



Placer County Reads: Empowering Literacy for All

**CSBA Counties Conference
September 26, 2026**

Slide Deck Access



<https://gqr.sh/f3pG>

Welcome



Gayle Garbolino-Mojica
County Superintendent of Schools
ggarbolino-mojica@placercoe.org



Jennifer Hicks
Associate Superintendent
Educational Services
jhicks@placercoe.org

Presenters Accessibility Promise

The Placer County Office of Education is committed to following the principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL) and to making this presentation and related materials as accessible as possible.

A few Strategies used today:

- Simple backgrounds with high-contrast real text
- Digital and print materials are provided
- Shortened links (TinyURL & QR codes)
- Alternative text for images
- Multiple examples and no-examples
- Opportunities and options for participation & feedback

Our Journey

Agenda

- Our Journey
- Initiative Focus Areas
- Aligned Systems
- Partnerships
- Strategic Investment
- Board Literacy Ambassadors
- Measuring Success
- Closing and Questions

Slide Deck Access



<https://gqr.sh/f3pG>

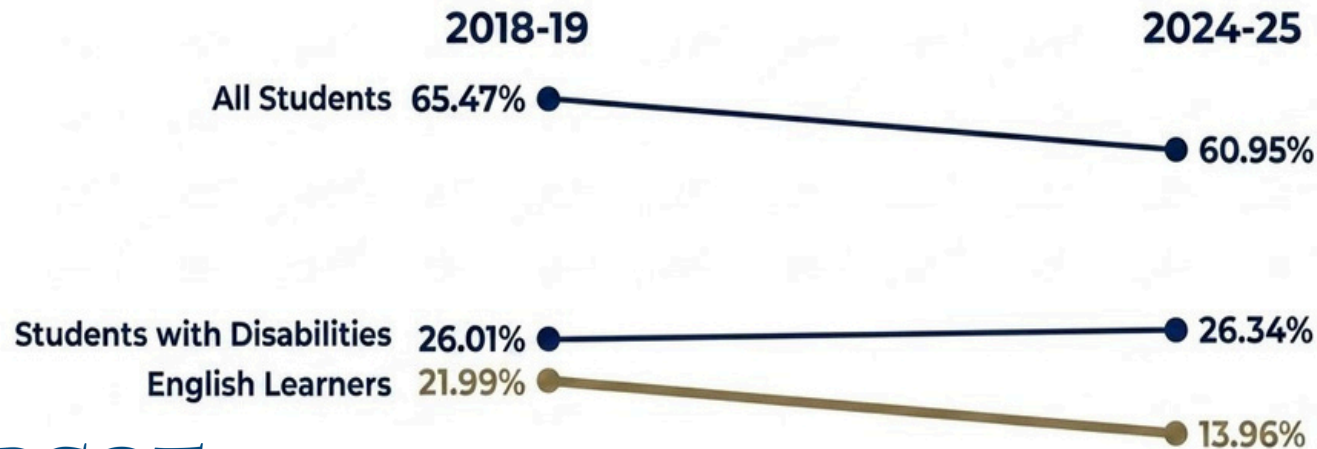


EMPOWERING
literacy
FOR ALL

PLACER COUNTY READS

ELA Proficiency Rates for All Students, Students with Disabilities, and English Learners in Placer County

Though ELA proficiency remains below pre-pandemic levels, we're focused and optimistic about improving literacy outcomes for all learners.





Vision

Every learner in Placer County thrives as a confident, capable reader, empowered by strong partnerships among families, schools, and the community. Together, we foster a culture of literacy where opportunity, awareness, and success are accessible to all.

Mission

The Placer County Office of Education's Placer Reads Literacy Initiative enhances literacy for every learner by partnering with families, caregivers, schools, and the community to implement proven strategies that raise awareness, expand opportunities, and strengthen partnerships to ensure success for all students.



Goals



Improve Literacy Outcomes for All Students

Ensure all learners – especially English learners, students with disabilities, those experiencing homelessness, and students experiencing poverty – achieve string reading outcomes with measurable gains in state and local assessments.

