

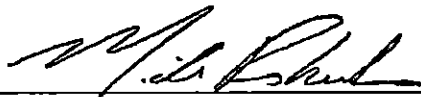
**ORDER: APPROVE EARLY CHILDHOOD AND READING DEVELOPMENT  
PARTNERSHIP QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT**

Motion was made by Brent Larson, duly seconded by Larry Gillespie, to approve Early Childhood and Reading Development Partnership quarterly progress report.

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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2021.



**Mike Roberts, President  
Board of Supervisors**



**Sherry Wall, Chancery Clerk**

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

**November 2020 - January 2021**

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**

November 2020	
<b>Collaboration Partners for the Month:</b>	
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)	MS Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (MSCGLR)
Second Chance, Inc.	Northwest Community College (NWCC)
UM McLean Institute VISTA Program	Center for Excellence in Literacy Instruction (CELI)
Ole Miss Athletics- Kermit's Kids	
<b>Activities/Events:</b>	
NWCC about Adult Education Meeting via Zoom (Nov 10)	
University of Mississippi McLean Institute VISTA Program Meeting via Zoom (Nov 12)	
The Shelton School Partner Meeting for the North MS Literacy Project via Zoom (Nov 12)	
Out-of-School Time Coffee Hour Meeting via Zoom (Nov 18)	
LOU Reads Fall Coalition Meeting via Zoom (Nov 18)	
Planning Meeting for the Zero to Three Statewide Viewing with MSCGLR and CELI via Zoom (Dec 30)	
Planning throughout the month with Ole Miss Athletics/Basketball to develop the Kermit's Kids Program	
Contacted LOU ELC PreK Classroom family members to recruit for the Adult Education and Workforce Training Program with Second Chance, Inc. and Northwest Community College.	
Replenished Little Free Libraries throughout the LOU Community	

**December 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)	MS Campaign for Grade-Level Reading (MSCGLR)
Bezos Foundation- Mind in the Making	Shelton School
Second Chance, Inc.	Northwest Community College
Oxford Housing Authority	Center for Excellence in Literacy Instruction (CELI)
UM McLean Institute VISTA Program	UM Ford Center
OSD Family Support Center (FSC)	Ole Miss Athletics- Kermit's Kids

**Activities/Events:**

LOU ELC Lead Partner Meeting and PLC Meeting via Zoom (Dec 1)
LOU ELC PLC Meeting via Zoom (Dec 1)
Tech Meeting with MCHS Teachers (Dec 2)
NIEER Data Meeting with BES Admin (Dec 3)
NIEER Data Meeting with MCHS Admin (Dec 4)
The Shelton School Partner Meeting for the North MS Literacy Project via Zoom (Dec 4)
Mind in the Making Training Follow-up via Zoom (Dec 7)
NIEER Data Meeting with WPLS Admin (Dec 8)
LCSD Meeting for the North MS Literacy Project via Zoom (Dec 10)
Statewide Viewing of the Zero to Three Film and Panel Discussion in partnership with MSCGLR and CELI via Zoom (Nov 10) We had 75 attendees for the Panel Discussion.
Out-of-School Time Coffee Hour Meeting via Zoom (Dec 16)
Gift Distribution in partnership with FSC and Pinelake Church (Dec 16)
LOU Reads Winter Storytime- Videos of read alouds at the Ford Center were posted online and fifty activity packets were distributed around the LOU Community (Dec 22-24)
Planning throughout the month with Ole Miss Athletics/Basketball to develop the Kermit's Kids Program
Contacted LOU ELC PreK Classroom family members to recruit for the Adult Education and Workforce Training Program with Second Chance, Inc. and Northwest Community College.

Replenished Little Free Libraries throughout the LOU Community	
January 2021	
<b>Collaboration Partners for the Month:</b>	
United Way of Oxford and Lafayette County	LOU Reads
Oxford School District (OSD)	Lafayette County School District (LOSD)
Mary Cathey Head Start (MCHS)	Willie Price Lab School (WPLS)
MS Department of Education (MDE)	UM McLean Institute VISTA Program
OSD Family Support Center (FSC)	Northwest Community College
Second Chance, Inc.	Ole Miss Athletics- Kermit's Kids
<b>Activities/Events:</b>	
MSCGLR Checkin Meeting via Zoom (Jan 6)	
Ole Miss Athletics/Basketball Meeting about Kermit's Kids Program (Jan 25)	
LOU ELC Lead Partner Meeting via Zoom (Jan 26)	
LOU ELC PLC Meeting via Zoom (Jan 26)	
LOU Reads Parent Discussion at FSC (Jan 30)	
Planning throughout the month with Ole Miss Athletics/Basketball to develop the Kermit's Kids Program	
Contacted LOU ELC PreK Classroom family members to recruit for the Adult Education and Workforce Training Program with Second Chance, Inc. and Northwest Community College.	
Replenished Little Free Libraries (nine in the area)	

