Say hello in the chat box...

• Share your name, organization, and role
Norms

**Purpose** – we are here to advance equitable 3rd grade reading outcomes in metro Atlanta

- Turn on your video if possible
- Ensure your name is accurate
- Share ideas in the “chat”
**L4L’s Theory of Action**

**What we do:**

**Mission:**
To ensure that every child in our region becomes a thriving citizen who achieves success in school, career, and life...

...in an environment of sustained trust, learning, and momentum

**Engage partners**

Create shared understanding [of data]

Amplify bright spots
L4L Key Indicators

Early Grade Literacy
- Kindergarten Readiness
- 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency
- 8th Grade Math Proficiency

8th Grade Math
- High School Graduation

Post Secondary Success
- Post-Secondary Enrollment
- Post-Secondary Completion
3rd Grade Reading Proficiency

44% of children are reading proficiently by the end of third grade in 2019.
3rd Grade Reading Proficiency

Percent of 3rd Grade students reading proficient and above (2019)

- All: 44%
- Economically disadvantaged: 29%
- Not economically disadvantaged: 71%
- White: 71%
- Black: 32%
- Hispanic: 31%
Academic Impact of COVID-19

Key Findings

• 3rd grade reading proficiency drops 3.5%

• 8th grade math proficiency drops 4.8%

• More than 21,000 fewer students in ELA are on grade-level

Source: AJC, 06/18/20
EmpowerK12, redefinED, Learn4Life, GOSA
Measuring Literacy Learning Loss

% Proficient and Above in 3rd Gr Literacy

Source: EmpowerK12, redefinED, GOSA
Pandemic requires identification of additional “Bright Spots”

Goal Today

• Understand the list of pandemic-related factors affecting early literacy

• Prioritize the factors that most impact students and that this network can address
Review: How L4L Identifies Bright Spots

Convene
Understand Local Context
Review Data
Analyze Factors
Identify Brightspots
Develop Action Plans
## Original 3rd Gr Reading Proficiency Factors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Physical Health (oral, hearing, vision)</th>
<th>School and Classroom Climate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Development</td>
<td>Social-Emotional Competence</td>
<td>Children’s Mental Health</td>
</tr>
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<td>Birth Outcomes</td>
<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>Summer Learning Loss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adult Literacy</td>
<td>Teacher Preparation &amp; Effectiveness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prioritizing Ability to Impact

Circle of CONCERN

What you care about

Circle of INFLUENCE

What you can do something about
Original Prioritization

- **High Influence, Low Impact**: Physical Health (oral, hearing, vision)
- **High Influence, High Impact**: Teacher Preparation & Effectiveness
- **Low Influence, Low Impact**: Early Childhood Education
- **Low Influence, High Impact**:
Original 3rd Grade Reading Proficiency Factors

- Attendance
- Physical Health (oral, hearing, vision)
- School and Classroom Climate
- Language Development
- Social-Emotional Competence
- Children’s Mental Health
- Birth Outcomes
- Early Childhood Education
- Summer Learning Loss
- Adult Literacy
- Teacher Preparation & Effectiveness
Key Factors Diagram

Global Target: Improve 3rd grade reading proficiency rate in metro Atlanta

Key Factors
- Physical Health
- Birth Outcomes
- Adult Literacy
- Early Childhood Education
- Teacher Preparation
- Social-Emotional Competence
- School and Classroom Climate
- Children’s Mental Health
- Summer Learning Loss
- Language Development
- Attendance

Interventions/Strategies
- Vision To Learn
  Measure: Improved vision
- Reach Out and Read
  Measure: Parent Engagement in Literacy
- Read Right from the Start
  Measure: Literacy Instructional Skills
These Bright Spots are being scaled

• Expanded school district partnerships and community relationships

• Increased connections to funders and expanded partnerships

• Provided more than 5,000 glasses to students and added two new districts
Goals of This Call

• Understand the list of pandemic-related factors affecting early literacy

• Prioritize the factors that most impact students and that this network can address

... to inform the next phase of this network’s collective action during the pandemic
Process Today

Small Group Discussion ➔ Focus on themes ➔ Individual Voting
### Pandemic factors affecting 3rd grade reading proficiency