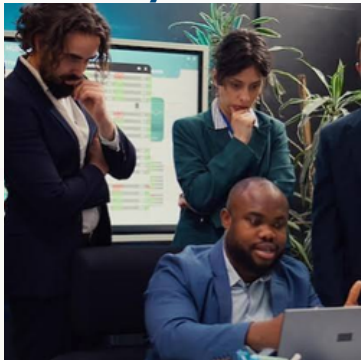
This will be accomplished through the following:

- Communities of Practice
- High Quality Professional Learning Opportunities
- High Quality Supports for Community and Family Members

Initiative Goals

Teams

Advisory Committee



A team of educators, school district leaders, community organization representatives, library and higher education partners, and local advocates that guides and supports the initiative, ensuring informed decision-making and successful outcomes, providing a holistic community lens.

Implementation Team



A team that works behind the scenes through the implementation science process to identify strengths and areas for improvement, ensuring the project's successful execution and long-term sustainability. Team is supported by Sophia Farmer from RTI International.

Implementation Stages typically occurring over 2-4 years



Spring 2024

Exploration:

- Decide on size and scope of work
- Develop communication processes and messages
- Finalize team infrastructure needed to implement

Installation:

- Finalize the focus and activities of the initiative

Fall 2024

Installation:

- Develop plan for implementation
- Secure and develop resources and support

Winter 2024

Installation:

- Select district/site/ECE provider type/audience

Winter / Spring 2025

Initial Installation:

- Provide initial training for district/site/ECE provider type/audience

Fall 2025

Initial / Full Implementation:

- Expand training and support across all partnerships



September 4, 2024

Advisory Committee

November 20, 2024

Advisory Committee

March 19, 2025

Advisory Committee

May 7, 2025

Advisory Committee

Placer County Reads Timeline

2025 – 2026

Initial to Full Implementation

Provide foundational training and onboarding for participating schools

Initiate coaching support for participating staff

Launch family literacy nights and introduce multilingual resources

Establish communities of practices for educators

2026 – 2027

Full Implementation and Scaling

Recruit additional partners

Deliver initial and ongoing training for participating schools

Offer coaching support for participating staff

Host family literacy nights and provide multilingual resources

Continue and expand communities of practice

2027 – 2028

Full Implementation and Scaling

Continue scaling efforts

Monitor progress through data analysis and adjust implementation accordingly

Strengthen collaboration across schools, families, and community partners

Initiative Focus Areas

Initiative Focus Areas

Communities of Practice

Groups of educators who meet regularly to expand their knowledge and share experiences/best practices, helping each other grow in their understanding of literacy

High-Quality Professional Learning

Evidence-based professional development and coaching targeting teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals.

High-Quality Supports for Community and Family Members

Inclusive of family nights, tutoring opportunities, and spreading awareness of evidence-based practices.

Communities of Practice

- Early Education Teacher Development Grant (P-3)
 - Building Blocks of Literacy (K-12)
 - District Communities of Practice
- 

High Quality Professional Learning

- Early Literacy
- PK–3 Early Childhood Education Specialist Intern Program
- Building Blocks of Literacy Series
- Literacy for Paraeducators
- Book Studies
- Reading Difficulty Risk Screener

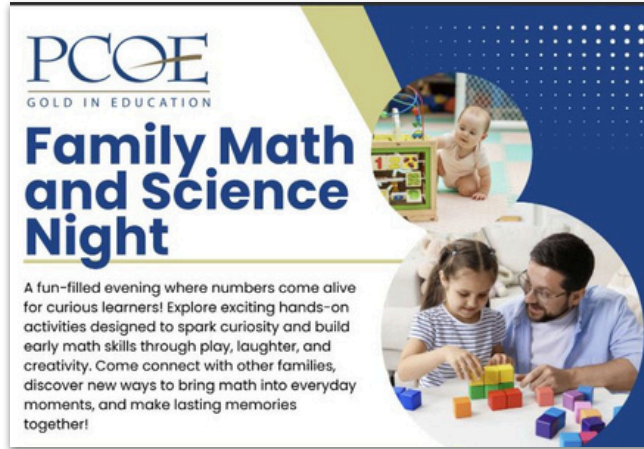
High Quality Supports for Community and Family Members

