

October 16, 2024

Dr. T. Gerard Bradley, BDS, MS, Dr.Med.Dent.
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Statement of Financial Commitment to the Kentucky Reading Research Center

The Kentucky Reading Research Center (KRRC) is funded through a \$6 million-dollar competitive Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) grant from 7/1/24 to 6/30/26. The establishment of the Kentucky Reading Research Center (KRRC) at UofL supports the University's goal to increase research activity, revenue, and rankings; in essence, bolstering our status as a research powerhouse.

The KDE grant for the KRRC buys out the research time of four CEHD faculty:

- Dr. Erin Hogan who has an annual allocation of 30% research will contribute 20% FTE to KRRC as Co-PI.
- Dr. Terry Scott who has a single semester allocation of 35% research (accommodating a one semester sabbatical leave last year) will contribute 65% annual FTE to KRRC as the University of Louisville PI.
- Dr. Todd Whitney who as an annual allocation of 30% research will contribute 20% FTE to KRRC as Co-PI.
- Dr. Jeff Valentine who has an annual allocation of 60% research will contribute 30% FTE to KRRC as the *What Works Clearinghouse* research reviewer.

The KRRC is being established to develop, expand, and sustain mechanisms for ensuring that information and support for literacy instruction are available to every person in the state via families, schools, and other community agencies and positions. Positioning UofL and CEHD as leaders in community-engaged research, KRRC addresses the key issue of early literacy across our Commonwealth. I am delighted to support the establishment of this center.

I am excited to see it mature as a clearinghouse of evidence-based, high-impact practices for early literacy and as a site for professional learning, sustained coaching, goal setting, and formative feedback for teachers. The KRRC has the potential to exponentially grow CEHD's reach and impact on our educational communities in terms of critical support for teaching and learning across the state and beyond. I fully support this proposal.

Sincerely,



Tabitha Grier-Reed, Ph.D., L.P.
Dean, College of Education and Human Development
University of Louisville

cc Amy Seely, Chair Flint EMSTED
Justin Cooper, Chair SECP
Melissa Henry, Chair ECPY