<table>
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<td>Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>Student Engagement</td>
<td>Food Insecurity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Teacher preparation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Impact on reading</th>
<th>Pandemic challenges</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Well-prepared teachers can effectively identify struggling readers and differentiate instruction | • Teachers are underprepared for the virtual environment  

• Focus has been on physical safety, less so on instruction |
## Attendance

### Impact on reading

Strong correlation between attendance and 3rd grade reading proficiency

### Pandemic challenges

- Access to devices and connectivity, with disproportionate number of low-income, Black, and Hispanic students lacking access
- Uneven levels of adult supervision
## School and classroom climate

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classroom climate predicts behavioral engagement, which predicts academic achievement</td>
<td>• Teachers are starting the school year with new student relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• The classroom has become boxes on a screen, significantly altering how to build positive culture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Children’s mental health

## Impact on reading

Children with mental health issues are significantly more likely to exhibit limited reading proficiency

## Pandemic challenges

- Difficult for students to access the mental health resources they usually have through schools
- More than half of students are in need of mental health support since school closures began
Summer learning loss

Impact on reading
Low-income children fall further behind academically during the summer by as much as two months of reading achievement

Pandemic challenges
• COVID slide is expected to yield a 30% loss in learning compared to a normal school year
• Students from under-resourced experiences may experience a greater impact
# Adult literacy

## Impact on reading

Direct link between parents’ educational attainment and children’s academic achievement

## Pandemic challenges

- Younger students require more adult instruction, especially when learning to read
- Parents are required to serve as teachers, despite their content ability
Early childhood education

Impact on reading

Developmentally appropriate early childhood education will improve children’s early language and literacy skills

Pandemic challenges

• Early childhood centers are closed and/or more expensive due to drops in enrollment
• Parents are underprepared to teach early literacy skills
## Student engagement

### Impact on reading

Students are more likely to be motivated to engage with rigorous content

### Pandemic challenges

- Engaging youngest learners virtually is challenging
- Low-income and students of color more likely to be given low-level work, and to have additional pandemic stressors that detract from engagement
Food insecurity

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| Inadequate nutrition negatively affects children’s development, and school lunch is correlated with increased academic achievement | • More than 60% of students qualify for meals delivered at school.  
• School closures have increased access challenges and exacerbated food insecurity |
Process Today

Small Group Discussion ➔ Focus on themes ➔ Individual Voting
Which factors most impact 3rd grade reading? (self)

- Teacher Preparation
- Children’s Mental Health
- Early Childhood Education
- Attendance
- Summer Learning Loss
- Student Engagement
- School and Classroom Climate
- Adult Literacy
- Food Insecurity
## Factor Analysis (Group)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factor</th>
<th>Impact on 3rd grade reading?</th>
<th>Ability of this network to Influence?</th>
<th>Total</th>
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Which factors can the network most influence? (self)

- Teacher Preparation
- Children’s Mental Health
- Early Childhood Education
- Attendance
- Summer Learning Loss
- Student Engagement
- School and Classroom Climate
- Adult Literacy
- Food Insecurity

Learn4Life
Factor Prioritization (Group Totals)

- Teacher Preparation
- Children’s Mental Health
- Early Childhood Education
- Attendance
- Summer Learning Loss
- Student Engagement
- School and Classroom Climate
- Adult Literacy
- Food Insecurity
Democracy!

Everyone –
Vote for your personal top 3 factors
Next steps: 3rd Grade Reading COVID factor analysis timeline

- **Sept 3 CAN**
  - Prioritize Factors

- **Nov 5 CAN**
  - Prioritize Bright Spots

- **Dec CAN (TBD)**
  - Finalize

**Homework**
- Submit potential bright spots
- Review bright spots

**6 Weeks**

**1 month**

- **9/16 Leadership Council**
  - Validate Final Factors

- **12/9 Leadership Council**
  - Approve bright spots
Network Next Steps

Look for “bright spots” aligned with factor analysis after 9/16 Leadership Council

In the chat box (optional)...
• Share any resources you’d like to be shared with this network in the follow up email

Next network meetings:
• Thursday, November 5
• Thursday, December 3