

**Steve Quarles presented an update on COVID-19 at this time. No action was taken.**  
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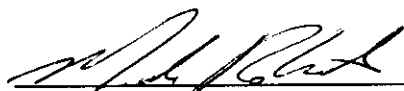
**ORDER: APPROVE INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR FUNDING OF 2020-2021  
EARLY CHILDHOOD AND READING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

Motion was made by David Rikard, duly seconded by Brent Larson, to approve 2020-2021 Interlocal Agreement for Early Childhood and Reading Development Program.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

Supervisor Brent Larson, voted yes  
Supervisor Larry Gillespie, voted yes  
Supervisor David Rikard, voted yes  
Supervisor Chad McLarty, voted yes  
Supervisor Mike Roberts, voted yes

After the vote, President Roberts, declared the motion carried, this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mike Roberts, President**  
**Board of Supervisors**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk**

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR FUNDING OF EARLY  
CHILDHOOD AND READING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and between the Lafayette County School District (“LCSD”), the Oxford School District (“OSD”), the City of Oxford, Mississippi (“the City”), and Lafayette County, Mississippi (“the County”), for the purpose of funding the Early Childhood and Reading Development Program (“the Program”) to support the educational missions of LCSD and OSD.

WHEREAS, the Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1974 authorizes any two or more local governmental units to enter into a written contractual agreement with one another to jointly provide services and facilities and to jointly exercise and carry out power, authority, or responsibility exercised or capable of being exercised by a local governmental unit; and

WHEREAS, OSD, LCSD, the City, and the County are local governmental units as defined by MISS. CODE ANN. § 17-13-5(a) and are each governed by a Governing Authority as defined by MISS. CODE ANN. § 17-13-5(b).

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the provisions of the Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1974, and the approval of the parties’ respective governing authorities, the parties do hereby adopt this Agreement:

1. The parties hereby agree to jointly provide for the continuation of an Early Childhood and Literacy Development Program for the purpose of improving educational outcomes for children in Lafayette County, continuing an early intervention program to promote child growth and development, expanding early learning opportunities in the Oxford and Lafayette County community, and developing strategies to address school readiness, school attendance, and

summer learning.

2. The parties agree that the Oxford School District shall be responsible for the supervisory and administrative oversight of operations and personnel of the Program and shall serve as its fiscal agent. The parties each agree to provide \$30,000 per school year to fund the operation of the Program. As fiscal agent, OSD will annually invoice LCSD, the City, and the County, for their respective contributions. The City and the County shall have no further obligations or responsibilities under this Agreement.

3. The parties understand that OSD hired a Director of Early Childhood and Reading Development (“Director”) in July 2017, based on recommendations brought forth by a joint search committee appointed by the superintendents of OSD and LCSD. The Director is a full-time certified position employed by and provided appropriate facilities by OSD. The Director’s salary will be funded by \$25,000 given by each party.

4. The parties understand that OSD hired a School Readiness Coordinator in July 2019, based on recommendations brought forth by a joint search committee appointed by the superintendents of OSD and LCSD. This position is a full-time certified position employed by and provided appropriate facilities by OSD. The School Readiness Coordinator’s salary will be funded by \$5,000 given by each party, with the remainder of the salary funded through donations to the L.O.U Early Learning Collaborative. The parties’ intent is that the School Readiness Coordinator position will be funded as a full-time certified position only when donations to the L.O.U Early Learning Collaborative exceed the amount of \$100,000 during the prior academic year.

5. This agreement shall be effective on the date the agreement is approved by the Attorney General and shall expire on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021. If the parties desire to renew the agreement, each party shall give written notice of its intent to exercise its option to renew the agreement sixty (60) days before expiration of the initial term of the agreement.

6. This agreement is effective subject to the approval of the Attorney General of the State of Mississippi.

SIGNED and AGREED to, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**OXFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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President

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Secretary

SIGNED and AGREED to, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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President

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Secretary

SIGNED and AGREED to, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**CITY OF OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

SIGNED and AGREED to, this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

**LAFAYETTE COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Board of Supervisors

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Administrator



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

**February - April 2020**

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**

**February 2020**

**Collaboration Partners for the Month:**

United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County	LOU Reads
Oxford School District (OSD)	Lafayette County School District (LCSD)
Mary Cathey Head Start (MCHS)	Willie Price Lab School (WPLS)
MS Department of Education (MDE)	Magnolia Montessori School
Barksdale Reading Institute	McLean Institute
2nd Chance	MSCGLR Communities

**Activities/Events:**

Attended Winter Lead ELC Meeting with MDE (Feb 4)

Professional Learning Community Meeting with LOU ELC Teachers (Feb 11)

PreK Planning Meeting with Bramlett Elementary Admin (Feb 11, 18)

Monitoring Visit by MDE (Feb 12)

Math Training hosted by Magnolia Montessori School (Feb 17)

Parent Academy at Bramlett Elementary School (Feb 18)  
We had 17 parents/family members attend.

