



DECODING
DYSLEXIA

Decoding Dyslexia Oklahoma

GRASSROOTS PARENT MOVEMENT WORKING TO
RAISE AWARENESS FOR DYSLEXIA,

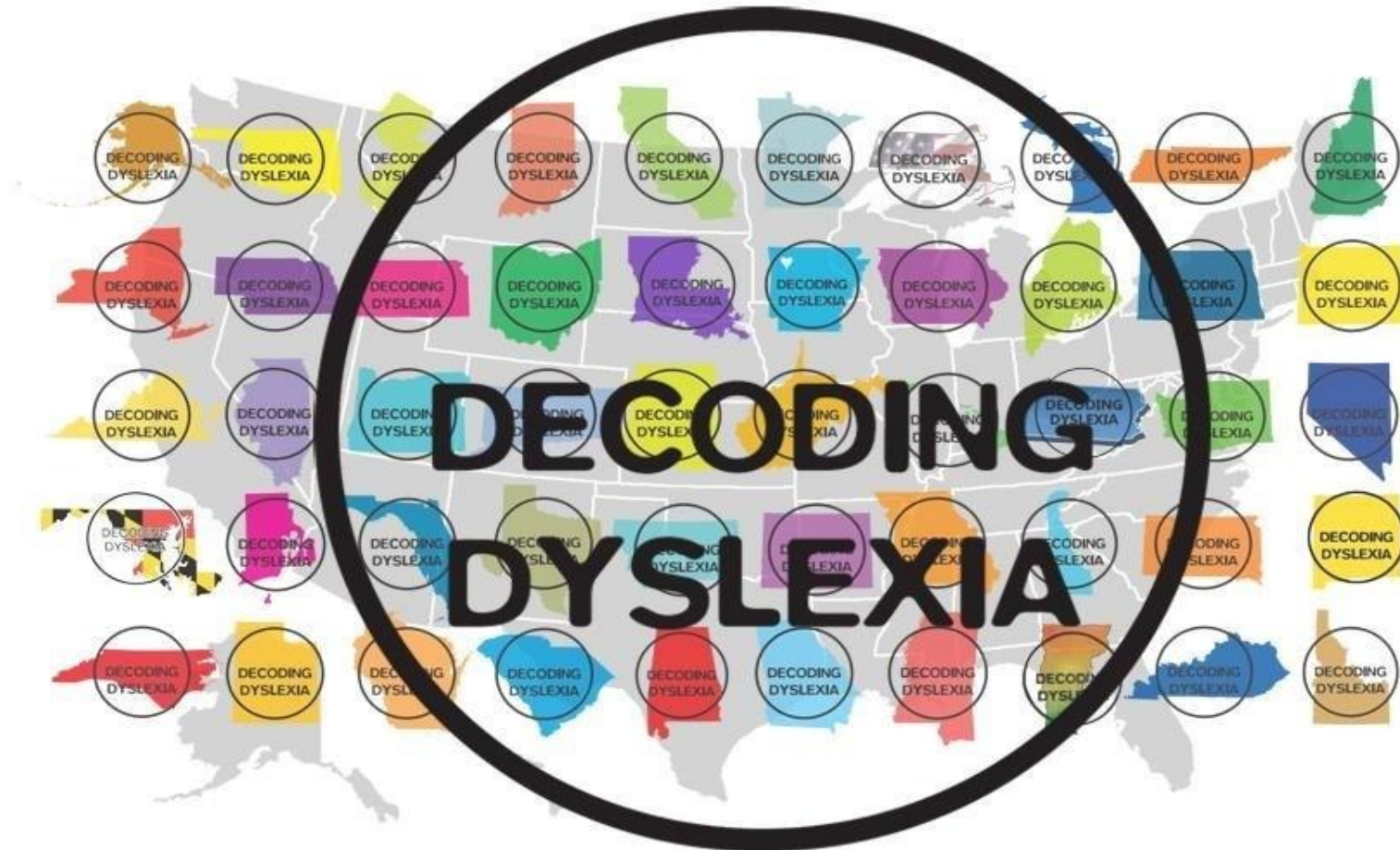
EMPOWER FAMILIES TO SUPPORT THEIR CHILDREN, AND

IMPROVE RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS WITH DYSLEXIA IN THE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS IN OKLAHOMA.

www.decodingdyslexiaok.org

Decoding Dyslexia

www.decodingdyslxia.net



Michelle Keiper, Founding Member

- Trained as a teacher with a B.S. in Elementary Education
- Parent of a child with dyslexia

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The “gift” of more time?

