



House of Representatives
Study Committee on Literacy Instruction

Study Committee Minutes

The Honorable Matt Dubnik
Representative, 29th District
Chairman

Ms. Joy Hawkins
Governor's Office of Student Achievement

The Honorable Demetrius Douglas
Representative, 78th District

Ms. Amy Jacobs
Department of Early Care and Learning

The Honorable Chris Erwin
Representative, 28th District

Dr. Theresa Magpuri-Lavell
Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early
Language and Literacy

The Honorable Becky Evans
Representative, 83rd District

Mr. Malcolm Mitchell
Share the Magic Foundation

The Honorable Matthew Gambill
Representative, 15th District

Dr. Stuart Rayfield
University System of Georgia

Ms. Jan Black
Pioneer Regional Education Service Agency

Dr. Amy Sharma
Science for Georgia

Dr. Cayanna Good
Technical College System of Georgia

Dr. Tiffany Taylor
Department of Education

December 21, 2022

Prepared by Molly Aziz, Budget and Policy Analyst
House Budget and Research Office

Introduction

The House Study Committee on Literacy Instruction was created by House Resolution 650 during the 2022 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly. According to HR 650, as of 2019, only one-third of Georgia fourth graders can read proficiently. Students who are not reading proficiently by the end of third grade are four times more likely than their counterparts to drop out of high school and experience long-term behavioral and mental health issues. HR 650 establishes that there is a connection between literacy rates among Georgia's students and a prepared and capable workforce within the state. Improving reading proficiency will bolster Georgia's workforce and improve the state's overall economy. It is the hope of the study committee that by identifying and supporting best practices among already-established organizations and programs within the state, determining potential legislative action, and improving coordination among stakeholders, Georgia can improve reading proficiency levels among its students throughout the state.

Meeting Summary

Date: Monday, October 17, 2022

Location: Georgia State Capitol

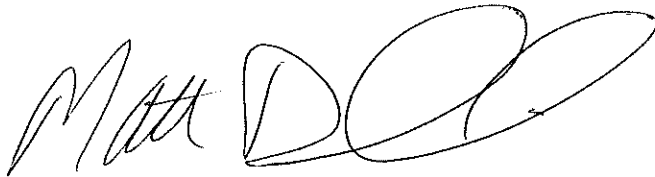
Summary:

The committee's first meeting included introductory remarks and comments on the state of literacy in Georgia. The following members were present and spoke on the topic: Representative Matt Dubnik, Chair; Representative Demetrius Douglas; Representative Chris Erwin; Representative Becky Evans; Representative Matthew Gambill; Jan Black, Pioneer Regional Education Service Agency; Dr. Cayanna Good, Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Adult Education; Joy Hawkins, Governor's Office of Student Achievement; Amy Jacobs, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning; Dr. Theresa Magpuri-Lavell, Sandra Dunagan Deal Center for Early Language and Literacy; Malcolm Mitchell, Share the Magic Foundation; Dr. Stuart Rayfield, University System of Georgia; Dr. Amy Sharma, Science for Georgia; and Tiffany Taylor, Department of Education.

Committee members discussed potential benchmarks for measuring progress, agreed upon standards of success, strategies for engaging communities, and efforts toward collaboration.

Speaker Jones, these are the minutes of the House Study Committee on Literacy Instruction.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Dubnik". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, sweeping loops, particularly in the last name.

**The Honorable Matt Dubnik
Representative, 29th District
Chairman**