



Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent

## **ACTION MEMORANDUM**

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**To:** Bibb County Board of Education, Dr. Dan A. Sims, Superintendent

**From:** Dr. Ethel Lett, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning  
Olena Stadnik-Floore, Director of Elementary Services

**Subject:** Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS)  
Professional Development Volume 2 Professional Learning Course

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### **Summary**

Language Essentials for Teachers of Reading and Spelling (LETRS) is a nationally recognized professional development program grounded in the Science of Reading. It is designed to equip educators and administrators with the foundational knowledge and instructional practices necessary to support all students in developing strong literacy skills. LETRS aligns with the Georgia Early Literacy Act, which mandates high-quality, research-based professional learning for K–5 educators in literacy and language development.

### **Background**

During the 2023–2024 school year, Bibb County School District implemented **LETRS Volume 1** training for all K–5 teachers and elementary administrators, with a focus on word recognition skills such as phonological awareness, phonics, decoding, and spelling. In 2024–2025, schools concentrated on applying these practices through structured literacy routines, supported by coaching and collaborative planning.

To extend this work, the Teaching and Learning Department recommends launching **LETRS Volume 2**, which addresses key language comprehension components—vocabulary, syntax, background knowledge, and verbal reasoning—essential for reading comprehension.

Additionally, **LETRS Volume 1** should be provided to newly hired K–5 educators who have not yet received Science of Reading-aligned training, ensuring districtwide consistency in foundational literacy instruction.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Bibb County Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent to approve the purchase of LETRS professional development for use

during the 2025-2026 school year. The cost will not exceed \$349,110, which will come from General Funds.

**Superintendent's Comments and Approval**

| Superintendent's Comments | Approved /<br>Not Approved |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Dr. Dan A. Sims           | Approved                   |