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Preschool:

“He needs more time”

Kindergarten:

“Not all students go to college”

First Grade:

“I’ve never seen anything like this”

Second Grade:

“He just needs to pay attention”

Third Grade:

“He needs to go back to 2nd grade”

Students with dyslexia can succeed

- Effective Reading Instruction through an Evidenced Based Structured Literacy Program
- Supportive Learning Environment
 - Teachers trained to recognize dyslexia
 - Accommodations
 - Assistive Technology

Learning to read was very difficult for me. My mom was a teacher who read to me and worked with me every day, learning to read was still very difficult. Third grade was the worst year ever, kids at school started making fun of me, and I felt stupid. After three years of working with my reading tutor I was able to read on grade level. I was finally able to work up to my potential.

In the sixth grade I was very proud to be accepted into the National Junior Honor Society. Now as a freshman, I take pre-AP classes with aspirations to go to medical school one day.

“ All teachers need to know about dyslexia. All kids should be screened for dyslexia in the first grade, and with the help of a teacher who knows about dyslexia and how to help they can start teaching kids with dyslexia how to read in a way that works for them immediately. Kids with dyslexia are smart and capable of learning to read, we just need teachers to understand how to help.”

- Sam Keiper

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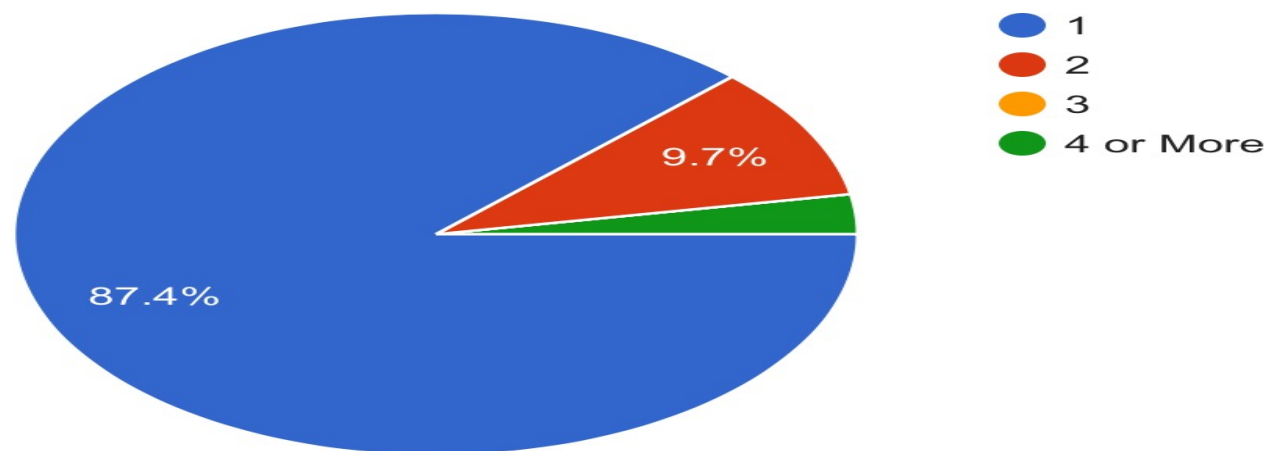


