

## RYAN WALTERS STATE SUPERINTENDENT of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION

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## OSDE Declares "Teach Kids to Read" Week

**Oklahoma City, Okla** – In conjunction with Moms for Liberty, the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) has declared this week "Teach Kids to Read Week" in the State of Oklahoma.

"Two-thirds of our nation's fourth graders are not reading at grade level, and instead of focusing on real literacy solutions for our students, the American Library Association and their partners choose focus on their agenda of political indoctrination and so-called 'banned books,'" said State Superintendent Ryan Walters. "Through the **Back to Basics** initiative, OSDE is committing record resources to building literacy through the Science of Reading, the most effective, best researched early literacy approach, and we will pay teachers who complete this training as well as those who demonstrate growth in reading proficiency throughout the year.

**Back to Basics** will also identify at-risk readers and pay teachers to tutor them both in person and online. We want to bring people together to focus on building literacy among our students encourage all Oklahomans to help teach students to read."

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