



Stefan Bean, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

OC Literacy & Language

January 2026 Newsletter

Happy New Year!

January is the great reboot: fresh pages, fresh ideas, and just enough caffeine to keep the plot moving. As we settle in, we also celebrate National Braille Literacy Month, a reminder of the many ways students access, experience, and shape literacy. Here's to sparking curiosity, elevating student voices, and finding joy in the everyday magic of language as we begin a brand-new year together.

January Dates to Note:

- New Year's Day: Jan 1
- National Science Fiction Day: Jan 2
- J.R.R. Tolkien Day: Jan 3
- National Thesaurus Day/Winnie-the-Pooh Day: Jan 18
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Jan 19
- National Handwriting Day: Jan 23
- International Holocaust Remembrance Day: Jan 27
- Multicultural Children's Book Day: Jan 29



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Upcoming Literacy Offerings

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

From Screening to Action: A Three-Part Learning Series for Site Leaders

California has launched a new K-2 Risk of Reading Difficulties Screener, and site administrators play a critical role in its successful implementation. This three-part virtual learning series will provide administrators with the knowledge, tools, and strategies to lead screening efforts with confidence. Each session will focus on a key phase of the screening process, from understanding the legislation to using data for instructional response.

- Understanding the legislation
- Communicating and involving families
- Using data to identify multilingual learners and students with IEPs or 504
- Integrating results
- Analysing data
- Instructional response

11/16/25, 12/9/25, 1/13/26
13:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Virtual
FREE
Register [here](http://ocde.k12oms.org/288-24149) or scan the QR code

Audience: Elementary Site Principals & Leaders
LCAP Conditions of Learning Implementation of Standards
MTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction

For content questions, contact Amber Herring-Morales at ahm@ocde.us
For registration questions, contact Casey.Alix@ocde.us

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit



Reading Screener for Site Leaders

December 9, 2025, January 13, 2026, February 11, 2026 | 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
[Register here](#)

California has launched a new K-2 Risk of Reading Difficulties Screener, and site administrators play a critical role in its successful implementation. This three-part virtual learning series will provide administrators with the knowledge, tools, and strategies to lead screening efforts with confidence. Each session will focus on a key phase of the process, from understanding the legislation to using data for instructional response. Topics include family communication, screening multilingual learners and students with IEPs or 504 plans, and integrating results within the MTSS framework.

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

ELEMENTARY COMPREHENSIVE ELD: INTEGRATED AND DESIGNATED STRATEGIES

Target Audience: K-6 Induction Teachers and Mentors

VIRTUAL
1/14/26, 2/11/26
13:30 - 4:30 p.m.
FREE
Registration link: ocde.k12oms.org/288-24149 or scan the QR code

Join us for a two-part Zoom series! This no-cost professional development is designed for induction teachers, or without their mentors. Each session will explore English language development (ELD) strategies. The first session will focus on integrated ELD strategies and the second session will focus on designated ELD strategies. Let's build our instructional toolbox so all students thrive!

LCAP: Conditions of Learning Implementation of Standards
MTSS: Inclusive Academic and Behavioral Instruction

For content questions, contact Louise Vito at lvito@ocde.us
For registration questions, contact Casey.Alix@ocde.us

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit



Elementary Comprehensive ELD: Integrated and Designated Strategies

January 14 & February 11, 2026 | 4:00 - 5:30 p.m.
[Register here](#)

Join us for a two-part Zoom series! This no-cost professional development is designed for induction teachers, with or without their mentors. Each session will explore English language development (ELD) strategies. The first session will focus on integrated ELD strategies and the second session will focus on designated ELD strategies. Let's build our instructional toolbox so all students thrive!

IN-PERSON EXPOSITORY READING AND WRITING CURRICULUM (ERWC)

Preparing High School Students for College-Level English

CSU The California State University

This 24-hour workshop series introduces the ERWC Expository Reading and Writing Curriculum to the industry. This year, 8-year ERWC courses at grades 9 and grade 12 are offered. This professional learning is intended to be an active experience for English teachers and English learners. These workshops, adaptive resources, and additional support are designed to help students develop the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the world of work.

ERWC modules with integrated and designated ELD at grades 9-12 are designed to support the "4 English subject areas" of the California Standards for English Language Arts. ERWC at grades 9 and 12 are designed to support the "4 English subject areas" of the California Standards for English Language Arts. ERWC at grades 9-12 with integrated and designated ELD may be integrated within existing ERWC and ELD courses at those levels.

IN-PERSON FORMAT: Participants must attend four days of four sessions each week.