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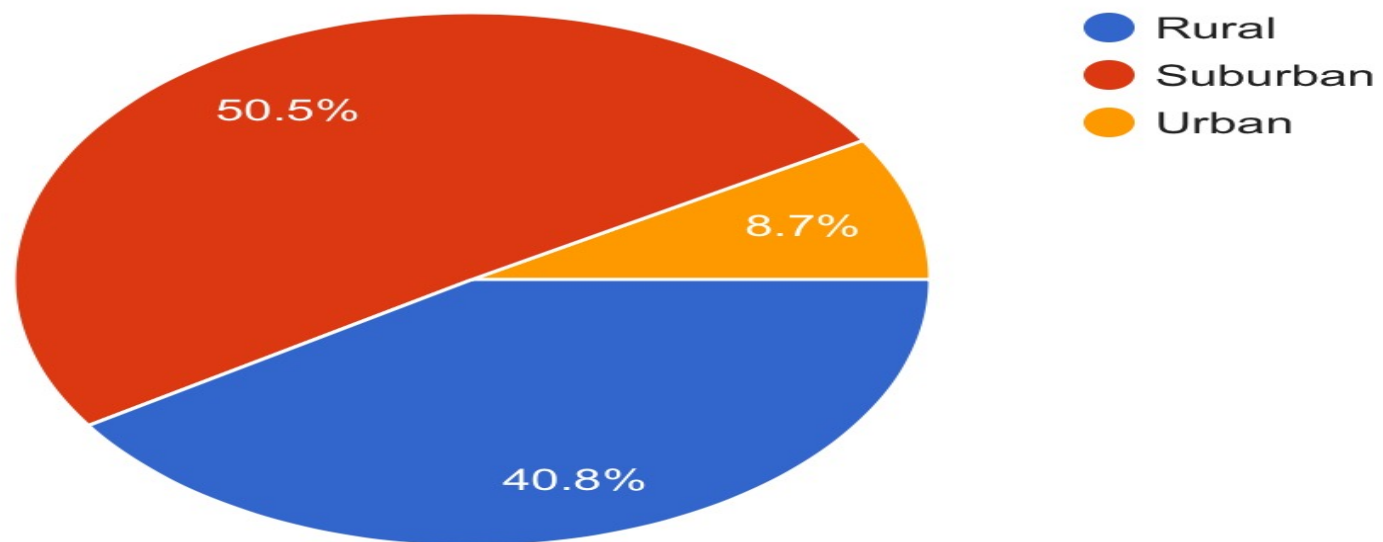
- ▶ 1,500 followers on our public FB page
- ▶ 300 active parents and educators in a closed FB group for those in Oklahoma
- ▶ 1,500 followers on Twitter
- ▶ July, 2016 DD-OK hosted our first state wide conference with over 300 parents, students, and teachers registering

How many children in your family have been identified WITH DYSLEXIA?

(103 responses)

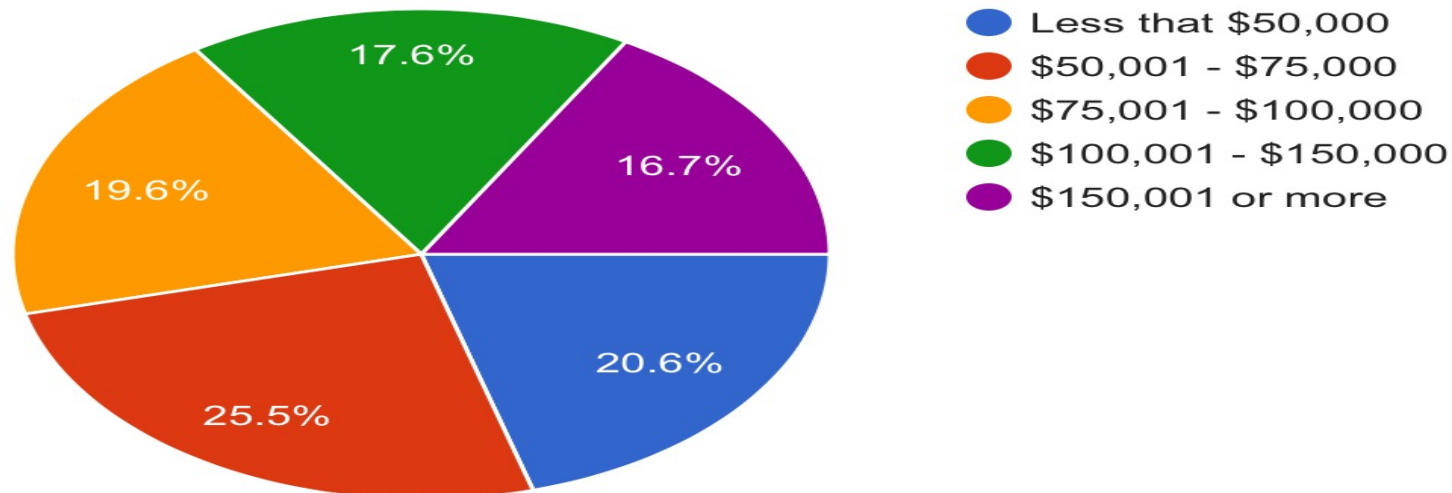


Where do you live? (103 responses)



