Pennsylvania State Literacy Plan

**Vision**

All students in Pennsylvania, from birth through grade 12, will become well-educated citizens with a command of literacy that prepares them for the challenges of the 21st century and enables them to achieve their personal and professional goals.

**Mission**

The Pennsylvania State Literacy Plan provides guidance to stakeholders about their roles in developing an integrated, aligned, and comprehensive set of literacy experiences for students.

### GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Literacy as a Critical Foundation for All Learning**
  - Read, write, and communicate at high levels
  - Construct meaning from and across multiple sources

- **Diversity**
  - Acknowledge, value, and respect diversity
  - Offer educational experiences so students learn about their own culture and the culture of others

- **High Expectations**
  - Establish for all learners
  - Believe all students can gain literacy skills to prepare them to be future ready for success in college, career, and as citizens

- **Evidence-Based Decision Making**
  - Implement evidence-based literacy programs, practices, and policies
  - Ground decision making in reliable and valid research results

- **Professional Learning**
  - Prepare teachers to teach effectively in the 21st century
  - Provide job-embedded opportunities that promote lifelong learning and reflective teaching

### ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS

- **Standards**
  - Ensure a well-articulated, coherent set of goals at and between all levels based on PA Core Standards

- **Oral Language and Academic Discourse**
  - Provide the foundation for learning, literacy development, and the written word through speaking and listening

- **Assessment**
  - Address the dual purposes of assessment (i.e., accountability and informing decision-making)

- **21st Century Classrooms**
  - Equip students with skills that go beyond the classroom to meet future demands

- **Differentiated Instruction**
  - Execute instruction that accounts for the differences in students’ needs, interests, cultures, and backgrounds

- **Disciplinary Literacy**
  - Provide students with supported experiences and opportunities to read, write, talk, and think deeply in service of content learning

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