



The Denver Plan 2020 is the Denver Public Schools' five-year strategic plan. With the vision of Every Child Succeeds, we are committed to five goals designed to close academic achievement gaps and prepare all students for success in college and careers. Among these goals is A Foundation for Success in School.

What is the goal?

By 2020, at least 80% of DPS third-graders will be at or above grade level in reading and writing.

What area(s) are we focused on to achieve these increases?

DPS is focused on early literacy as the foundation for students' entire academic experience. In order to achieve this goal and improve outcomes, we all have important roles to play, which is why, along with the Early Literacy Plan, the Birth to Eight Roadmap initiative was created.

- Early literacy – which DPS defines as reading, writing, listening and speaking – is essential to building a strong foundation for success in school and in life. Reading proficiency by third grade is an essential step toward high school graduation and career success; children who are reading proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to graduate.



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Supporting educators in providing outstanding literacy instruction for all learners.



LEADERSHIP

Maintaining an intentional focus on early literacy while supporting and inspiring educators.



CURRICULUM

Providing engaging, rigorous and culturally-relevant learning that fosters strong readers, writers and communicators.



ASSESSMENTS



Helping educators monitor student progress and adjust instruction to drive student growth.

TIME



Prioritizing time for students and educators to focus on the joy of reading, writing and communicating.

INTERVENTION



Focusing supports to meet each students' needs and accelerate their progress.

- The Birth to 8 Roadmap initiative is a collaboration between the City and County of Denver Mayor's Office of Children's Affairs, Denver Public Schools and numerous community partners that are committed to ensuring Denver children are prepared to enter school ready to learn and thrive. A child's health and social-emotional wellbeing from the time they are born has a huge impact on their ability to learn. In order improve outcomes and close opportunity gaps for the city's youngest residents, it will take the combined efforts of an entire community. These partners are focused on leveraging and aligning current programs and when necessary developing and implementing new programs to support children's health and social-emotional needs and providing greater access to parents and caregivers.

What specific things are we doing to make progress this year?

The early literacy plan specifically aims to provide teachers with intensive and sustained professional learning that supports and builds on educator expertise, instructional support, interventions and time needed to help their students become strong readers, writers and communicators. The first phase of the plan brought together more than 2,400 educators over the summer for the Foundations of Early Literacy training.

For More Information:

Visit www.foundationsforsuccess.dpsk12.org. For communications assistance in support of this Denver Plan goal, contact Policy Communications Specialist Kelly Wagoner at kelly_wagoner@dpsk12.org.