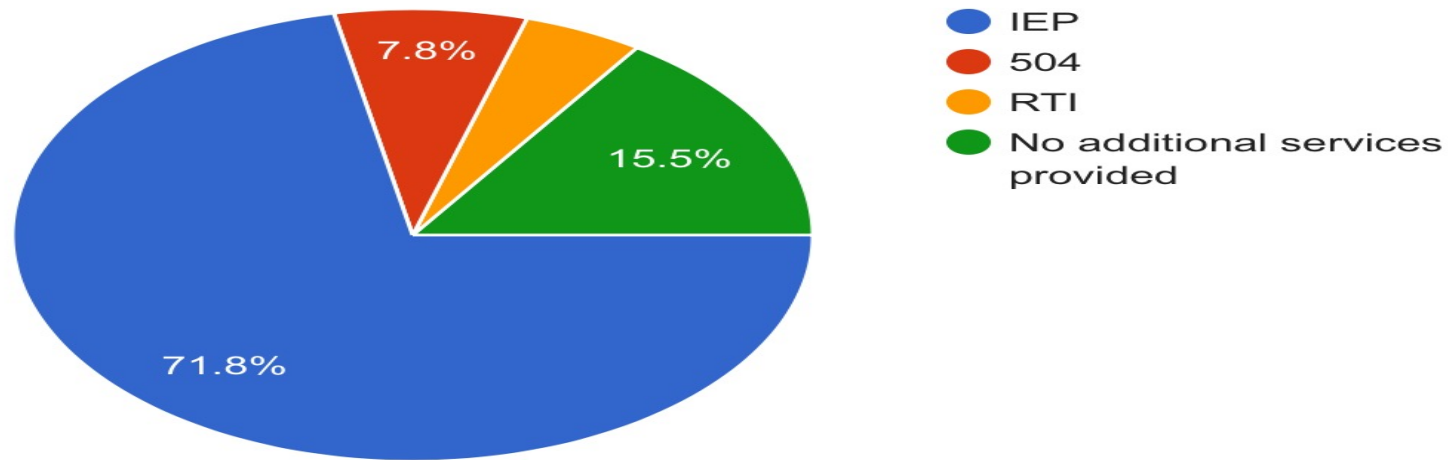
What is your approximate average yearly household income?

(102 responses)

