



Unlocking Brilliance: Every Child, Every Step, Everywhere

MODEL INNOVATION COMMUNITY • EXECUTIVE SUMMARY FOR SUPERINTENDENTS

Building a Communitywide Literacy Infrastructure

Literacy success does not begin on the first day of school, and it cannot rest on schools alone.

Children build language, vocabulary, confidence, and early literacy habits at home, in childcare, at the library, in community programs, and through everyday conversations with the adults around them. By the time students arrive at school, readiness gaps are often already visible—and districts are left to respond with intervention, tutoring, remediation, and additional staffing.

A Model Innovation Community helps superintendents move literacy support upstream by connecting schools, families, early learning providers, libraries, nonprofits, businesses, and civic partners around one shared Birth–8 readiness strategy.

This approach turns literacy from a school-only initiative into communitywide infrastructure.

Why It Matters

Superintendents are being asked to improve kindergarten readiness, third-grade reading, MTSS outcomes, family engagement, and long-term student success—often with fragmented tools and disconnected programs.

A Model Innovation Community helps bring those priorities together.

Instead of waiting until children enter school to identify gaps, districts can begin building readiness earlier. Instead of asking schools to carry the full weight of literacy improvement alone, families and community partners become part of the solution.

What It Helps Districts Do

A Model Innovation Community helps districts:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Reach families before kindergarten■ Equip caregivers with bilingual literacy tools■ Strengthen early language, vocabulary, and readiness routines■ Support K–3 reading goals | <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ Extend learning beyond the school day■ Engage libraries, early learning centers, nonprofits, businesses, and civic partners■ Align the community around one measurable readiness strategy■ Use data to monitor engagement and progress |
|---|---|

The Strategic Shift

Traditional Approach	Model Innovation Community Approach
Literacy begins at school entry	Literacy support begins before kindergarten
Schools carry most of the responsibility	Families and partners share ownership
Family engagement is communication-based	Families receive tools they can use every day
Early learning and K–3 literacy are disconnected	Birth–8 literacy is connected in one pathway
Districts respond after gaps appear	Communities help build readiness earlier

BOTTOM LINE

A Model Innovation Community gives superintendents a practical way to lead literacy as a communitywide priority.

It helps districts start earlier, connect families and partners, strengthen K–3 reading, support MTSS, and extend learning through Grade 8. It is not another isolated initiative — it is a shared strategy for building readiness, reading success, and long-term opportunity.

One Community. One Readiness Strategy. One Connected Pathway.
Start Early. Connect Everything. Prove the Impact.