- Children's Lending Library
- Father Literacy Project
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Día de los Libros y Niños
- Placer Reads Website
- Blankets and Books
- Family Literacy Nights
- Community Events

Family Literacy Nights



PCOE Headquarters | May 6, 2026





PCOE Headquarters



Bunnies and Baskets



Strengthening Families Resource Fair

PCOE
GOLD IN EDUCATION

Strengthening Families
2026 CHILD & FAMILY RESOURCE FAIR

April 7, 2026 | 10:00 - 4:00 PM
Roseville Galleria
1151 Galleria Blvd Roseville, CA 95678

Free Dental Exams
Free Giveaways
Free Snacks & Drinks

Questions?
Shanita Jones, MPA
Child Abuse Prevention Council Coordinator
sjones@placerapc.org | 916.774.6802 x3010

Child Abuse Prevention Council of Placer County
Creating a Safe Community for Kids

Partners:
KidsFirst
FIRST 5 PLACER
STAND UP PLACER
CAL VOICES
PLACER COUNTY
PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
PLACER COUNTY JUVENILE COURT
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
Westfield GALLERIA AT ROSEVILLE



Parent Education Events



PHONICS FUN AT HOME

April 15th | 5:30PM – 7:00PM
PCOE Headquarters
1400 W Stanford Ranch Rd., Rocklin

Phonics Fun at Home is an interactive workshop designed for parents and caregivers of TK–3rd grade students.

The workshop will:

- Focus on building confidence and capacity to support phonics learning at home in fun, engaging ways.
- Model practical strategies and playful activities caregivers can easily use during everyday routines.

All participants will receive a take-home phonics supply kit to support continued learning at home.

Se ofrecerá traducción en español.

**Facilitated by Luminous Minds &
Sponsored by Placer County Reads**



QUESTIONS?
Becky Canham, rcanham@placercoe.org

PCOE is committed to the full inclusion of all individuals and remaining compliant with the American with Disabilities and Fair Employment and Housing Acts. As part of this commitment, PCOE will work to ensure that persons with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodations. Persons with disabilities who wish to request reasonable accommodations or who have questions about access, please contact Diana Crawford, EIS Secretarial Assistant, 916-740-1621 or dcrawford@placercoe.org.



