



I find myself reflecting on the incredible literacy journey many of our young students embarked on this year. Through my work with [Turn the Page STL](#), I had the opportunity to spend time in classrooms and work alongside fellow organizations who are deeply invested in seeing our students succeed.

According to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, students who are not reading proficiently by third grade are four times more likely to leave school without a diploma than proficient readers. This literacy gap directly translates to economic disparities, perpetuating cycles of poverty, and limiting opportunities for many young people in our community. Advancing literary gains for St. Louis' students, especially children from low-income communities, requires a collaborative effort, partnership and buy-in from a broad coalition. One of Turn the Page STL's key initiatives, the STL Tutoring Collaborative, exemplifies this unifying spirit, bringing together diverse partners, including [Teach For America St. Louis](#) and their work with high-impact tutoring.

Research shows that high-dosage tutoring meaningfully accelerates student learning, yet only 10% of students have access to tutoring. Teach For America is changing that through their in-school tutoring program, the [Ignite Fellowship](#). Virtual college tutors provide personalized, high-dosage tutoring, addressing the immediate needs of students who have fallen behind. The data is clear - students in Ignite are making significant academic gains.

The success of our mission depends on the active involvement of the entire community. Schools must integrate and support these initiatives, parents must engage and encourage their children's reading at home, and community organizations must continue to innovate and collaborate.

For more information on how you can support Turn the Page STL, please visit [turnthepagestl.org](http://turnthepagestl.org). To learn about the Ignite Fellowship and how it is making a difference in our schools, visit [Teach For America's Ignite Fellowship](#).