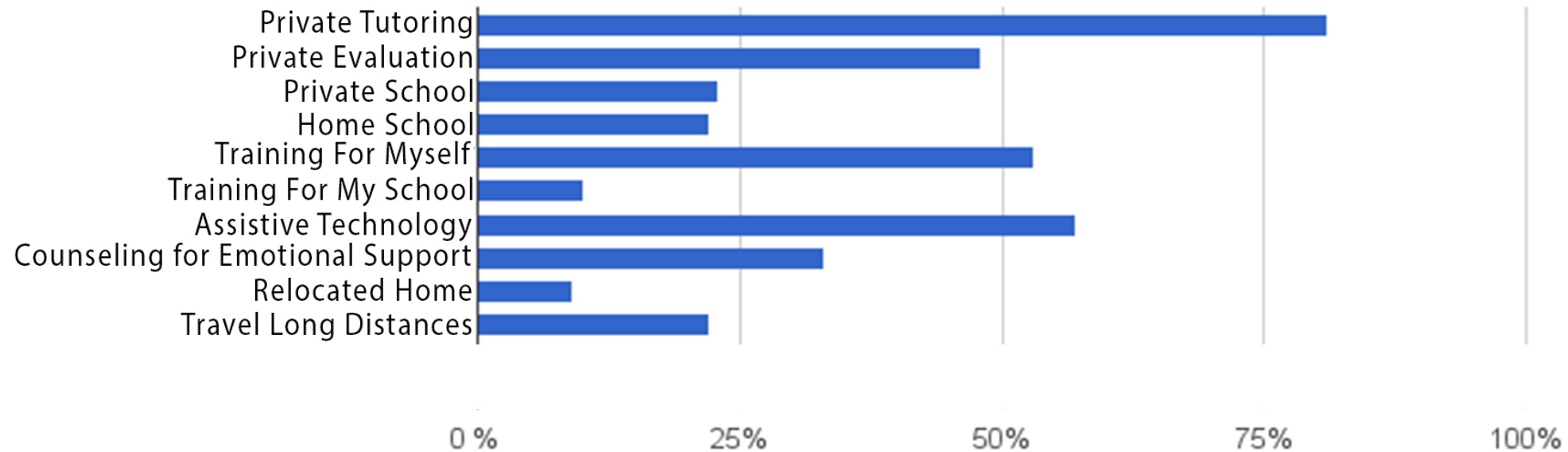


Within the last 5 years, has your child with dyslexia participated in a IEP, 504 plan, or RTI?

(103 responses)

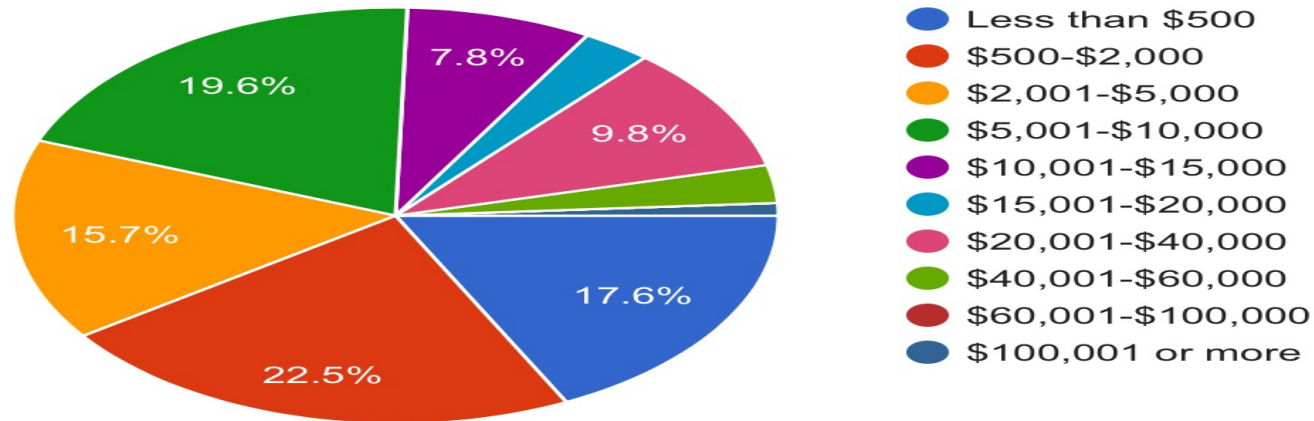


In the last 5 years, what ways do you financially support your child with dyslexia?



In the last 5 years, what is your estimated financial contribution for instructional services only (tutoring or private school).

(102 responses)



Oklahoma families of children with dyslexia share their common struggle:

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My child showed signs
in pre-K or K

No Educational Support
for students with
dyslexia in my district

There is an absolute
lack of knowledge
about dyslexia in our
schools

Schools do not provide
evidenced based
reading instruction
proven effective for
students with dyslexia

It is pure insanity to
send my child to school
where she does not
learn to read, write, or
spell. Real learning
begins after school with
her private tutor

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Parent Advocate, Kendra
Anderson

