



**Center for Literacy Education, Advancement, and Research**  
**Wichita State University**

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# KS BLUEPRINT FOR LITERACY AND SENATE BILL

- Senate Bill 438 was signed into law by Governor Laura Kelly on April 25, 2024. This bill established the Kansas Blueprint for Literacy and established an advisory committee to develop a plan for the creation of six Centers of Excellence in literacy across the state.
- The KS Blueprint for Literacy emphasizes a state-wide commitment to improving literacy outcomes.
- Focus on Structured Literacy, Science of Reading, and evidence-based practices.
- CLEAR aligns its mission with WSU's strategic plan and state priorities to meet legislative and educational goals.

# CLEAR'S MISSION AND VISION

- CLEAR is dedicated to achieving the Kansas Blueprint for Literacy goal of having 90% of students reading at or above grade level by 2033. By leveraging WSU's unique position as Kansas's only urban-serving, public research university, we will facilitate meaningful impact through innovative strategies, community partnerships, and a focus on equity in literacy education across our catchment area.
- Mission: To advance literacy through evidence-based practices, professional learning, and family engagement.
- Vision: Equitable access to high-quality literacy instruction for all students in the catchment area.
- Focus: Collaboration with districts to support educators, students, and families.

# GOALS

1. Create a sustainable system of educator preparation that results in 100% of Kansas elementary teacher workforce achieving validated credentials in the Science of Reading and Structured Literacy, resulting in
2. 90% of 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students achieving level 2 or above, and 50% or more of 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders achieving level 3 or above on the English language arts state assessment.

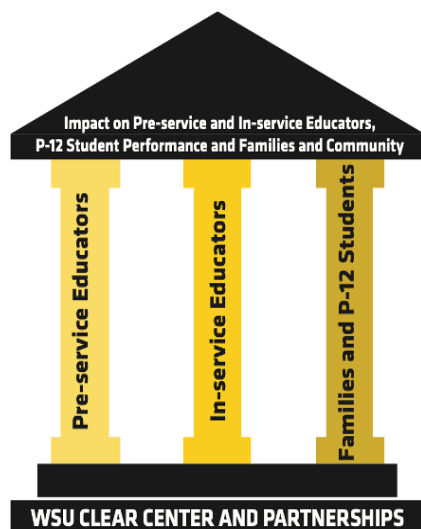


Figure 1. Framework and Pillars for CLEAR

- **Education, Coaching and Applied Learning Experiences for Pre-service Educators to apply the Science of Reading**
  - Impact on Pre-service Educators through Science of Reading Micro-credentials and Accredited Educator Preparation Programs
- **Field-based and Virtual Coaching and Professional Development for In-service Educators and other School Personnel**
  - Impact with In-service Educators through Science of Reading Micro-credentials, Consultations, and Accredited Programs for Education Personnel
- **Empower Families and P-12 Students through evidence-based assessment, evaluation, intervention, and advocacy**
  - Impact with Families and Community through Services, Assessments, Evaluations, and Outreach

## KEY INITIATIVES OF CLEAR

Professional learning for educators (Structured Literacy, Science of Reading).

Family engagement and advocacy workshops.

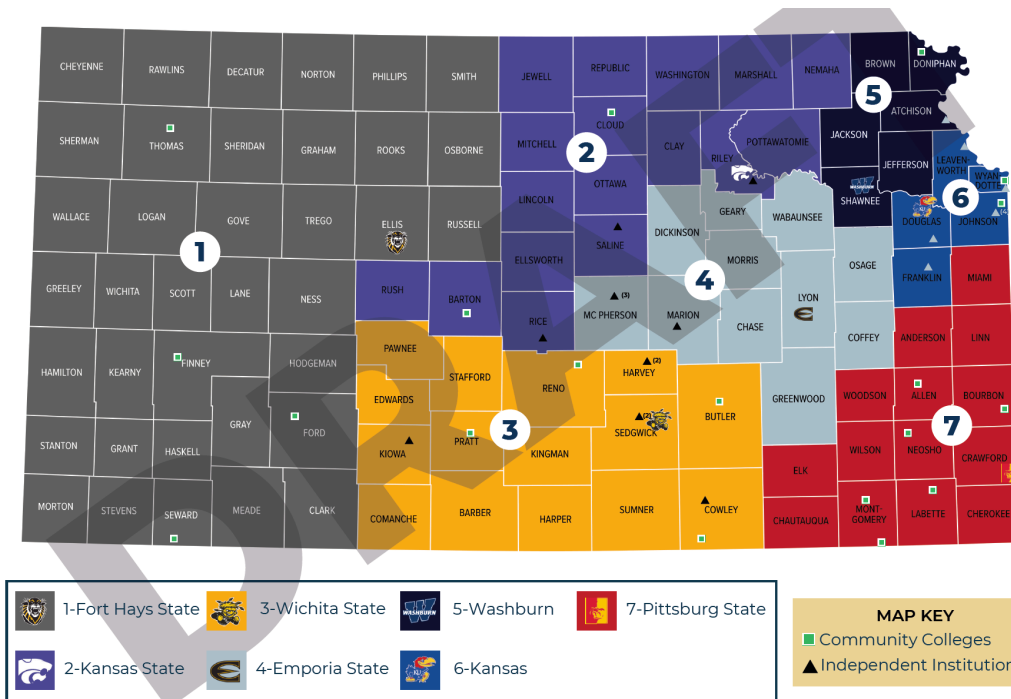
Development of individualized literacy plans in collaboration with districts.

Use of virtual simulations and AI-based coaching for training.

# COLLABORATION ACROSS THE CENTERS' NETWORK

- Partnerships with other KBOR institutions (Lit 7), KSDE, community colleges, community agencies, school districts in our catchment area.
  - Common performance assessment
  - Common courses/syllabi
  - Co-creating credentials for inservice educators
- Shared expertise in assessment, intervention, and family engagement.
- Joint professional learning opportunities and resource development.

## ADDRESSING THE CATCHMENT AREA NEEDS



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Diverse population with high percentages of ELLs and students with disabilities.

Focus on closing literacy achievement gaps.

Tailored support for rural and urban districts.

Accessible and inclusive professional learning and resources.

# NEXT STEPS

- Establish CLEAR's physical and mobile presence (Neff Hall then new CDC 3<sup>rd</sup> floor).
- Launch inservice educator credential (summer 2025).
- Develop role-specific training modules and assessment tools.
  - Educational leaders, para-educators
- Collaborate with faculty to expand research and professional learning opportunities.
- Reach out:

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