



**LETTER FROM THE
PRINCIPAL
WEEK OF SEPTEMBER
27, 2021**

Dear Families,

We recently administered a test to our students to see how they are progressing on their **reading ability**. The test is called **Acadience Reading (formerly DIBELS)**. You may have heard of it, because it is a test that has been given for years now. Acadience Reading tests students on their **reading accuracy, speed, and understanding of what they have read**. In grades K-1, it tests other skills such as the ability to hear the first sounds in words, the ability to hear all the sounds in words, and the ability to sound out nonsense words (to test their knowledge of letter-sound correspondence).

We also give Acadience Reading to students in grades 4 and 5 who have previously shown some challenges with reading.

This is the first of three tests like this we will take this year. It gives us an

idea of how to help our students. During the week of October 4th, we will be starting **Power 30**, which is a time when we work with students at their individual levels to help them progress. Students' performance on Acadience Reading will help inform these groupings.

Our school goal is to go from 76% proficient K-3 (which is what we have now) to 79% proficient by the end of the year.

There are also two district goals having to do with Acadience and 1st grade. These goals are:

- PCSD will move 50% of 1st grade students who score Below Benchmark at the beginning of the year to At/Above Benchmark on Acadience Reading Composite by the end of the year.
- PCSD will increase the percentage of 1st grade students At or Above Benchmark on Acadience Reading Composite by 4% from BOY to EOY.

We are happy to answer any questions you might have on the DIBELS like, **“Where is my child reading? What kinds**

of supports is my child receiving in their class? What can I do to help my child with reading at home?”

There will be some Acadience Reading sessions during parent conferences to provide you information about interpreting the results of the test and how to support reading progress at home. Please look for the flier about these opportunities.

If you have any questions or concerns, I can be reached by email at jmartin@pcschoos.us

Sincerely,

Jim Martin

**What is Friday
Enrichment?**

Every Friday, a different grade level has Friday enrichment. The student schedule changes as students circulate between our four specialists to participate in enrichment activities based on the Utah State Board of Education's [Portrait of a Graduate](#). The time also frees teachers to have additional collaboration and planning time. 5th and 4th grades have already participated in their

first rotation. 3rd grade will be next. Once all the grade levels have participated, the next cycle will begin with a new focus. Please ask your child about their experiences with Friday enrichment, what they learned, and let your child's teacher know if you have questions.