

# Kansas State University





# **A.S.P.I.R.E.** – *Advancing Skills, Promoting Innovation, and Reading Excellence*

Catchment Area #2

Submitted by Kansas State University



# Kansas State University



# Catchment Area #2 – NE/Central Kansas

- 17 counties
- 41 districts
- 72 buildings
- 2 – current PDS schools
- 3 – current Rural PDS schools (Clay County, Nemaha Central and Twin Valley)
- Rural, poor



# Vision

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**A.S.P.I.R.E.** – *Advancing Skills, Promoting Innovation, and Reading Excellence*: "Helping learners aspire to greater literacy achievements"

The vision of the ASPIRE Center is to impact student literacy learning through the delivery of world-class education and educator training in the science of reading (SoR). The ASPIRE Center at Kansas State University will collaborate with identified and emerging partners to provide Kansas teachers and school leaders with enhanced skills in the application of the science of reading, advocacy support to families, and engaging community-based innovative interventions designed to positively impact the unique needs of our catchment area and state.



# Pre-Service Educator Preparation: Current Undergraduate Programs

- Science of Reading I
- Science of Reading II
- New Literacies in Contemporary Classrooms
- Supporting Struggling Learners in Reading and Math
- Block B and Block C Practicums
  - Common Assessment
- Student Teaching



# Pre-Service Educator Preparation: Success of Program Completers

- **Completer cohort 2021-2022**
- Total Number of Completers 276
- Total Number Taking the Literacy Test (7812) - 233
- Pass Rate 95.71%
  
- **Completer cohort 2022-2023**
- Total Number of Completers 234
- Total Number Taking the Literacy Test (7812) - 177
- Pass Rate 94.92%
  
- 98% employed or attending graduate school



# Pre-Service Educator Preparation: Proposed Enhancements

- Micro-teaching Simulations
  - Virtual, focused, direct SoR instruction
- On Campus SoR Enrichment Labs
  - Schools within the catchment area will invited to enroll their students and teachers in a day of literacy learning at Kansas State University.
- On Site Professional Learning
  - Faculty and Center experts will guide pre-service and in-service teachers in science of reading practices
- Strategic Field Experiences within districts in our Catchment Area





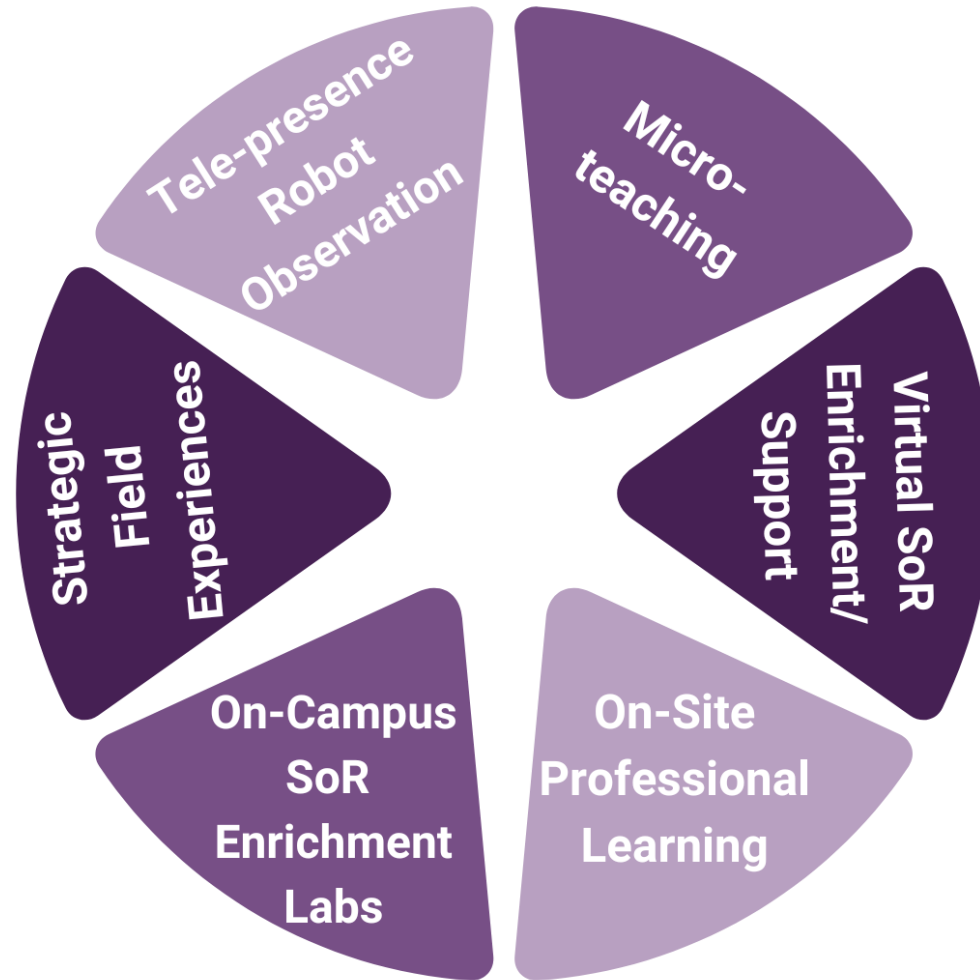
# Pre-Service Educator Preparation: Simulations