FALL 2025 SESSION
Days 1 & 2: September 2 & 4
Days 3 & 4: October 14 & 16

WINTER 2026 SESSION
Days 1 & 2: November 18 & 19
Days 3 & 4: January 27 & 28

SPRING 2026 SESSION
Days 1 & 2: March 24 & 25
Days 3 & 4: March 26 & 27

Registration questions: ERWC.English@ocde.us
Content questions: Dr.Eduardo.Hernandez.OCDE@ocde.us

OCDE Full Disclosure Page
OCDE Anti-Harassment Policy
OCDE Anti-Discrimination Policy
OCDE Anti-Child Abuse Policy

Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

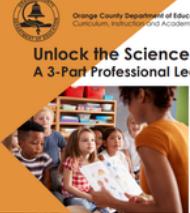


ERWC

Days 1 & 2: February 24-25 | Days 3 & 4: March 24-25
[Register here](#)

A free four-day introductory course for Grade 9-12 ELA and ELD Teachers is available for those new to teaching the ERWC course and those interested in learning how to incorporate ERWC modules into their curriculum. Each session is two weeks in length comprised of two days each week.

Upcoming Literacy Offerings



Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

Unlock the Science of Reading:
A 3-Part Professional Learning Series

In-person | 1/26/25 & 1/27/26 (OCDE) | Virtually | 3/24/26 | 3:00 - 5:30 p.m. | FREE | Register here | <https://ocde.org/1288269113> or scan QR code

Target Audience: 9-12 teachers, Curriculum Coaches, District Site Administrators, and Principals

NCAP: Conditions of Learning Implementation of Standards
MTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction

Join us for an engaging 3-part series designed to build foundational knowledge of the Science of Reading and its classroom application. Each session is 2.5 hours. Participants who complete all sessions will earn an OCDE Literacy Badge and be eligible for 1 unit of continuing education credit. Whether you're new to the Science of Reading or ready to take your practice deeper, this series will empower you with tools to translate research into impactful instruction.

Would you like a customized Science of Reading training for your school site exclusively for your staff? Contact us!

For content questions, contact Amber Pernell-Morales at apernell@ocde.org. For registration questions, contact Carey Anna at canna@ocde.org.

ocde.org/1288269113 | <https://ocde.org/1288269113> | <https://ocde.org/1288269113>

Unlock the Science of Reading

January 27, February 27, 2026 | 3:00 - 5:30 p.m.

[Register here](#)

Join us for an engaging 2-part series designed to build foundational knowledge of the Science of Reading and its classroom application. Each session is 2.5 hours, with optional asynchronous work available to deepen your learning. Participants who complete all sessions and the asynchronous component will earn an OCDE Literacy Badge and be eligible for 1 unit of continuing education credit. Whether you're new to the Science of Reading or ready to take your practice deeper, this series will empower you with tools to translate research into impactful instruction.



Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

LTEL Network and Communities of Practice

Caring & education of Long Term English Learners (LTEL) is a priority shared by all districts which are supporting LTEL students. Please join us in having representation for your district in the LTEL Network and Community of Practice for Comprehensive ELD. Learn from and share expertise with others in your position from across the county.

LTEL Network Meetings
Panel 1: Building Practices 1 & 2
Target Audience: District & Site Leaders, Teachers

Community of Practice: Comprehensive ELD
Panel 1: Building Practices 1 & 2
Target Audience: Principals, District Site Administrators, Teachers

NCAP: Conditions of Learning Implementation of Standards
MTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction

Calling all LTEL educators! Is your district invested in a systems approach to supporting LTEL students? Please join us in having representation for your district in the LTEL Network and Community of Practice for Comprehensive ELD. Learn from and share expertise with others in your position from across the county.

For content questions, contact Carey Anna at canna@ocde.org. For registration questions, contact Laura Holmes at lholt@ocde.org.

ocde.org/1288269113 | <https://ocde.org/1288269113> | <https://ocde.org/1288269113>

Community of Practice: Comprehensive ELD

January 27 & April 27, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

[Register here](#)

Calling all LTEL educators! Is your district invested in a systems approach to supporting LTEL students? Please join us in having representation for your district in the LTEL Network and Community of Practice for Comprehensive ELD. Learn from and share expertise with others in your position from across the county.



Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit

Bridging Screening to Support:
Tier 1 & 2 Responses to Reading K-2

After administering the California Risk of Reading Difficulty Screener, learn how to use your data to implement Tier 1 and Tier 2 strategies for targeted whole and small group instruction to support at-risk students' foundational reading needs.