Out-of-School Time Coffee Hour Meeting at The Graduate Lobby (Feb 19)

LOU ELC Lead Partner Meeting (Feb 19)

Parent Meeting at MCHS about LOU ELC Parent Education and Workforce Training Program (Feb 19)

Parent Academy at Lafayette Lower Elementary School (Feb 20)  
We had 19 parents/family members attend.

MS Campaign for Grade Level Reading Statewide Meeting in Jackson (Feb 25-26)

PreK Planning Meeting with ICS Head Start Admin (Feb 27)

Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)

### March 2020

#### Collaboration Partners for the Month:

United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County	LOU Reads
Oxford School District (OSD)	Lafayette County School District (LCSD)
Mary Cathey Head Start (MCHS)	Willie Price Lab School (WPLS)
MS Department of Education (MDE)	REACH MS
Barksdale Reading Institute	McLean Institute
Shelton School (Dallas, TX)	BellXcel
myON	Healthy Minds, Bodies, and Communities
2nd Chance	

#### Activities/Events:

PreK Registration at Bramlett Elementary School (Mar 2-6)

LOU ELC Lead Partner Meeting (Mar 3)

Professional Learning Community Zoom Meeting with LOU ELC Teachers (Mar 3)

REACH MS Early Childhood Communities of Practice Training: Engaging Parents of Young Children (Mar 4)

Planning Zoom meeting for LOU Reads Summer Reading Program (Mar 6)

Zoom meeting with Shelton School Director about future partnership to train teachers- the school is for students with dyslexia (Mar 6)

Planning Zoom meeting with local librarians to explore ways to support students/families during COVID-19 (Mar 17)

Assisted with OSD laptop distribution (Mar 20)

Webinar with myON Summer Reading Program for LOU Community (Mar 23)

Planning Zoom meeting for LOU Reads Summer Reading Program with BellXcel (Mar 25)

Planning Zoom meeting for partnership with Dr. Wolff to implement Healthy Minds, Bodies, and Communities in LOU ELC classrooms (Mar 26)

Throughout the month, support was provided to LOU ELC teachers and parents who are a part of the LOU ELC Parent Education and Workforce Training Program.

Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)

## April 2020

### Collaboration Partners for the Month:

United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County	LOU Reads
Oxford School District (OSD)	Lafayette County School District (LCSD)
Mary Cathey Head Start (MCHS)	Willie Price Lab School (WPLS)
MS Department of Education (MDE)	REACH MS
Barksdale Reading Institute	McLean Institute
National Campaign for Grade Level Reading	BellXcel
myON	Healthy Minds, Bodies, and Communities
2nd Chance	MSCGLR Communities
Kroger- Oxford, MS	

### Activities/Events:

Provided LOU ELC students with Transition to Kindergarten Backpacks. These backpacks include many activities families can complete together at home.

MS Campaign for Grade Level Statewide Zoom Meeting to address strategies to support communities during COVID-19 (Apr 6)

Zoom planning meeting with myON Representative to discuss the Summer Reading Program for LOU Community (Apr 9)

REACH MS Early Childhood Communities of Practice Training: Incorporating Literacy Skills (Apr 15)

Campaign for Grade Level Reading Webinar- COVID-19 Emergency Stimulus Package: What It Means for OST Programs (Apr 15)

Out-of-School Time Coffee Hour Meeting via Zoom (Apr 15)

VISTA Webinar- Support during COVID-19 (Apr 15)

Zoom planning meeting with myON Representative to discuss the Summer Reading Program for LOU Community (Apr 16)

Zoom planning meeting with myON Representative and MSCGLR Communities to discuss the Summer Reading Program (Apr 20)

GLR Webinar- Making Sense of COVID-19: Federal Relief Packages and Supports for Families and Their Children ((Apr 21)

Zoom planning meeting with Springboard Collaborative to support the community (Apr 22)

Planning Zoom meeting for LOU Reads Summer Reading Program with BellXcel (Apr 22)

Handed out books to Lafayette County School District families (Apr 23)

Virtual Meeting with MDE- Updates about Early Learning Collaboratives during COVID-19 (Apr 23)

Planning Zoom meeting with school district admin for LOU Reads Summer Reading Program (Apr 24)

LOU Reads Spring Coalition Zoom meeting (Apr 28)

Throughout the month, support was provided to LOU ELC teachers and parents who are a part of the LOU ELC Parent Education and Workforce Training Program.

Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)

### **C. PROGRAM GOALS FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD (May-July 2020)**

#### **Goals**

##### **Parent Academy:**

We were unable to meet in-person for our session in March because of COVID-19. Parent Academy teachers will provide families with videos of activities they can complete at home to support kindergarten readiness. Videos will be posted early-May.

##### **myON Summer Reading Program:**

Enroll PreK through third grade students throughout the LOU Community in the myON Summer Reading Program. It is open to the entire LOU Community. This program will provide literacy opportunities throughout the summer, at a time it is greatly needed because of early school closures. (Section E)

##### **Little Free Libraries:**

We are stocking the Little Free Libraries with books that are pre-packed in bags donated by Kroger. The bags contain four to five books on certain grade levels (PK-K, 1-2, 3-4, 5-6). We are hopeful this will decrease the spread of germs through touch.

##### **LOU ELC Classrooms:**

Provide continued support of PreK classrooms in our Lafayette-Oxford-University Early Learning Collaborative (LOU ELC) with distance learning and family support.

##### **LOU ELC Adult Education and Workforce Training Program:**

Support families enrolled in Adult Education and Workforce Training Program in partnership with 2nd Chance and Northwest Community College.

##### **LOU ELC PreK Tax Credit:**

A sample of what is funded by the PreK Tax Credit are as follows: support the expansion of preschool classrooms within the LOU Community, purchase educational and instructional materials for preschool classrooms, support families enrolled in Adult Education and Workforce Training Program, partial salary of School Readiness Coordinator, support of Parent Academy sessions each month. (Section F)

### **D. Upcoming Events**

#### **Events/Info**

May 2: LOU Reads Spring Professional Development for Early Childhood Educators and Families

May 20: Out-of-School Time Coffee Hour Meeting via Zoom

Jun 29-July 3: National Summer Learning Week

NOTE: For up-to-date info and pics, follow LOU Reads on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram -

@loureads38655

[www.loureads.org](http://www.loureads.org)

RENAISSANCE

# Slow the Summer Slide and **GROW** Avid Readers

## What we know about summer learning loss

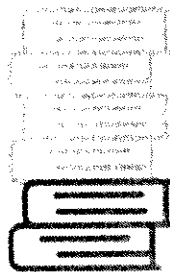


<sup>1</sup> Average loss of reading proficiency for students who do not read over the summer



<sup>2</sup> The high school reading achievement gap attributed to summer learning loss during elementary years

## Why students slide in summer



40%

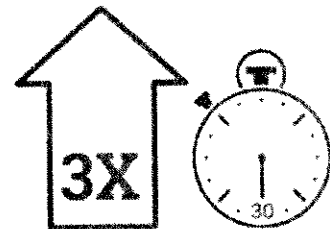
<sup>3</sup> Kids ages 6–17 who read 2 or fewer books during summer

80%

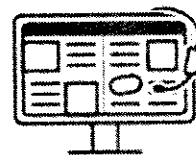


<sup>4</sup> Children from economically disadvantaged communities who lose reading skills over the summer due to lack of access to books and learning opportunities

## How to slow the slide and grow avid readers



<sup>5</sup> The increase in reading gains when students read 30 minutes vs. less than 15 minutes daily



6,000

Number of digital books in Renaissance myON<sup>®</sup> Reader to engage students in reading

**myON**  
by Renaissance<sup>®</sup>

Keep students reading anytime, anywhere,  
all summer long.

Visit <https://www.renaissance.com/summer/> to see how.

# Curb the Summer Slide with myON<sup>®</sup> Reader!

In partnership  
with the  
**MISSISSIPPI  
CAMPAIGN FOR  
GRADE-LEVEL  
READING**

We are happy to share that your student has access to an online digital-reading platform for **FREE** this summer!

- Over **6,000** digital titles
- **Anytime, anywhere** access
- Available **online and offline**

Your child will receive his/her login credentials before the end of the school year. Please contact your Community Leader for questions about logging in and usernames/passwords.

## Questions?

Contact your Community Leader for more details.  
Tamara Hillmer

L.O.U. Reads Community Lead  
thillmer@oxforded.org

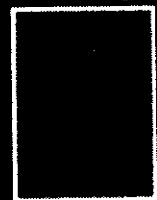
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## F. Mississippi PreK Tax Credit Information

We have received \$7,210 in FY20 donations.

# 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 [tlhillmer@oxfordsd.org](mailto:tlhillmer@oxfordsd.org) or (662) 234-3541.