

NYC Reads

Why We Needed a New Approach

In 2022, **51% of NYC elementary school students** were not reading proficiently

63% of Latino students were not reading proficiently

64% of Black students were not reading proficiently

The inability to read has far reaching impact:

Students can't access content & fall behind in every subject

Become 4 times more likely to drop out before graduation

Are at increased risk of poverty, incarceration, & poor health

Teachers needed a new playbook.

Our Big Bets

Superintendents as change-makers

From the beginning, we empowered superintendent leadership to drive implementation in their district.

Intensive job-embedded support for educators

We knew teachers needed intensive job-embedded support to change practice.

Our Approach: Four Pillars Driving Impact

From classrooms to
communities,
NYC Reads is
transforming literacy
across the system.



Excellent Instruction
in Every Classroom



Targeted Interventions
for All Learners



Innovation &
Scaled Impact



Community Partnership
& Engagement

NYC Reads launched in 2023

Each District chose between 3 curriculum:

Wit & Wisdom, Into Reading, or EL Education

We started implementation with...

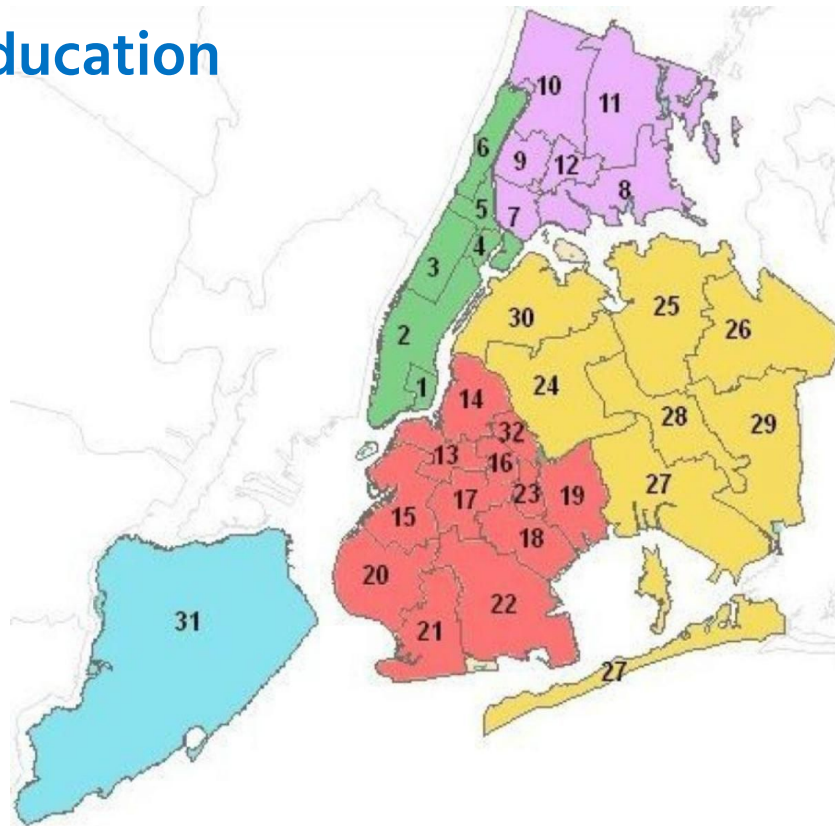
16 districts **365** schools **150,000** Phase 1 K-5 students

In SY 2024-25 we added...

17 districts 479 schools 197,000 Phase 2 K-5 students

In SY 2025-26 expanding into middle school, adding...

8 districts 102 schools 25,000 6-8 students



We are building from a common foundation.

- In ES, prioritized strong core instruction as a foundation.
- In MS, we are prioritizing strong core while simultaneously learning from MTSS implementation.
- In HS, we started building pockets of excellence in comprehensive assessment systems and implementing interventions.

