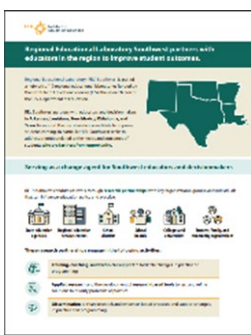


June 2023 Newsletter

REL Southwest partners with educators and policymakers in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas to improve learner outcomes.

REL Southwest Overview



As educators enjoy a well-earned summer break, REL Southwest is ramping up our work with partners in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas to improve learner outcomes. For an overview of our partnerships across the region, check out our new [REL Southwest handout](#). Then, read on to learn more about our work supporting literacy among English learner students in New Mexico, adolescent reading instruction in Texas, and early career teachers in Louisiana. In addition, we provide an overview of our May 9 webinar, which highlighted the Santa Fe Indian School’s culturally responsive educator evaluation system.

Literacy efforts in New Mexico and Texas



New study of an enhanced approach to literacy instruction for English learner students in New Mexico

Together with the New Mexico Public Education Department, regional education cooperatives, and school districts across the state, we have formed the Southwest English Learner Literacy (SWELL) partnership. The focus of this partnership is to implement, refine, and test Write to Succeed, a research-based professional learning program designed to help grades 4–8 teachers implement literacy instructional units with appropriate supports for English learner students. Learn more in this blog post about English learner students’ needs and how you can join the study!

[Read More](#)



Developing a toolkit to improve literacy achievement among middle school students

In Texas, REL Southwest is working with state, regional, and local education agencies to develop a comprehensive evidence-based toolkit to support grades 6–8 educators and administrators in improving literacy instruction and student achievement. The toolkit draws from the What Works Clearinghouse practice guide [Providing Reading Interventions for Students in Grades 4–9](#) and will include resources and professional development activities for school staff. Read about the toolkit’s development and planned activities.

[Read More](#)

Supporting Educators



Supporting early career and aspiring teachers in Louisiana

Building on previous studies about teacher recruitment and retention in Louisiana, REL Southwest is partnering to strengthen the state’s capacity to use evidence to support early career and aspiring teachers. This blog post introduces our partnership and Louisiana’s New Teacher Experience induction program as well as grow-your-own approaches. Find out more about how the state is prioritizing the development of new teacher supports and pathways.

[Read More](#)



Developing culturally responsive educators in Santa Fe

Leaders and educators across the country came together on May 9 to learn how the Santa Fe Indian School integrated culturally responsive education for Native American students into their everyday instruction and educator evaluation system. Speakers and panelists from REL Southwest, Santa Fe Indian School, the University of New Mexico, and the Bureau of Indian Education discussed teacher preparation, job-embedded support, and professional educator growth systems for schools serving Native American students. Check out the archived materials on our website.

[Webinar Archive](#)

Resource Roundup

We compiled a list of resources from across the REL program that highlight literacy instruction, student achievement for English learner students, and educator recruitment and retention strategies.

- An [infographic](#) from **REL Southeast** provides eight areas of consideration for implementing evidence-based literacy practices in the classroom.
- A [report](#) from **REL Southwest** investigates Louisiana’s Believe and Prepare educator preparation reform.
- A [report](#) from **REL Southwest** examines the effects of reclassifying English learner students on the students’ achievement in English language arts and math.
- A [documentary](#) from **REL Midwest** explores the primary reasons that many certified teachers are not teaching in public schools and the incentives that would motivate them to return to the classroom.
- A two-part [report](#) from **REL Northeast & Islands** provides foundational information needed to analyze teacher mobility and retention.

Contact us

Please contact us for more information about the content in this newsletter or to speak to a member of our staff. We look forward to hearing from you.