Blankets and Books



Family Literacy Event

Sept. 9, 2026 | 5:00 – 7:00pm

1400 W. Stanford Ranch Road, Rocklin

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

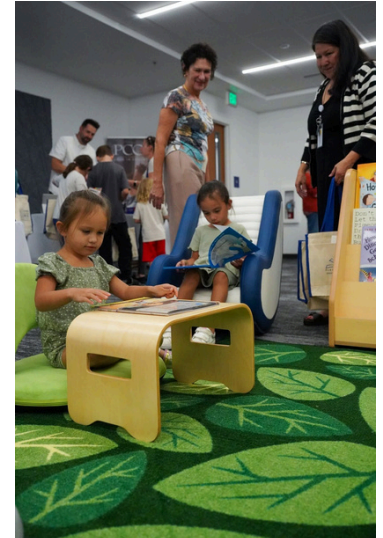


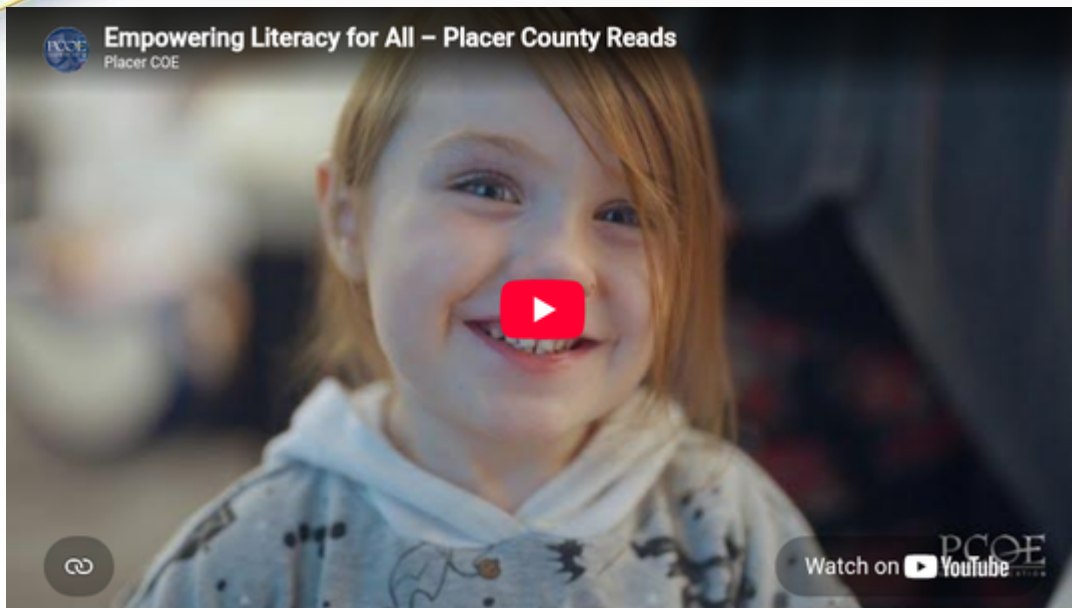
- Free books, giveaways and raffles
- Interactive storytimes and read-aloud workshops
- Literacy games, crafts and hands-on activities for all ages
- Outdoor story stroll pathway
- Early learning resources and community information booths
- Light refreshments

PCOE
GOLD IN EDUCATION

QUESTIONS? placercountyreads@placercoe.org

PCOE is committed to the full inclusion of all individuals and remaining compliant with the American with Disabilities and Fair Employment and Housing Acts. As part of this commitment, PCOE will work to ensure that persons with disabilities are provided reasonable accommodations. Persons with disabilities who wish to request reasonable accommodations or who have questions about access, please contact placercountyreads@placercoe.org.





Aligned Systems

Aligned Systems

- CA State Literacy Plan and AB 121
- Improvement and Implementation Science
- Systems change model
- Clear professional learning structures
- Data informed
- Long term sustainability and capacity building

Partnerships

Partnerships

- Community-based organizations
- Institutes of higher education
- First 5 Placer
- Placer County Libraries
- Districts and charter schools



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is dedicated to inspiring a love of reading by gifting books monthly, free of charge to children from birth to age five, through funding shared by Dolly Parton and local community partners.

Recent research (2025)* – International Study using the largest dataset in the world on shared book reading. Responses from 18,112 caregivers who completed all three surveys were compared with 37,776 caregivers who had not yet received books.

General findings indicated that after just 10 books, children in the program were at Least 4x more likely to demonstrate literacy skills such as vocabulary and phonological awareness—compared to children not in the program.



*Galea, Claire Melanie Anita (2025). The Impact of shared book reading on children and their Families: insights from Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Macquarie University. Thesis. <https://doi.org/10.25949/30123745.v1>



USA Impact

Groundbreaking Study of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library



Children in the US were **11x more likely** to be interested in books and **15x more likely** to join in during shared book reading compared to children not in the program.

Children in the US were nearly **3x more likely** to demonstrate concepts about print compared to children not in the program.

Children in the US were **9x more likely to initiate** shared book reading compared to children not in the program.



Children in the US were **5x more likely** to be interested in reading compared to children not in the program.



Caregivers were **6x more likely** to count images, **8x more likely** to describe images and **5x more likely** to let the child hold the book compared to caregivers not in the program.

El Día de los Niños, El Día de los Libros

First 5 Placer began participating in El Día in 2019. Each year staff from PCOE's ECE department selected a bilingual English/Spanish book to be read and shared with children in early childhood settings.

