GOAL **10**

percentage point increase in proficiency for 3rd grade ELA on the Missouri Assessment Program within the 4-year, city-wide campaign

SchoolSmartKC Literacy For All Students

Our Students. Our City. Our Future.

The city-wide effort, Literacy for All Students, is aimed at addressing the literacy crisis in the Kansas City Public Education System (KCPES) comprised of KCPS and the Charter Schools within boundaries. It does so by offering strategic resources and support to all 39 elementary schools. Achieving the necessary progress to ensure literacy for all is a collective effort that requires active involvement from schools, families, and the wider community. SchoolSmart KC (SSKC) planned and launched this city-wide effort with input from schools, families, the wider community, and literacy experts, focusing on a funding strategy that addresses student reading growth and proficiency in grades K-3.

This comprehensive campaign will provide support essential to increasing grade-level literacy achievement across our city. These supports include literacy-focused instructional coaches, high-dose tutoring for all students in K-3, fellowships for both building leaders and literacy coaches, and intentional community engagement complemented by literacy resources for families.

Thanks to an initial investment from the Kansas City Royals Foundation and the Sherman Family Foundation, the campaign launched in the fall of 2024. Because of support from The William T. Kemper Foundation, Commerce Bank, Trustee, Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Sosland Foundation and Kiewit additional schools are being added annually. Whether you give, partner, or advocate, you can help bring the full model to more schools. Kansas City's children are 20% of the population today and 100% of our future – an investment worth making! Email **partnerships@schoolsmartkc.org** to connect with us and learn more.

COHORT 1: 2025-2026 GROWTH

34% (2026)

26% (2025)

From Spring 2025 to Spring 2026,

8% points

more students *were scoring in the* ***top two quartiles.***

In just one year, nearly

12% points

fewer students *were scoring in the* ***bottom quartile.***

37.1% (2026)

48.7% (2025)

COHORT 1: 2024-28	COHORT 2: 2025-29	COHORT 3: 2026-30
9* schools	3 schools	3 schools
84 teachers	37 teachers	32 teachers
1619 students	798 students	767 students

14 schools currently funded

25 schools remain

**1 school is outside KCPS boundaries*

SCHOOLSMARTKC

SchoolSmartKC Model For Success

LITERACY COACHES

- support K-3rd grade teachers in implementing high-quality literacy instruction in the Science of Reading.
- participate in a multi-year fellowship to enhance their ability to address school-wide literacy needs.

HIGH-IMPACT TUTORING

- is a blended (online + in-person) model providing literacy support for 28 weeks annually.
- is offered during the school day to ensure access for all students.

BUILDING LEADERS

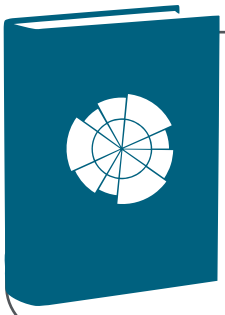
- are critical in securing resources and removing barriers for literacy success.
- engage in a multi-year fellowship program to strengthen their capacity in fostering literacy.

LITERACY SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

- equip families as tutors, collaborators and informed literacy partners.
- partner with local businesses and the community to reinforce a city-wide literacy initiative.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- focuses on engaging families as literacy partners to improve literacy.
- supports city-wide literacy initiatives.



SCHOOLSMARTKC

- sets a common standard for quality and tracks citywide progress.
- partners with literacy organizations and research teams to enhance outcomes.

Funding Partners

Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation

Kiewit

Sherman Family Foundation

Kansas City Royals Foundation

the Sosland Foundation

William T. Kemper Foundation
Commerce Bank, Trustee

Joy & Inspiration Partners

KC Royals

Rockhurst University

Truman Library Institute

Harry S. Truman Library & Museum

SCHOOLSMARTKC

schoolsmartkc.org/literacy