Participants will:

- Understand how to interpret screening results
- Learn Tier 1 differentiation strategies
- Explore Tier 2 interventions for students
- Walk away with practical tools and planning templates

Audience: Teachers, Intervention Teachers, Curriculum Coaches, District Coaches, District Leaders
NCAP: Conditions of Learning Implementation of Standards
MTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction

For content questions, contact Amber Pernell-Morales at apernell@ocde.org. For registration questions, contact Carey Anna at canna@ocde.org.

ocde.org/1288269113 | <https://ocde.org/1288269113> | <https://ocde.org/1288269113>

Bridging Screening to Support

March 17, 2026 | 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

[Register here](#)

After administering the California Risk of Reading Difficulty Screener, learn how to use your data to implement Tier 1 and Tier 2 strategies for targeted whole and small group instruction to support at-risk students' foundational reading needs. Participants will: understand how to interpret screening results, learn Tier 1 differentiation strategies, explore Tier 2 interventions for students, and walk away with practical tools and planning templates. \$25 per person, includes lunch and materials.

Please click on the link below to see our professional development trainings

2025-26 Literacy and Language Calendar

[View all flyers and resources here](#)

Save the Date

Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit
Multilingual Academic Services



ROOTS TO READINESS
English Learner Toolkit for Early Learning TK-2nd

This series delves into developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, and linguistically supportive early educational approaches. It emphasizes using the California Master Plan for Early Learning and Care and the California English Learner Roadmap. You'll receive guidance on how to use the early education toolkit to meet the needs of multilingual learners in TK-2nd at your local site.

Dates:
January 28, 2026
February 11, 2026
February 19, 2026

Time:
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Register 

Location:
Orange County Department of Education
200 Kalmus Drive
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
In-Person

Cost: \$300 per person
\$1,000 per district teams of 4

Materials included -
Californians Together: Preschool/TK Toolkit for English Learner Roadmap

Aligns with CA EL Roadmap Principle 2: Intellectual Quality of Instruction and Meaningful Access

Intended audience: TK-2nd teachers, TOSAs, coordinators and coaches

Registration information: Stephanie Ohanesian, sokaneian@ocde.us
Content information: Catalina Sanchez, csanchez@ocde.us
LCAP Buckets & Priorities: Conditions of Learning: Implementation of State Standards - Pupil Outcomes: Pupil Achievement
CA MTSS Domain: Whole Child: Integrated Supports - Organizational Structure
4157090225

Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services
Curriculum, Instruction and Academic Enrichment Unit presents



TEACHERS & AI WEBINAR SERIES
Empowering Educators with Artificial Intelligence to Transform Pedagogy

Join us for a monthly webinar series designed to help TK-12 teachers, instructional coaches, and educators interested in AI integration learn how to incorporate AI tools to enhance instructional planning, personalize learning, and spark creativity in the classroom. Each session will explore practical strategies, tools, and ethical considerations for leveraging AI to improve pedagogy.

October 28, 2025
November 18, 2025
December 16, 2025
January 27, 2026
February 17, 2026
March 24, 2026
April 28, 2026

Time: 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Location: Virtual - Zoom
Cost: Free

Contact Wes Kriesel for Content Questions:
E: wkriesel@ocde.us | Ph: 714-966-4151

Contact Gabby Alvarez for Registration Questions:
E: galvarez@ocde.us | Ph: 714-966-4228

REGISTER HERE

LCAP Priority: Pupil Outcomes: Pupil Achievement
CA MTSS Domain & Feature: Whole Child - Inclusive Academic Instruction
4259070325

demco

Book Care Workshop
With the Book Doctor, Kimberly Young

• Hands-on training
• Tailored repair and processing instruction
• Free book care resources

bit.ly/bookdoctorgghs031226

Thursday, March 12, 2026
Garden Grove High School
11271 Stanford Avenue
1-3 pm
Rosan Cable
rcable@ggusd.us
Library Office: 714-663-6197



SAVE THE DATE

In-person
TEACHER LIBRARIAN CONVENING

1:00-3:00pm
Connection Hour- 3:00-4:00pm

Thurs. Sept 11, 2025
Tues. Nov 4, 2025
Thurs. March 12, 2026
Wed. May 6, 2026



LCAP: Student Engagement, Pupil Achievement, School Climate, Basic Services & Conditions
CA-MTSS: Inclusive Academic Instruction, Integrated Supports
5-3-1 Plan: Academic Focus, Expanding Career & Technical Education, Integrating Artificial Intelligence


OC pathways
Orange County Department of Education

Questions? Contact:
sandra.pradyana@ocde.us

Save the Date



Orange County Department of Education
Educational Services Division
Curriculum, Instruction & Academic
Enrichment Unit



2026 AP IN THE OC

**Virtual Advanced
Placement Summer
Institute for Current and
Future AP and Pre-AP
Teachers**

JULY 20-23, 2026 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
JULY 24, 2026 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Join the AP in the OC Summer Institute - a dynamic virtual training for new and seasoned AP educators. Our 30-hour hybrid (synchronous & asynchronous) professional learning imparts essential skills for Advanced Placement instruction, covering AP content intricacies, effective organization techniques, and modern teaching methods. Leave with renewed enthusiasm, fresh insights, and abundant resources to enhance your classroom, and provide students an exceptional AP education.