### C. PROGRAM GOALS FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD (February 2021 - April 2021)

Goals
Continued support of PreK classrooms in our Lafayette-Oxford-University Early Learning Collaborative (LOU ELC)- 23 classrooms
Recruit family members of LOU ELC PreK Classrooms for the Adult Education and Workforce Training Program. Currently, we have five people inquire and begin taking steps toward admission since November 2020. We have nine active participants in the program (5 GED and 4 career/workforce).
Provide professional development for the LOU Community childcare centers and schools based on MKAS data. (Section E)
Provide K-Readiness Backpacks to local childcare centers.
Plan Mind in the Making Trainings- Leaders across the state are discussing the best plan of action to bring the training to communities throughout the state.
Continue partnership with Ole Miss Athletics and Coach Kermit Davis to implement Kermit's Kids at Central Elementary, Della Davidson Elementary, and Lafayette Elementary, and Lafayette Upper Elementary. It is a program that works in conjunction with the Accelerated Reader Program at each school. Kermit's Kids will run February through April 2021.
Partner with the School of Education to organize a series of book drives and subsequent distributions in the community of Marks, MS. Ole Miss Athletics will be teaming with the School of Ed to push efforts.
Continue to promote efforts of LOU Reads through our website and social media (Section F)
Promote PreK Tax Credit for the LOU ELC (Section G)

### D. Upcoming Events

Events/Info
February 17 at 9am Out-of-School Coffee Hour via Zoom Zoom Link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82027498211?pwd=bE9Uckd1OUVPaWVvU1BHWiINa3lBQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82027498211?pwd=bE9Uckd1OUVPaWVvU1BHWiINa3lBQT09</a>
February 18 at 4pm LOU Reads Winter Coalition Meeting via Zoom Zoom Link: <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86292824414?pwd=T1VrVFpndDhCTU9xZzJpb0VNdlUrQT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86292824414?pwd=T1VrVFpndDhCTU9xZzJpb0VNdlUrQT09</a>
February 25 at TBA ECDRD Office Open House Stay tuned to LOU Reads Social Media for more info.
NOTE: For up-to-date info and pics, follow LOU Reads on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram - @loureads38655

### E. K-Readiness Data for 2020-2021 School Year

Below are the average scale scores and readiness rates of all the kindergarten students in the Oxford and Lafayette County School Districts sorted by the previous preschool program the students attended. The fall benchmark for kindergarten is a scale score of 530. Students must score a 530 to be considered ready for kindergarten. The readiness rate is calculated by dividing the number of students who scored a 530 by the number of students who attended the preschool program.

**NOTE:** The number of students who attended each preschool program and the number of students who reached the 530 scale score are not listed in order to protect students' identity.

COMBINED 20-21 K Readiness		
Previous PreK	Average Scale Score	School Readiness Rate
Discovery Day School	669	87%
Oxford University School	614	86%
Regents School of Oxford	611	100%
Willie Price Lab School	558	61%
Other - Public Preschool	557	70%
Other - Private Preschool	556	63%
First Baptist Church Weekday Education	552	71%
Kindergarten Repeaters	548	55%
Bramlett PreK	545	53%
Lafayette PreK	538	62%
Creative Learning Center (N. Oxford Baptist)	533	45%
Other - Daycare/Lic Childcare	518	48%
Unknown	504	38%
Little Angels Daycare	501	50%
Cotton Candy	495	33%
Mother Goose Daycare	494	50%
Learner's Playhouse	492	22%
None/Home/Family Care	490	23%
ABC Learning Center	482	38%
Kid's College	474	43%
Mary Cathey Head Start	473	24%
Other - Head Start	429	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>529</b>	<b>47%</b>

### Previous K-Readiness Rates for OSD and LCSD Combined:

OSD and LCSD Readiness Rates from 2017-2018 to 2020-2021					
School Year	Combined Across Both Districts				
	LLES	OSD	Average Readiness Rate	Average Scale Score	Number of Students Assessed
2017-2018	44%	48%	46%		
2018-2019	40%	47%	44%	516	522
2019-2020	42%	43%	43%	533	528
2020-2021	43%	50%	47%	529	511

**NOTE:** The LOU ELC began the 2019-2020 school year.

## F. LOU Reads Web Page and Social Media Analytics (Nov 2020 - Jan 2021)

- 664 web page views
- 135 web visitors
- 5,441 reaches on Facebook
- 41 shares on Facebook

## G. Mississippi PreK Tax Credit Information

We received **\$665,996.00** in MS PreK Tax Credit donations during 2020.


To inform the public of this opportunity to support early childhood education in our community, we crafted materials for digital and print outreach:

- 60 mailers
- 33 emails
- 11 social media posts
- 1 press release
- 1 news article

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