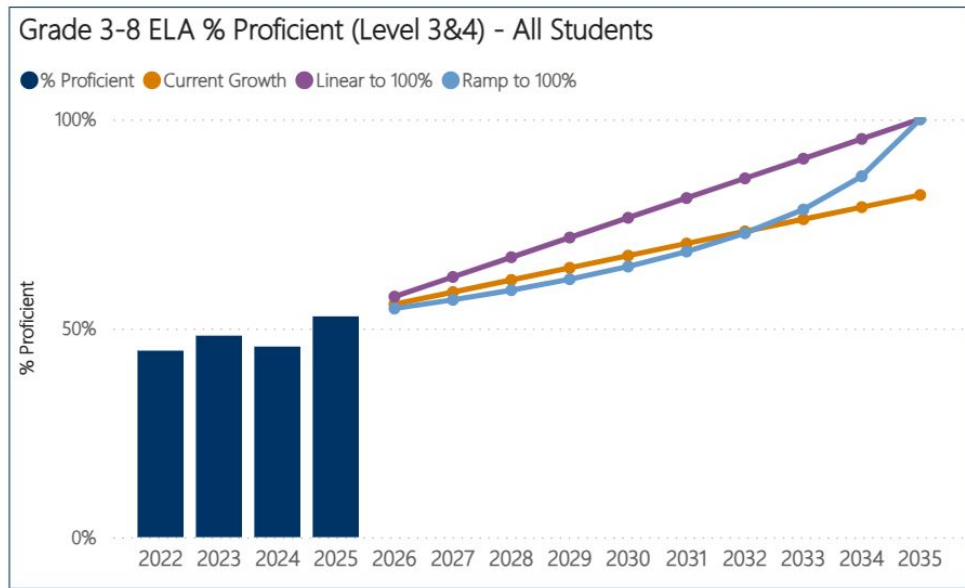
	SY23-24	SY24-25	SY25-26	SY26-27
Phase 1	CSDs 5, 11, 12, 14, 16, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 32, 75			
	1st year of HQIM implementation support	2nd year of HQIM implementation support	3rd year of literacy-focused MTSS	Transition to trained district staff
Phase 2	CSDs 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 17, 18, 24, 27, 28, 31			
	N/A	1st year of HQIM implementation support	2nd year of HQIM implementation	3rd year of literacy-focused MTSS
MS	CSDs 1, 3, 7, 9, 11, 12, 23, 19			
	N/A	N/A	1st year of MS HQIM implementation & MTSS in 5 schools	2nd year of MS HQIM implementation & MTSS
HS&Hubs	HS Districts and Hubs CSD 8, 10, 18, 24, 31			
	Cohort focus on data systems and interventions	Started with data systems and interventions	Expansion and focus on data systems and interventions (components of MTSS)	Will continue focus on components of MTSS

Early progress
in NYC Reads
shows that
aligned effort
and collective
action can
drive real
change.

We are seeing promising evidence of **progress**.

	Screeners (K-5)	NYS ELA Proficiency (K-5)
Aggregate Growth	+ 2.5 pp	+ 10.7 pp
Gains across all grade bands	K-1 + 3.2 pp 3-5 + 1.7 pp	3rd + 12.9 pp 4th + 6.6 pp 5th + 15 pp
All Districts	Phase 1 + 2.8 pp Phase 2 + 2.3 pp	Phase 1 + 11.6 pp Phase 2 + 10.4 pp
Most At-Risk Students	1.8 pp decrease in students performing far below grade level	Phase 1 8.4 pp decrease in level 1 Phase 2 8.2 pp decrease in level 1

**NYC Reads is
aiming for
trajectory
changing
outcomes
for all students.**



**By 2035, all NYCPS students will
be thriving readers and writers.**

Creating a
trajectory
changing
system
takes **time**.

And, we have more work to do.

	K-5 Screeners	3-8 NYS ELA Proficiency
Students with disabilities & without	29.9 pp gap	37.8 pp gap
Students learning English & English speakers	36.4 pp gap	50.2 pp gap
Black & White students	21.0 pp gap	26.1 pp gap
Hispanic & White students	27.6 pp gap	29.6 pp gap

**The power of NYC Reads
isn't tied to one
curriculum or practice,
but to a shared
foundation that enables
us to reimagine how we
work together across
schools, districts, and
the entire system.**

Superintendents as change-makers

We've learned how to amplify impact by creating the conditions and structures that support superintendent leadership.

Intensive job-embedded support for educators

While we knew support had to be intensive and well-coordinated, we've since learned how to operationalize it: clarifying district roles, providing concrete models and frameworks for providers, and aligning supports across the system.

Our starting point: Common HQIM is the starting line for building system-wide coherence.

Our learning: Build on that foundation with a clear, crisp, shared vision that gives superintendents the space to simplify and drives coherence across the system.

Citywide NYC Reads Instructional Focus

Eyes on Text: All students reading, discussing, and writing to make meaning of challenging texts every day.

NYC Reads brings rich, challenging, grade-level texts into every classroom, so all students grow to be proficient readers. To achieve this, we need to build student independence and ensure access to these texts. As part of a robust Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), we provide scaffolds to ensure that all students meet grade-level outcomes. When students struggle to read grade-level texts independently, we address this "readability gap" by using evidence-based instructional practices, such as explicit instruction and small group instruction.

Our starting point: We needed to build district team capacity to lead and own systemic change in literacy instruction. Our early structures were simple—monthly meetings for literacy leads.

Our learning: Build vertical and horizontal collaboration and create differentiated strands to address all NYC Reads components.

Citywide Data-Dives and Progress Monitoring

Superintendent and/or Deputy
and Core Literacy Team - all
NYC Reads districts

District Intervisitation

Districts groups with
members from Central office
attending

Citywide Curriculum-Specific

Literacy Team - all NYC Reads
districts

Phase 1 and MS MTSS

Core Literacy Teams:
- NYC Reads K-5 Phase 1
districts & NYC Reads MS Phase
1 and Districts
- Select 2-3 principals per
district

High School & Literacy Hubs

Core Literacy Teams:
- Hub principals and School
Literacy Points 3x/year



NYC Reads is about kids' eyes on rich, meaningful texts
every day.

We turn that vision into reality through strategic
implementation, data-driven learning, and continuous
improvement — ensuring every student, in every
school, learns to read with confidence and joy.