



# TULSA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EQUITY CHARACTER EXCELLENCE TEAM JOY

April 1, 2025

Dear Reading Partners Supporter,

Tulsa Public Schools is committed to providing students and families with the highest quality educational experiences in pursuit of academic success. We continually assess our investments and partnerships to ensure the best use of resources, highest efficacy, and best outcomes for young people. I am reaching out to you today to share information about that investment of time and resources and how some current partnerships might be impacted next school year.

As you know, the recent sunset of ESSER (Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief) funding means that Tulsa Public Schools must be increasingly diligent about every investment we make. That means we face difficult choices about scarce resources and, equally important, about how our educators spend time during the school day when critical grade-level benchmarks must be met. Unfortunately, these realities dictate a reduction of some partner programming at multiple school sites next year. Our work with Reading Partners is one of the partnerships that will be impacted.

While these decisions have been difficult, we are optimistic about the future of students in TPS and the leadership demonstrated by district teams within their school buildings. This realignment of highly-targeted supports will serve students who can benefit most from these interventions. The determination to realign our work with Reading Partners was in part due to:

- As part of our extensive data protocol and ongoing review of student outcome metrics, we are able to understand the actual impact of various interventions. We must prioritize those that achieve the most consistent and rapid improvement for students.
- We are actively looking for ways to decrease complexity and the number of programs/initiatives that require the attention and focus of individual school leaders. Limiting the number of programs that compete for the attention of a principal during the school day is an important commitment of my administration.
- Because of these reasons, we will be discontinuing our partnership with Reading Partners for the 2025-26 school year.
- Tulsa Public Schools values the engagement and commitment of the many community members who volunteer to support literacy efforts in our elementary schools. The



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district anticipates launching a new process for volunteers to engage in with our students in the near future.

I want to encourage you and other crucial advocates who support community organizations—to that through volunteer support, financial contributions, in-kind services, or other ways—to continue to champion the important work happening every day. I am immensely grateful for the support of so many organizations and individuals who make a difference for our young people.

Thank you for all you do for our students.

Sincerely,



*Ebony Johnson, Ed.D.*

**Ebony Johnson, Ed.D. | Superintendent**

Tulsa Public Schools  
3027 S. New Haven Ave. #200  
[johnseb@tulsaschools.org](mailto:johnseb@tulsaschools.org)