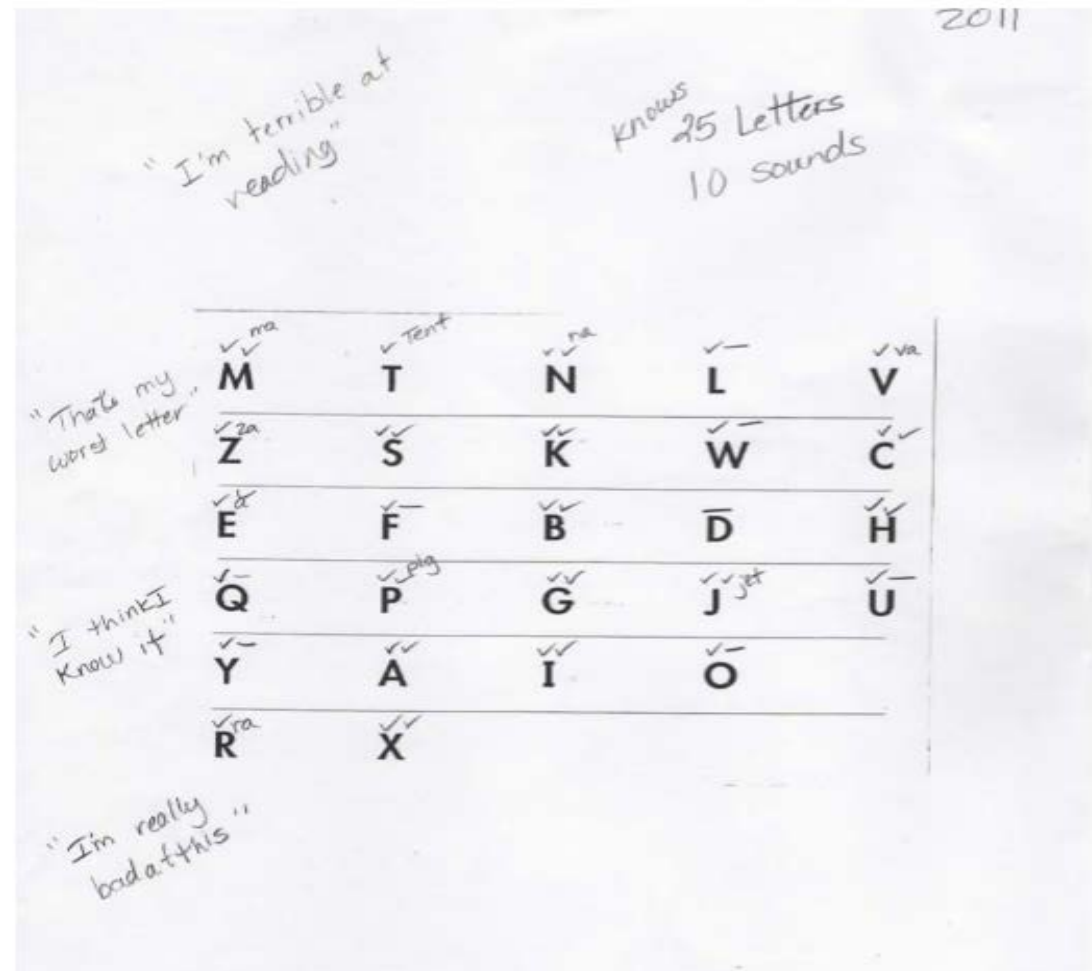
Student Advocate,
Nathaniel Anderson

Grove, OK

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Kindergarten:

"I'm terrible at reading"

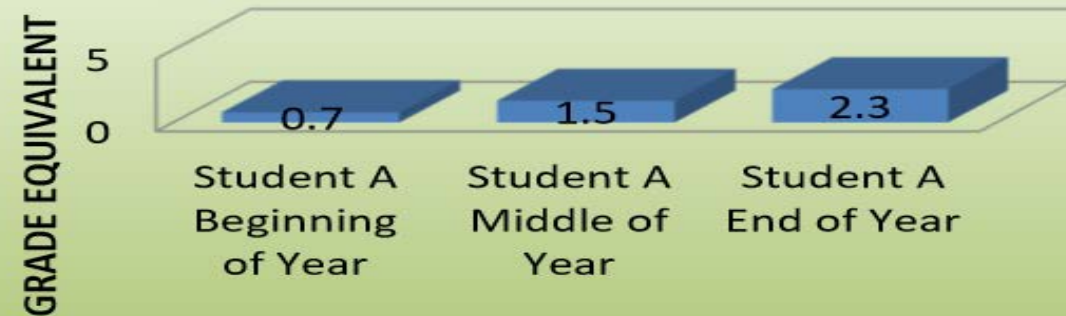
"That's my worst letter"

"I'm really bad at this"

"I think I know it"

