Reader" videocast, books for every student, staff copies, as well as Family Literacy activities, assemblies, teacher resources and family engagement tools.

Thousands of families across the state will read together in this celebration of Family Literacy!


<http://readtothem.org/mississippi>



## H. myON Summer Reading Program

### Community Profile Lafayette




 1,404 Books Accessed

 2,334 Total Students

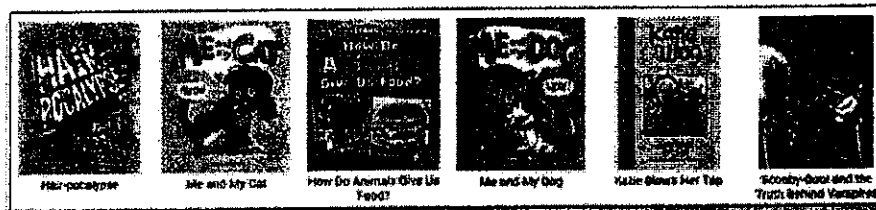
 9,961 Minutes Read

 K Grade with Most Usage

(based on average minutes per week)

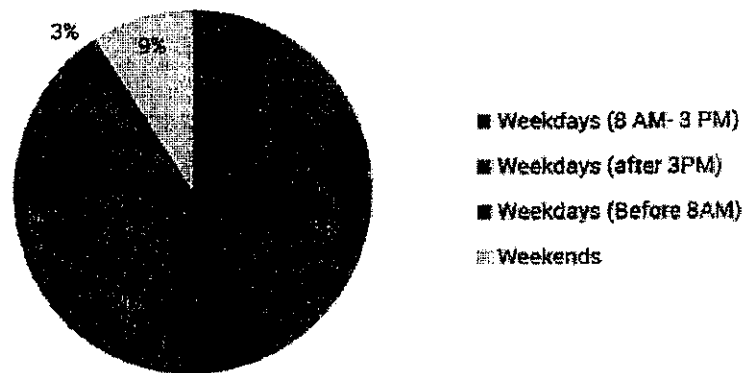
 22,242 Pages Read

#### Most Popular Books



Community Leader: Tamara Hillmer (Oxford School District)

#### Reading Trends





## ICS Head Start

### Preschool Recruitment for Mary Cathey Head Start

**\* No Cost Preschool for 4 Year-Olds \***

**We Have Openings for 2019-2020...**

**Apply Today!**



#### Documentation Needed:

Proof of Yearly Income, Certified Birth Certificate,  
and Immunization Record Form 121

**\* Program Requirements are on the back of this flier \***

Mary Cathey Head Start is part of the LOE Early Learning Collaborative (LOU ELC).  
The center will receive many resources and trainings for Early Childhood Education.  
Other LOU ELC sites are: Bramlett Elementary, Lafayette Lower Elementary, and Willie  
Price Lab School.

**Mary Cathey Head Start:** 662-234-3230

278 Hwy 314, Oxford, MS 38655

**ICS Central Office Family and Health Services:** 662-252-1582

**LOU ELC Coordinator:** Tamara Hillmer, [tlhillmer@oxfordsd.org](mailto:tlhillmer@oxfordsd.org)



### **Program Requirements**

Children from birth to age five from families with low income, according to the Poverty Guidelines published by the Federal government, are eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services. In order to qualify, you must have an annual household income (before taxes) that is less than or equal to the following amounts:

| Household Size* | Maximum Income Level (Per Year) |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1               | \$12,480                        |
| 2               | \$16,910                        |
| 3               | \$21,330                        |
| 4               | \$25,750                        |
| 5               | \$30,170                        |
| 6               | \$34,590                        |
| 7               | \$39,010                        |
| 8               | \$43,430                        |

\*For households with more than eight people, add \$5,530 per additional person. Always check with the appropriate managing agency to ensure the most accurate guidelines. Children in foster care, homeless children, and children from families receiving public assistance are also eligible for Head Start and Early Head Start services regardless of income.

Head Start programs may enroll up to 10 percent of children from families that have incomes above the Poverty Guidelines. Programs may also serve up to an additional 35 percent of children from families whose incomes are above the Poverty Guidelines but below 130 percent of the poverty line if the program can ensure that certain conditions have been met.

Because many programs offer services to families that may qualify them under other local criteria, we strongly recommend you contact the program in your community for more information and guidance.

**Lafayette County Board of Supervisors**  
***Proclamation of September as Attendance Awareness Month***

**WHEREAS**, good attendance is essential to student achievement and graduation, and we, the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors, are committed to dedicating our resources and attention to reducing chronic absenteeism rates in the Lafayette County School District with a focus starting as early as kindergarten,

**WHEREAS** chronic absence – missing 10 percent or more of school for any reason including excused and unexcused absences, or just two of three days a month – is a proven predictor of academic trouble and dropout rates,

**WHEREAS** chronic absence predicts lower third-grade reading proficiency, course failure and eventual dropout, it weakens our communities and our local economy,

**WHEREAS**, we, the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors and the Lafayette County School District, encourage and are dedicated to broad community engagement and sustained civic action to help parents get their children to school every day, and we will reach out more frequently to absent students to determine why they are missing school and what would help them attend more regularly,

**WHEREAS**, together, we will raise public awareness and concern about the toxic impact of chronic absence, while encouraging schools to publish chronic absenteeism data, along with average daily attendance

**WHEREAS**, chronic absence heightens the achievement gap that separates low-income students from their peers, since students from low-income families are both more likely to be chronically absent and more likely to be affected academically by missing school.

**WHEREAS**, chronic absence can be significantly reduced when our schools, parents and the Lafayette County community work together to monitor and promote good attendance and address hurdles that keep children from getting to school,

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that as the President of the Board of Supervisors, I, Jeff Busby and the Lafayette County Board of Supervisors, proclaim that our county will stand with the nation in recognizing September as ***Attendance Awareness Month***. We hereby commit to focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all Lafayette County children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive academically, emotionally and socially.