Project
Proposal

PEAK LITERACY

Prepared for

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Project
Background

Since 2020, Peak Literacy has helped K-12 students who are behind in their literacy development to quickly catch up to their peers through short daily reading and math lessons, supported by encouraging volunteer coaches. Our methods are data-driven and use the Great Leaps software, making it easy to track student progress and report outcomes. On average our students see 1.2 years of reading level growth in just 12 weeks.

We partner with schools, parents and after school programs to implement the program in ways that work for parents, students, teachers and administrators.

We believe strong literacy skills are the key to students being able to succeed and gain equity in our society's educational, social and economic systems. Building a strong foundation for lifelong reading and math skills creates a strong foundation for life!

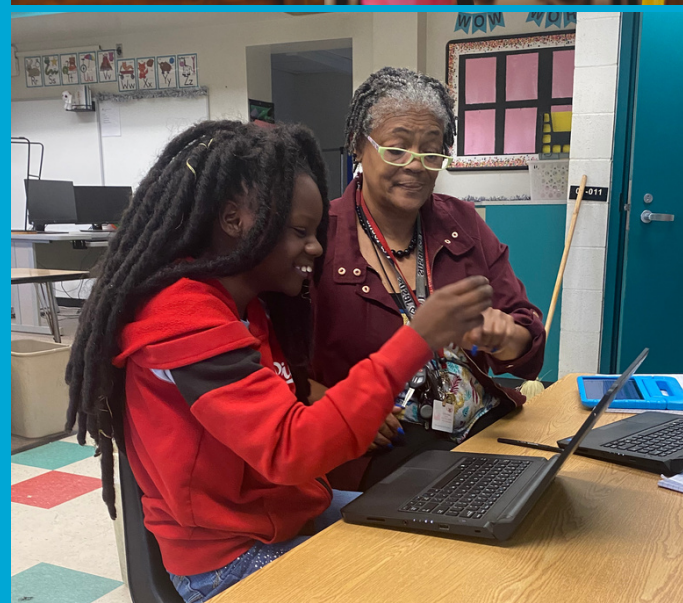# Alachua County Schools

Alachua County

Peak Literacy was initially started after learning about the achievement gap in Alachua County. This is our home and we want to see it thrive! We believe our program can go a long way toward closing this gap by targeting students who are behind, giving them a way to catch up and take their place as active agents of their own education.

Implementation

Every school is unique and our planning process involves working with administrators, teachers and other stakeholders to determine how our program can be implemented to serve students best. In general, we have three implementation approaches:

- **During the School Day.** Small groups of students are taken to a dedicated space for 15 minutes during their school day to meet with their tutors and complete lessons.
- **After School Program.** Students complete their lessons during an an afterschool program; we facilitate with help from staff.
- **At Home.** Students meet their community tutors online after school from home.

Each method of implementation has benefits and drawbacks, but all can be successful. Hybrid implementations are also possible. The decision ultimately depends on a number of factors specific to the school we are working with.

Alachua County Schools

Our Proposal

Our desire is to implement Peak Literacy's program at one of Alachua County's elementary schools, singling out 40-50 students who are farthest behind in their reading skills (likely 3rd-5th graders). Assuming we can start working with these children in January, we anticipate an average growth of 1.2 years of reading skills or more by the beginning of April. We will also teach math fact fluency along with reading.

Focusing the program in this way would prioritize helping the children who need it most while bringing the largest possible short term boost to the school's FAST and BEST scores. It will also serve as a pilot program that can be expanded and built upon once its successes are proven.

Requirements for Success

Any successful implementation requires strong buy in from school administrators and teachers to work with our director and volunteers, make necessary student data available, and be responsive to the program's needs.

We also require partners to work with us to cover program costs.