2nd Grade Star Reading Equivalent Scores

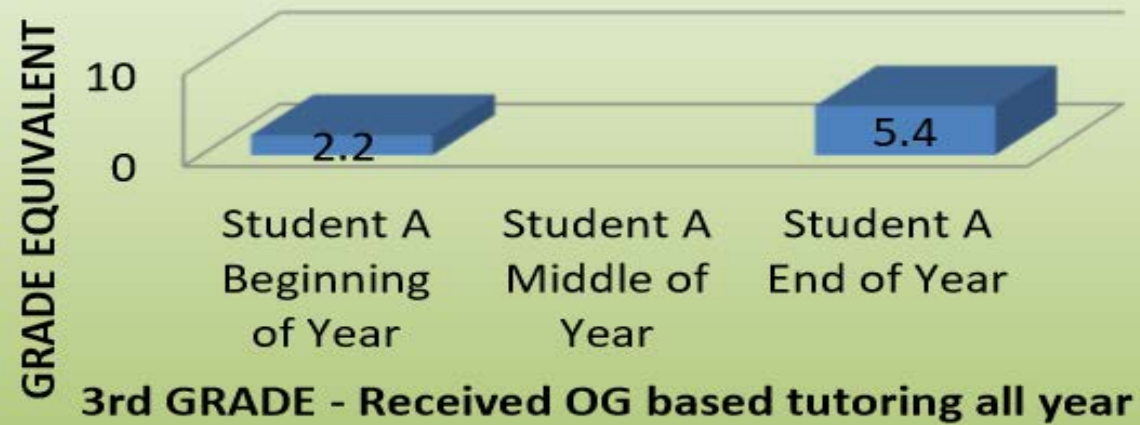
Grove Public School Student



2nd GRADE - Started OG based tutoring mid-year

3rd Grade Star Reading Equivalent Scores

Grove Public School Student



My mom says **SHE** is exhausted? **I'M** the one whose brain is working five times harder than everyone else's just to keep up!!

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Reading outside on a pretty day.



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**Teacher Advocate,
Renee McFarland**

Sand Springs Schools



Demographic Characteristics of Children with Dyslexia:



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- ▶ Dyslexia affects 10-20% of our Nation's children
- ▶ Currently only 5% are diagnosed and receive effective intervention
- ▶ 50% of children with dyslexia do not graduate from high school
- ▶ More likely to:
 - ▶ Have poor self esteem
 - ▶ Abuse substances
 - ▶ Get pregnant
 - ▶ Be involved in the Juvenile Court System
 - ▶ Be involved in the Criminal Court System
 - ▶ Need for Public Assistance

Prison to School Pipeline

- ▶ On September 30, 2015 there was a hearing in Washington DC for the Read Act HR3033. Dr. Rachel Robillard, Austin Independent School District, referred to the school to prison pipeline. She stated, new research this summer showed dyslexia or reading disorders in the Texas prison population had increased from 80% in 2004 to 85% currently. She noted we have a pipeline full of dyslexic students who were either undiagnosed/misdiagnosed or just struggling readers that were misdiagnosed

University Programs Accredited by IDA

- ▶ Antioch University (OH)
- ▶ Clarion University (PA)
- ▶ College of Mount Saint Joseph (OH)
- ▶ Colorado College (CO)
- ▶ Dallas Baptist University (TX)
- ▶ Drexel University (PA)
- ▶ Fairleigh Dickson (NJ)
- ▶ Fairfield University (CT)
- ▶ Gordon College (MA)
- ▶ MGH Institute of Health Profession (MA)
- ▶ Mississippi College (MS)
- ▶ Notre Dame College (OH)
- ▶ Ohio State University (OH)
- ▶ Saint Joseph's (PA)
- ▶ Simmons College (MA)
- ▶ Southeastern University (FL)
- ▶ Southern Connecticut State (CT)
- ▶ Southern Methodist University (TX)
- ▶ Teachers College, Columbia (NY)
- ▶ University of Dayton (OH)

University Programs Accredited by IDA

- ▶ University of Florida (FL)
- ▶ University of Central Arkansas (AR)
- ▶ University of Southern Mississippi (MS)
- ▶ William Carey University (MS)
- ▶ West Liberty University (WV)

Total = 25 Universities with programs accredited by the IDA,
(International Dyslexia Association)

What's Next for Oklahoma?

