

# *Dyslexia Advisory Council*

## *April 22, 2022 Meeting Summary*

On Friday, April 22, the Dyslexia Advisory Council convened via digital platform to discuss the following topics:

- Guidance Updates
- Interventions
- Recommending Screeners

### **Council Background**

#### **Expectations of Council Members**

Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill [6162](#) requires that Washington maintains an advisory council for the purposes of providing policy guidance with respect to early screening of literacy skills related to dyslexia and related instructional practices for students with dyslexia. Such an advisory panel shall consist of members appointed by the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI); and be comprised of individuals involved with issues surrounding dyslexia.

#### **Expectations of Statute**

In accordance with RCW [28A.320.260](#), LEAs must use Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) to:

- Screen students in grades K-2 for indications of below-grade level literacy development, including indications of / or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia.
- Provide evidence-based multisensory structured literacy interventions to students in grades K-2 who display indications of below-grade level literacy development, including indications of / or areas of weakness associated with dyslexia.
- Communicate and collaborate with parents and families about their student's screening results, intervention plan, and literacy progress.

### **Guidance Updates**

The Council approved a proposal from OSPI partners on updating implementation guidance. The proposal included the following:

- A subcommittee will use input provided by the Council to integrate and align all of the best practices / recommendations in a single **implementation guide** focused on using MTSS to screen, intervene, and engage families. The Council will have the opportunity to review the guide, suggest revisions, and vote to approve at the next meeting in June. All Council



Members were invited to participate on the subcommittee. The guide will include the following content:

- Table of Contents:
  - Background and expectations
    - Purpose of the guide, key legislation, information about dyslexia
  - Implementation best practices
    - Multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS)
      - Family engagement
      - Screening
      - Intervention (to be added)
      - Considerations for special education and 504
  - Next steps for implementation
  - Appendices (contributors, references, and resources)

After the Council approves the updated guidance, it will be reviewed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction and published on the website.

## Interventions

The council members reviewed articles and publications on best practices for interventions for students who are reading below grade level or exhibit indications of or weaknesses associated with dyslexia from The International Dyslexia Association, The Council for Exceptional Children, Understood.org, the Institute of Education Sciences, the National Center for Intensive Instruction, and Nancy Young. In small groups, council members discussed defining features, implementation guidelines, and resources for professional development. OSPI partners and a subcommittee of council members will review the recommendations for inclusion in the implementation guidance.

## Recommending Screeners

The Council approved a proposal from OSPI partners on recommending additional RAN screeners and screeners in languages other than English. The proposal included the following:

- OSPI will release a Request for Qualifications and Quotations (RFQQ), providing time for questions and answers, and will collect proposals
- A subcommittee of the council will review proposals and drafts recommendations
- The DAC will vote on the sub-committee's recommendations
- OSPI will use the recommendations to update it's list of recommended tools

The Council heard and considered considerations for screening in other languages from Dr. Kristin Percy Calaff. All Council Members were invited to participate on the subcommittees.

## Public Comment

The Council received input from a second-grade teacher and a parent/founding member of Decoding Dyslexia WA.

## Upcoming Work

The Council will reconvene in late June to review and approve the implementation guidance. Dates for Council convenings in the 2022/2023 will be informed by the RFQQ processes.

