

HP LITERACY COALITION

HPISD approach →

Balanced Literacy

- **Research** indicates less than half of students will read proficiently with this approach
- **Instructional materials** include:
 - Lucy Calkins Units of Study*
 - Fountas & Pinnell
 - Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI)

* Lucy Calkins has said her current materials, which are HPISD K-8 "anchor" resources, are not aligned to reading research. If HP chooses to stop using these materials, the district faces a choice between investing more funds with Calkins or purchasing new materials aligned to the Science of Reading.

- Materials received lowest Ed Reports ratings
- 28 states using laws and funding restrictions to move away from this approach
- Many colleges moving away from teaching this approach
- HPISD scores have declined as this approach has intensified in recent years
- Increasing need for private tutoring for foundational skills
- Hallmarks of philosophy are cueing / guessing for beginning readers, peer-to-peer instruction, independent reading (often with below grade-level books), focus on approximation vs mastery, role of teacher as facilitator vs instructor (often called workshop model)

Proven approach →

Science of Reading

- **Research** indicates 95% of students will read proficiently with this approach
- See possible **instructional materials** at Texas Resource Review online

- Approach for reading instruction based on vast, interdisciplinary body of scientifically-based research conducted over the last five decades
- Provides clear picture of how students learn to read and write
- Emphasis on direct, explicit, systematic instruction from the teacher as the foundation for student's independent and collaborative work. Priority on mastery of grade-level standards
- Backed by leading educators and researchers at UT, A&M, SMU
- 2019 Texas House Bill 3 designed to move districts away from Balanced Literacy and to the Science of Reading
- One HB3 action: Creation of Texas Reading Academies (mandatory, year-long training for K-3 principals and teachers in the Science of Reading)

Learn more and see sources at hpliteracycoalition.org

How You Can Help

Subscribe to email updates and encourage others to do the same: hpliteracycoalition.org

Anyone with questions, concerns, or requests regarding literacy in HPISD is encouraged to contact the following:

- HPISD Principals, Instructional Coaches, and ELA Teachers
- Current Trustees - sharpet@hpsid.org, kellys@hpsid.org, ellisj@hpsid.org, herrine@hpsid.org, woodwad@hpsid.org, bonfiem@hpsid.org, and bensohb@hpsid.org
- 2022 Trustee Candidates - ellenlee4hpsid@gmail.com, vote@tylerforhpsid.com and spencer@spencer4hpsid.com

Sample message: I support efforts to remove balanced literacy practices, including Lucy Calkins Units of Study and Fountas & Pinnell, from HPISD schools. Please provide leadership and resources so that students can benefit from new practices aligned to the Science of Reading in Fall 2022.