- Simulations are immersive, practice-based learning experiences designed to replicate a wide range of authentic and semi-authentic classroom situations. These simulations provide pre-service and in-service teachers with opportunities to engage in instructional, managerial, and interpersonal tasks.
  - various instructional settings, including one-on-one, small group, and whole-class interactions
  - digital or virtual environments or in person
  - synchronous and asynchronous formats to accommodate diverse learning and teaching scenarios

This approach allows educators to hone skills, receive feedback, and develop strategies in a controlled, supportive setting that mirrors real-world challenges and complexities.



# Simulations



## Pre-Service Educator Preparation: Micro-Teaching Simulations

- School districts and parents within the catchment area will be able to enroll their students for literacy enrichment and support in ASPIRE offerings.
- Preservice teachers will deliver structured SoR literacy lessons focused on discrete components of the science of reading
- GoReact will provide a secure digital platform through which video recorded teaching performances will be stored, analyzed and critiqued
- Exemplar videos will be used to enhance knowledge in required coursework
- Varied and diverse opportunities



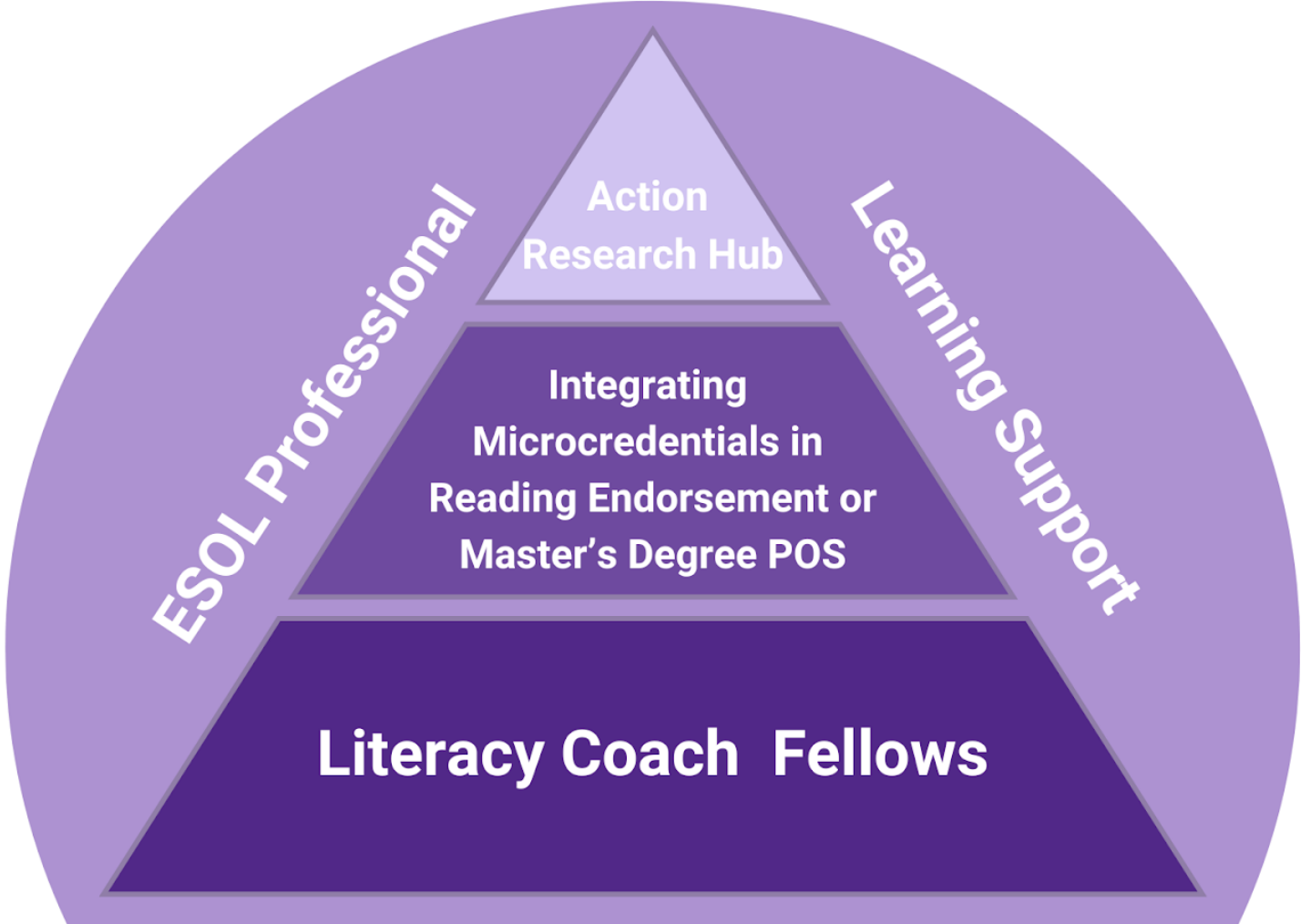
# Inservice Educator and District Programs/Support:

## Current Programs

- Reading Specialist
  - Incorporation of the SoR I and II & MC
- Low/High Incidence Special Education
- Building/District Leadership
- School Counseling
- Early Childhood Education
- Master of Arts in Teaching – Elementary



# Literacy Coach Fellows



# Inservice Educator & District Programs/Support: Simulations

- Literacy Fellows will mentor and coach current classroom teachers.
- GoReact will help with recording the SoR classroom instruction.
- Feedback will be provided to improve practice.



## **Inservice Educator and District Programs/Support: Coaching**

- Literacy Coach Fellows
  - Reading Specialist licensed
  - Mentor and coach classroom teachers
  - Lead literacy initiatives in schools/communities
  - Participate in research activities
  - Capacity building: the Literacy Coach Fellows will be pivotal in enhancing literacy instruction, particularly in underserved areas within our catchment area.



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## **Inservice Educator and District Programs/Support: Assessment & Evaluation Services**

- Classroom level formative assessment
- Diagnostic evaluations
- English Language Learners
- Diagnostic Expert will
  - guide professional learning communities (PLCs)
  - Support multi-tiered system of support (MTSS)



# Personnel

- Planning Year
  - Director
  - Administrative Assistant
  - Family Advocate
  - ESOL Professional Development Specialist
  - Communications and Marketing Specialist (.5)



# Personnel

- Years 2-4 Staffing Plan
  - Microcredential Literacy Coach
  - Diagnostic Specialist
  - Reading Specialist
  - ESOL Diagnostic Specialist
  - Communications and Marketing Specialist (.5)



# Outreach: Existing Partnerships

- Professional Development Schools
  - Manhattan-Ogden Schools 383
  - Riley County 378
  - Wamego Public Schools 320
  - Twin Valley 240 (Rural)
  - Clay County 379 (Rural)
  - Nemaha Central 115 (Rural)



# Outreach: Existing Partnerships

- Kansas Educational Leadership Institute (KELI)
- K-State College of Health and Human Services (ECE)
- Phillips Fundamental Learning Center
  - Microcredential (Supporting Readers who Struggle with Dyslexia in P-12 Classrooms)
  - Course Sequence (7 graduate hours – Literacy Interventionalist Specialist & Practicum)



# Outreach: Future Partnerships

- Center for READing – Pittsburg State University
- Post Secondary Institutions
  - Barton County Community College
  - Bethany College
  - Cloud County Community College
  - Kansas Wesleyan University
  - Manhattan Area Technical College
  - Manhattan Christian College



# Outreach: Current and Planned Student/Family Support

- K-State 105 – Research and Extension
- Kansas 4-H
- North Central Kansas Library System



# Quality Assurance System: Data Collection and Analysis

- The College's QAS provides quality assurance and continuous improvement to all initial- and advanced-level licensure programs that lead to a literacy-related educator license. The QAS systematically ensures the preparation of knowledgeable, ethical, and caring teachers and school leaders who are highly skilled in the application of the Science of Reading, in support of families, and in providing community-based interventions designed to meet the unique needs of our catchment area, the state, and the nation.
- At its core, the QAS relies on relevant, verifiable, representative, cumulative, and actionable measures to ensure interpretations of data are valid and consistent.





# Quality Assurance System: Impact Measures

- The QAS utilizes the Program Effectiveness measures include
  - (1) the numbers/percent of pre-service candidates meeting the standard on the state approved licensure exam;
  - (2) numbers/percent of elementary special educators, school psychologists, reading specialists, and elementary administrators completing state approved training (e.g., programs offered by the Center), or passing state-approved literacy exam; and
  - (3) KSDE reports on total number and percentage of students performing at a level 1 on the Kansas Assessment for English Language Arts in the designated catchment area, as well as reports on the total number and percentage of students performing at a level 2, level 3, and level 4 on the Kansas Assessment for English Language Arts in KSU's designated catchment area.