1. Stop the cycle
2. Professional Development for current teachers
3. Universal Screener
4. Remove retention from the Reading Sufficiency Act

October, 2015

- US Department of Education issues a **Dear Colleague** letter to ensure a high-quality education for children with Specific Learning Disabilities (SLD).
- There is noting in IDEA that would prohibit the use of the terms **dyslexia**, **dyscalculia**, and **dysgraphia** in IDEA evaluation, eligibility, determinations or IEP documents.



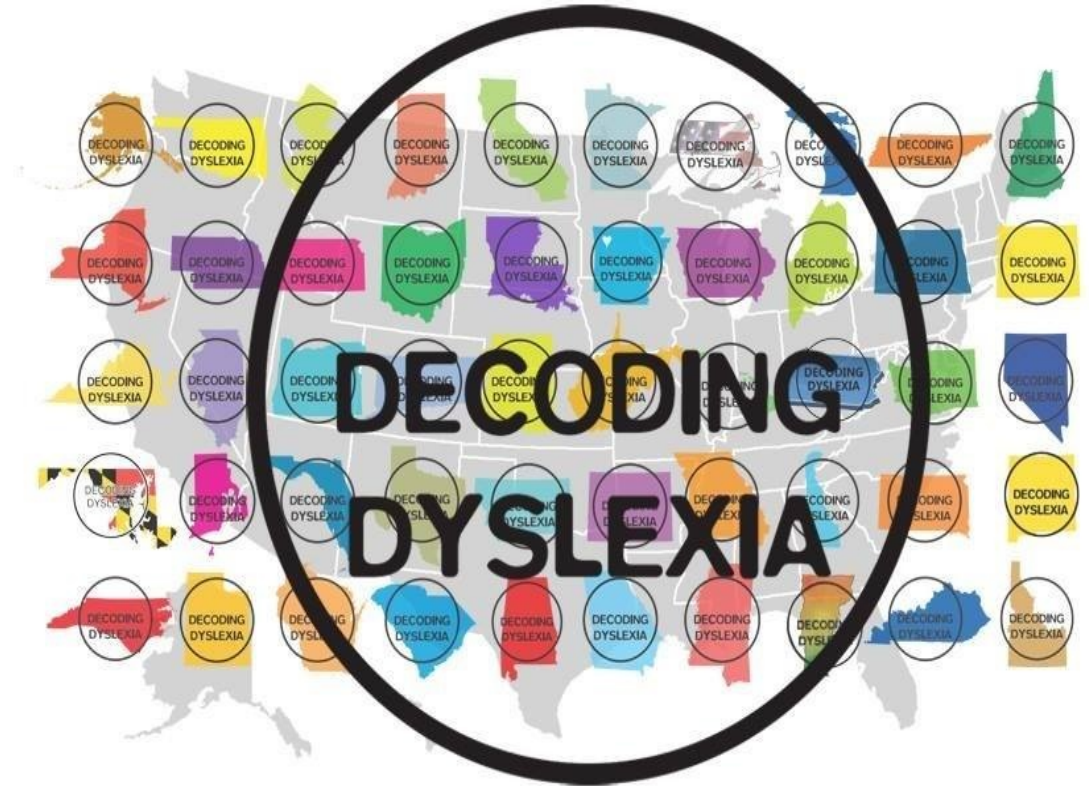
Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

- Comprehensive Center to Support Literacy for students at risk for not attaining full literacy skills, including those with dyslexia.
- Universal Screener



READ Act

- ▶ Passed **Unanimously** in both the U.S. House and U.S. Senate 2/10/16
- ▶ Signed into law by the President 2/18/16
- ▶ Devotes \$2.5 million annually to **dyslexia research** in the following areas:
 - Early identification
 - Professional Development for Teachers
 - Curriculum Development



October 3, 2016

US Department of Education awards \$4.4 Million to Improve Literacy and Education Outcomes for Students with Disabilities

“When we improve literacy skills for children with disabilities, including those with *dyslexia*, we are not just teaching them how to read, we are opening doors to a lifetime of more positive opportunities, such as improved academic skills, reduction in behavioral incidences, increased school completion, and lifelong learning,” said US Secretary of Education, John B. King



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Working together to raise
awareness for dyslexia,

Empower families to support their
children, and

Improve resources for students
with dyslexia in our Oklahoma
public schools.

