

KANSAS ALTERNATIVE EARLY LITERACY SCREENER (KAELS)

November 3, 2025
Wichita Public Schools
Board of Education Meeting



2024 – 2029 STRATEGIC PLAN STUDENT SUCCESS

Wichita Public Schools will **thrive** in **innovative and impactful educational communities** that:

Increase academic achievement and graduation rate

Elementary School:

Decrease the % of 3rd graders scoring some or high risk on aReading from **60.7% to 55.3%** by May 2026.

Middle School:

Decrease the % of 8th graders scoring some or high risk on the aMath screener from **60.4% to 57%** by Spring 2026.

SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS IN WICHITA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

8910

Student with IEPs

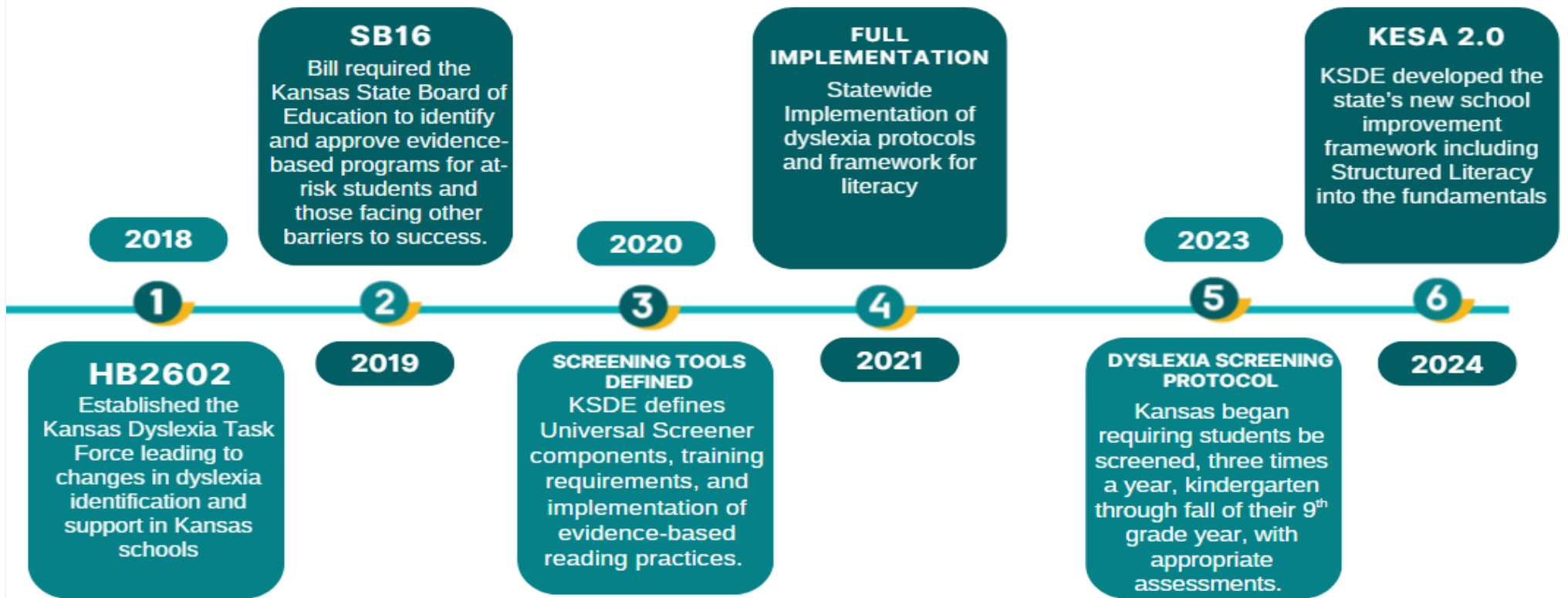
(Approx based on Count Day)

Exceptionality Categories

- Autism
- Blindness/Visual Impairment
- Deaf-Blindness
- Developmental Delay
- Emotional Disability
- Gifted
- Hearing Impairment
- Intellectual Disability
- Learning Disability
- Multiple Disabilities
- Orthopedic Impairment
- Other Health Impairment
- Speech or Language Impairment
- Traumatic Brain Injury

STRUCTURED LITERACY

STATE TIMELINE



KANSAS ALTERNATE ASSESSMENT

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)

Structure of the DLM

Alternative assessment system designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities to demonstrate proficiency in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

Purpose of the DLM

Provide meaningful academic assessments aligned with grade-level standards to guide instructional decision-making and ensuring high expectations for all students.

