USD 443 LINK GRANT (DC LINK)

LITERACY PROFESSIONAL LEARNING
Teachers, particularly teachers working together, matter more to student achievement than any other aspect of school.*

THE JOURNEY BEGINS
LITERACY NEEDS ASSESSMENT
In April 2018, the Literacy Leadership Team gave a rating of Emerging or Not Evident for ALL criteria in the Professional Learning category in the Elementary, Middle & High School age groups. In Birth-Age 5, 6 out of 7 criteria were rated Emerging or Not Evident.

CHARTING OUR COURSE
USD 443 LITERACY INITIATIVE
In May 2018, the USD 443 Literacy Initiative formally organizes professional learning into three main goal areas: Culturally Responsive Teaching, Reading & Writing. In order to differentiate professional learning, teachers are organized into three "Cohort Groups" based on grade-level and content area.

SCIENCE OF READING
SNAPSHOT OF ACTIVITIES
- Fall 2018: Series of Reading professional learning sessions grounded in the Science of Reading begins for 3rd-5th grade elementary classroom teachers and middle & high school ELA teachers; continues through Spring 2021.
- Fall 2019: All preK-2nd grade teachers begin Science of Reading professional learning series; continues through Spring 2021.
- Spring 2020: LETRS training made available to teachers district-wide.
- Summer 2021: Literacy Institute offered to all teachers and paraprofessionals district-wide — over 300 educators participate!

HOW’S IT GOING?
WHAT TEACHERS ARE SAYING...
- About professional learning:
  - "I felt the information was great. It gave me lots of ideas & got me eager to begin planning..."
- About instructional coaching:
  - "I really enjoyed the coaching process. It is nice to bounce ideas off another person and see the different directions you can go."

*Waack, Sebastian “Hattie Ranking: Backup of 138 effects related to student achievement” Visible-Learning.org