



2023 PRIORITIES & ACTIVITIES

# Turn the Page STL



## St. Louis' Chapter of the National Campaign for Grade Level Reading

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# About Turn the Page STL

## Mission:

Turn the Page STL is a city, county-wide literacy initiative dedicated to increasing the number of children that are reading at or above grade level by the end of third grade in the St. Louis community.

## Vision:

St. Louis is a community with no disparities in literacy, based on race or zip code. All children are able to read proficiently by the end of third grade, contributing to their long-term academic outcomes (eg. graduating from high school, career readiness), and personal well-being.

## Geographic Areas Served:

Our primary geographic focus includes the seven Promise Zone School Districts in St. Louis City and St. Louis County. Those include Hazelwood Public Schools, Jennings School District, Ferguson-Florissant School District, Normandy Schools Collaborative, St. Louis Public Schools, and the School District of University City.

## Understanding:

Our work is viewed through a racial equity lens with the understanding that racial inequity in metropolitan St. Louis' public education system has contributed to generations of under literate citizens.



# 2023 Priorities & Activities

**--Based on our collectively-written Strategic Plan,  
Turn the Page STL is focused on the following five priorities with 2023 activities.**

## Kindergarten Readiness

K Readiness Work Team\*

- 1.) Actively participate and bring literacy to the forefront in early childhood initiatives, including The Gateway Early Childhood Alliance, United 4 Children, Nine PBS, Kids Win MO, Office of Childhood with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (MO DESE), City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, We Power STL, and Childcare Aware of Missouri.
- 2.) Lead the 2023 Annual Early Educators Appreciation Event with the Kindergarten Readiness Work Team, Nine PBS, ARCHS, Books for Newborns, LUME Institute, Ready Readers, RISE, St. Louis County, City of St. Louis, The Alliance, United 4 Children and Urban Sprouts.
- 3.) Create a comprehensive, editable list of virtual and in-person literacy professional development available for all early educators.
- 4.) Advocate and educate about aligning PreK and K assessments, using the PKOF (Pre-K Observation Form) and the KOF (Kindergarten Observation Form).

## Summer Learning

Summer Learning Work Team\*

- 1.) Create and lead a summer 2023 Summer Literacy Infusion campaign, with training and literacy kits for a cohort of eight full-day summer camp programs, including pre and post assessments.
- 2.) Connect in-person and virtual literacy tutoring programs with schools, afterschool programs and camps.
- 3.) Provide online, high quality summer literacy resources for the community.

## Teacher Preparedness



- 1) Advocate for "Reading Success Plans" and literacy-based professional development for schools with support for teachers at the state level.
- 2.) Educate Missouri Senators and Representatives about illiteracy, including the science of reading, dyslexia screenings, culturally-responsive pedagogy, and class size with the goal of stronger literacy-based legislation.
- 3.) Support and elevate literacy professional development provided by the St. Louis Regional Literacy Association and MO DESE's Comprehensive Literacy State Development program, among others.

# 2022 Priorities & Activities continued

## Family Engagement

Family Engagement Work Team\*

- 1.) Analyze and create a landscape of book deserts in the St. Louis Promise Zone. Continue to explore cost and design for reading areas in businesses, fast food restaurants, laundromats and barbershops.
- 2.) Work with the Saint Louis Zoo, Pocket Parks, and others to create literacy "Everyday Places and Spaces" and "Playful Learning Landscapes." Provide books and resources at area events.
- 3.) Assist families who have low levels of literacy by providing books that through technology can support them in reading aloud with their children.
- 4.) Create a collaboratively written list of literacy resources for families.
- 5.) Support Ready Readers' Neighborhood Reading Captains program that will start January 2023.

## Community Awareness

- 1.) Champion organizations and literacy policies and programs via social media and e-newsletters.
- 2.) Continue to solicit funding to market Turn the Page STL's literacy movement, priorities and actions.
- 3.) Work with local and state officials to make literacy a policy platform.

# Work Team Members

### Kindergarten Readiness \*

- Books for Newborns
- Generate Health
- LUME Institute
- Parents as Teachers National Center
- Ready Readers
- RISE
- S.T.A.R. Coaching
- St. Louis County Library
- The Little Bit Foundation
- United 4 Children
- Urban Sprouts
- YouthBridge Community Foundation

### Summer Learning \*

- Blue Print 4 Summer STL
- BJC School Outreach and Youth Development
- City of St. Louis
- Ferguson Municipal Public Library
- Gateway Regional YMCA
- Girl Scouts of Eastern MO
- Missouri History Museum
- Nine PBS
- Office of St. Louis County Executive
- St. Louis County Library
- St. Louis Public Library
- Nine PBS
- United 4 Children
- University City Public Library

### Family Engagement \*

- Beyond Housing
- Gateway Regional YMCA
- HomeWorks
- Legal Services of Eastern Missouri
- Love for Literacy
- Missouri Humanities Council
- Parents as Teachers National Center
- Ready Readers
- Reach Out & Read Cardinal Glennon
- S.T.A.R. Coaching
- St. Louis Economic Development Partnership
- St. Louis Public Library
- St. Louis University Department of Education
- UMSL College of Education
- Village of Moms

# Turn the Page STL is committed to the following.

## Data Driven:

Work with UMSL's Data Alliance and other partners to collect baseline data for kindergarten readiness, summer learning, teacher preparedness, family engagement and community awareness.

## Joy of Reading:

Children and their families need access to fun, high-interest, culturally-relevant, hero-centered literature in their home, school, and throughout the St. Louis community.

## Science of Reading:

Turn the Page STL recognizes that teachers need to teach the five main components that are fundamental to reading: phonics, phonemic awareness, vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension, in agreement with science of reading research.

## State-lead:

Turn the Page STL is the state-lead organization for Missouri for the National Campaign for Grade Level Reading. During summer 2023, Turn the Page STL with Turn the Page KC will host a week-long, virtual conference about Missouri literacy initiatives.

## Literacy Collaborative:

Turn the Page STL provides an open, monthly meeting for all literacy organizations. The agenda is attendee-driven and based on relevant literacy topics. Currently, there are 46 members.

**It's Your Turn!  
Become a Leader.  
Be a Reader.**

Join the Movement.  
[www.turnthepagestl.org/](http://www.turnthepagestl.org/)

