

# Literacy Vision

Birmingham Public Schools is committed to providing an exceptional ELA/Literacy (Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening) instruction model that fosters critical inquiry skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Our vision is to create an equitable learning environment where students can discover themselves and the world while cultivating a lifelong pursuit of wisdom. To achieve this, we embrace the following principles:

## Scope and Sequence

Our curriculum follows a clear organizational structure aligned with rigorous state standards. This ensures a well-organized and purposeful learning experience, guiding students from one grade level to the next.

## Foundational Skills

We prioritize building a solid foundation in literacy by focusing on oral language development, phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, and high-frequency words. We closely monitor skill acquisition and provide targeted support to students.

## Complex Texts

BPS students are exposed to a diverse range of complex texts, encouraging critical thinking, analytical skills, and deep comprehension. Engaging with challenging materials prepares students for academic and personal pursuits.

## Knowledge Building

We believe in systematically and explicitly providing students access to vital and rich content, enhancing their understanding of the world. This background knowledge strengthens vocabulary and comprehension and facilitates meaningful conversations.

## Writing

Our instructional model emphasizes the integration of various writing components to improve reading comprehension. Developing foundational and composition writing skills helps students express complex thoughts and ideas.

## Equity

Delivering quality core instruction is crucial for promoting equity. We also recognize the need for personalized interventions and acceleration strategies to support students in reaching their full potential.

## Engaging, Relevant, and Collaborative

We prioritize interactive, creative, and dynamic instructional methods that foster student engagement and enthusiasm. Our literacy materials and topics reflect the diverse backgrounds of our students. We actively promote collaboration and family communication to support students' literacy development.

***Adhering to these principles creates an inclusive learning environment where students utilize reading and writing to thrive and become lifelong learners.***