

The [vision](#) of the Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) is that every student in Delaware will leave school ready for college, career, and life. There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted student learning and made the achievement of this vision difficult for every school system in the state. Despite this challenge, educators across the state and the DDOE are committed to providing students with opportunities to learn while also caring for their physical, social, and emotional needs.

In the spring of 2021, the DDOE launched its [Strategy to Accelerate Learning](#) to give students more opportunities to access grade-level content and make up for unfinished learning so that they are prepared for the next grade level and the 2021-2022 school year. Delaware's acceleration strategy is grounded in **four core actions** that school systems need to prioritize in order to address unfinished teaching and learning.

ACCELERATION CORE ACTIONS

- 1 Adopt and use [high-quality instructional materials](#) (HQIM)
- 2 Provide educators with the [professional learning](#) needed to provide Tier 1 instruction to all students
- 3 Leverage data to diagnose unfinished learning and provide necessary support to all students
- 4 Create support structures to accelerate student learning

To support school and system leaders in this work, the DDOE provided all Delaware public schools with several free resources this summer to prepare educators and students for the 2021-2022 school year including professional learning for educators, online text access, digital math instruction, and high-dosage tutoring for students, and language support for families.

SUMMER IMPACT

OVER THE 8-WEEK PERIOD:

Over 6,500 students received acceleration support using HQIM

Over 600 Delaware educators received training to accelerate students using HQIM

Students spent nearly 9,000 hours reading meaningful, grade-level books

SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS

ACCELERATION PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

SUMMER LITERACY BOOST

Professional learning for K-5 teachers on high-quality instructional materials grounded in the science of reading

OUTCOME:

Over 400 educators received the training necessary to provide students with high-quality reading instruction during the 2021-2022 school year.

"Learning about the science of reading was the most effective thing I learned. I have never taught the basics of reading before, but it is so important for me to know in order to help my struggling readers."

ZEARN PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Virtual professional learning for teachers to support the implementation of Zearn this summer and for the 2021-2022 school year

OUTCOME:

Nearly 250 educators received the training necessary to provide students with access to high-quality math instruction this summer and during the 2021-2022 school year.

"This training has taught me how to create a space for students to learn and make observations prior to tackling tough math content."

SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

LANGUAGE LINES

One-on-one support for families in their native language

OUTCOME:

A total of 608 calls were held with families in 17 languages.

"Language line is a great resource to help our school connect with families in their preferred language. Interpreters are easy to work with, and the service enhances our opportunities to create strong home-school connections."

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS

ONLINE TEXT ACCESS

SORA

Online access to books and texts included in the state's top high-quality curriculum

OUTCOME:

Over 20,000 books were checked out equating to over 8,600 hours of reading this summer.



HIGH-DOSE TUTORING

ZEARN SUMMER INTENSIVE SERIES

Free access to Zearn in order to provide students in grades 1-8 with essential math content

OUTCOME:

Over 4,000 students received an hour of math acceleration each week this summer through community-based and summer school programming.

"I'm good at math now. I did all the missions. I crushed it!"

BACK TO BASICS

Literacy and math tutoring to place students on a path to achieve grade-level content

OUTCOME:

Over 2,300 students across 13 school systems received tutoring services this summer.

"Thank you for all your help and dedication. I feel that our daughter will be better prepared for math going into 2nd grade."

READING ASSIST

One-on-one reading instruction for students in grades K-3 who are in the lowest 10% in terms of reading proficiency

OUTCOME:

Nearly 500 students across 15 schools received tutoring services this summer.

86% of students who received tutoring showed growth in at least one measure over the course of the six week program.

100% of school personnel agree that Reading Assist tutors helped mitigate summer learning loss.

COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

37 community-based organizations received math and literacy training to provide local tutoring services across Delaware

OUTCOME:

Nearly 300 staff members from these community-based organizations received literacy and/or math training, and provided nearly 1,800 students with high-quality tutoring this summer.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2021-2022

The DDOE is committed to supporting LEAs in meeting the needs of all learners, including students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and low-income students during the 2021-2022 school year.

UPCOMING ACCELERATION STRATEGIES

- Continue the professional learning, online text access, and high dosage tutoring supports provided to students and educators this summer into the 2021-2022 school year.
- Develop a summer and after-school learning acceleration guide to support LEAs' selection of acceleration resources.
- Release an Accelerate Learning RFP to procure a list of high-quality vendors who can support districts in providing targeted support to students during the school day, after school, and during summer programming.
- Award "Delaware School-Community Learning Program" grants to school districts to provide year-round, after-school programming to students through a local community partner.
- Launch the "EZE Professional Learning Network" to provide professional learning on Eureka, Zearn, and Engage NY HQIM to ensure equity in mathematical classrooms, build teachers' understanding of the math instructional shifts, and provide instructional planning and coaching support.