Content questions and general inquiries:
austinhawkins@ocde.us 714.966.4707

AP SUBJECTS OFFERED

- Biology
- Computer Science Principles
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition
- Environmental Science
- Government & Politics - U.S.
- Physics 1
- Psychology
- Spanish Language & Culture
- Statistics
- U.S. History

\$650 - Special early bird pricing until **May 15, 2026**
\$700 - Full institute rate begins **May 16, 2026**
\$799 - Late registration rate begins **July 12, 2026**
Includes College Board materials

AP Capstone, through AP Seminar and AP Research, empowers teachers to go beyond content delivery by fostering critical thinking, inquiry, and academic discourse. In AP Seminar, students examine real-world issues from multiple perspectives, building skills in discussion, collaboration, and argumentation. AP Research involves year-long, independent projects guided by teachers, culminating in a scholarly paper and presentation. These courses support innovative, skills-based instruction and help develop highly valued, transferable skills.

AP CAPSTONE SUBJECTS OFFERED

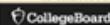
- Research
- Seminar
- Seminar ELA

\$799 - Full Institute rate

REGISTRATION & EVENT DETAILS:
<https://tinyurl.com/APintheOC2026>



This AP Summer Institute
is endorsed by:



Climate Storytelling Contest



Climate change, primarily caused through the burning of fossil fuels like oil and gas, is impacting communities in California and across the globe. Many feelings can come up when thinking about climate change and it's easy to get lost in the data, graphs, and scientific literature. What if storytelling can help us understand those feelings and teach us something about climate change? The California Coastal Commission invites middle and high school students to answer the prompt below through a podcast, photo essay, or narrative essay.

**What are your feelings about climate change?
How could those feelings lead to action?**

Choose a medium

- **Podcast**
Record voice audio that answers the prompt (up to 7 minutes).
- **Photo Essay**
Take 8-10 original photos to answer the prompt and compile a photo essay.
- **Narrative essay**
Write a personal narrative essay answering the prompt (up to 650 words).

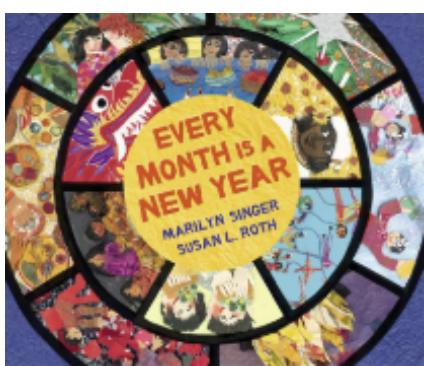
Submit
entries
from
**September
15, 2025
through
May 28,
2026**



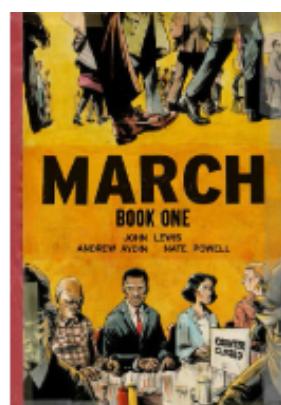
CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION



Check out all of TeachingBooks'
Timely Topic Resources



[Every Month is a New Year](#)



[Martin Luther King Jr. Day](#)

Click [here](#) to view the resources folder

Resources

Need information about the Screener for Risk of Reading Difficulties? Check out the [OCDE Literacy and Language Webpage](#) for additional information and updates.

Check out the latest [CDE Literacy Newsletter](#) for information on Statewide Literacy

CDE has released [Literacy Content Blocks](#) for TK-5. The Literacy Content Blocks are guide for effective literacy instruction by applying the ELA/ELD Framework.

Check out this amazing resource for [Integrated ELD Strategies](#)



Tech Corner

Free Tool Spotlight – Quill.org

Start the year with a literacy boost using [Quill.org](#), a free platform full of interactive reading and writing activities that strengthen comprehension, grammar, and evidence-based writing. Students dive into meaningful practice while you get ready-to-use activities that fit your curriculum.



Orange County Department of Education | Educational Services

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