Participation Criteria

Students qualifying for the DLM assessment must have a most significant cognitive disability, receive instruction aligned to alternate achievement standards, and be determined eligible by the IEP team based on specific participation criteria.

ABOUT THE KAEELS SCREENER

The **Kansas Alternate Early Literacy Screener** was developed as an alternate early literacy screener for students with a most significant cognitive disability.

Students must qualify for the DLM to have access to KAEELS

About the Screener:

Only for K-3rd grade students. Teacher completed rubric based on student performance.

Rubric:

Separate rubric for K, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade. Assesses students' early literacy skills as they relate to domains within ELA.

Data Examples:

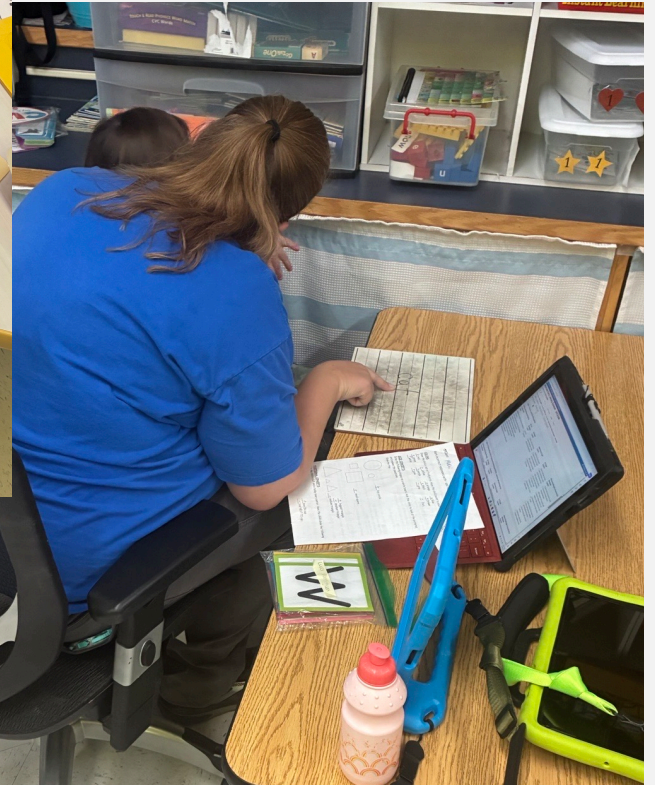
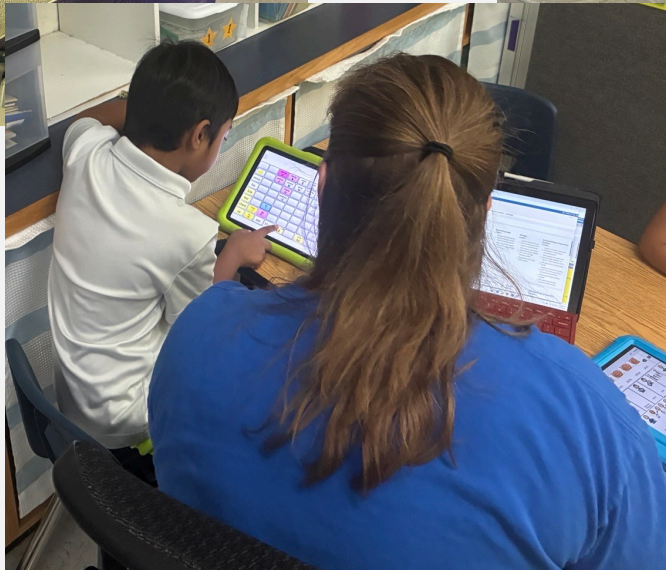
Anecdotal Notes, Work Samples, Classroom Observations, Activities, Performance Data including IEP data

KAELS RUBRIC PERFORMANCE LEVELS

KAELS Rubric Performance Level	Diagnostic Needed	Intervention/ Instruction Needed
Not Yet Emerging (1)	Yes	Yes
Emerging (2)	Yes	Yes
Approaching Target (3)	Yes	Yes
At Target (4)	No	Continue with Tier 1/Core Instruction
Advanced (5)	No	

WPS KAELS INFO

Grade	Spring 2025	Fall 2025
K	25	16
1st	18	19
2nd	18	14
3rd	10	18



STUDENTS
TODAY
↓
LEADERS
TOMORROW

LIFE
COLLEGE
AND
CAREER

QUESTIONS

Ryan Alliman, Executive Director of Student Support Services

Nicki Seeley, Executive Director of Student Support Services