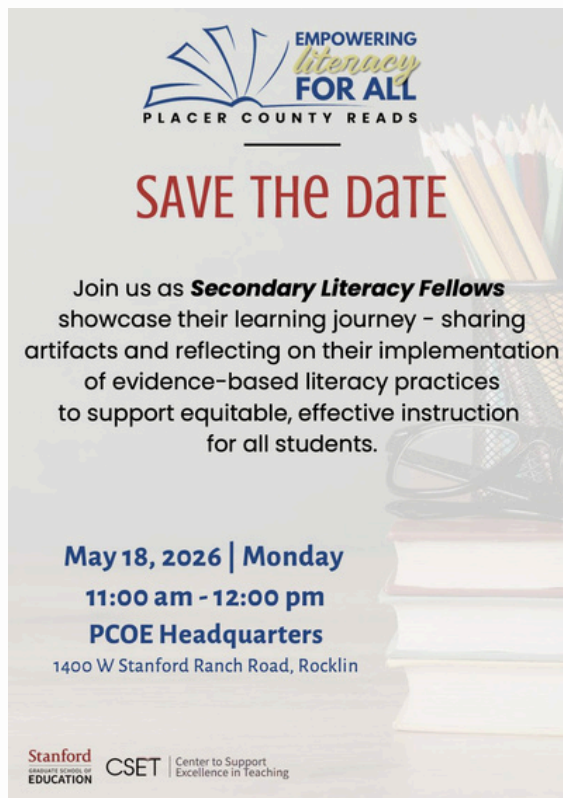
This year, all the children at our State Preschools received a copy of *Hello Night/Hola Noche*. All seven county libraries also received copies. Nine readings were held at five locations.

- Rocklin Fire Department read at Sierra College
- CalFire read at Little Bulldogs in Colfax
- Roseville Police did four separate readings at Kaseburg
- Parent volunteers read at Creekside
- Placer County Probation read at the Little Blue Schoolhouse in Lincoln





Secondary Literacy Fellows



The poster features a background image of school supplies including pencils in a holder and a stack of books. At the top is the logo for 'EMPOWERING literacy FOR ALL' with 'PLACER COUNTY READS' underneath. The text 'SAVE THE DATE' is prominently displayed in red. Below this, it invites 'Secondary Literacy Fellows' to showcase their learning journey. The event details are listed at the bottom, including the date, time, and location. Logos for Stanford Graduate School of Education and CSET are at the very bottom.

EMPOWERING
literacy
FOR ALL
PLACER COUNTY READS

SAVE THE DATE

Join us as **Secondary Literacy Fellows**
showcase their learning journey – sharing
artifacts and reflecting on their implementation
of evidence-based literacy practices
to support equitable, effective instruction
for all students.

May 18, 2026 | Monday
11:00 am - 12:00 pm
PCOE Headquarters
1400 W Stanford Ranch Road, Rocklin

Stanford
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

CSET | Center to Support
Excellence in Teaching

2026 – 2027

- Cohort 2 Learning Series
- Cohort 1 Coaching Series
- Leadership Support Series

Stanford
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

CSET | Center to Support
Excellence in Teaching



FORESTHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



**Rocklin Unified
School District**

2026–2027 School Year

- Foresthill Elementary School
- Dry Creek Joint Elementary SD
- Rocklin Unified SD
- iLearn Academy

Strategic Investment

Braiding and Blending Funding

- \$1,456,000 in core funding since 2024
- California Collaborative for Learning Grant
- Math, Science, Computer Science Grant
- Early Childhood Education
- First 5 Placer- Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Statewide Investment
- TK-5 PAL2 grant

Board Literacy Ambassadors



R J Pinney
Board President
Area No. 4



Renee Regacho-Anaclerio
Board Vice President
Area No. 6



Dr. David Patterson
Area No. 3

Measuring Success

Highlights: PCR



1137

Books Provided

Books provided to
children across Placer
County

e



20

Community Events

- 5 PCOE Hosted
- 13 Community Hosted



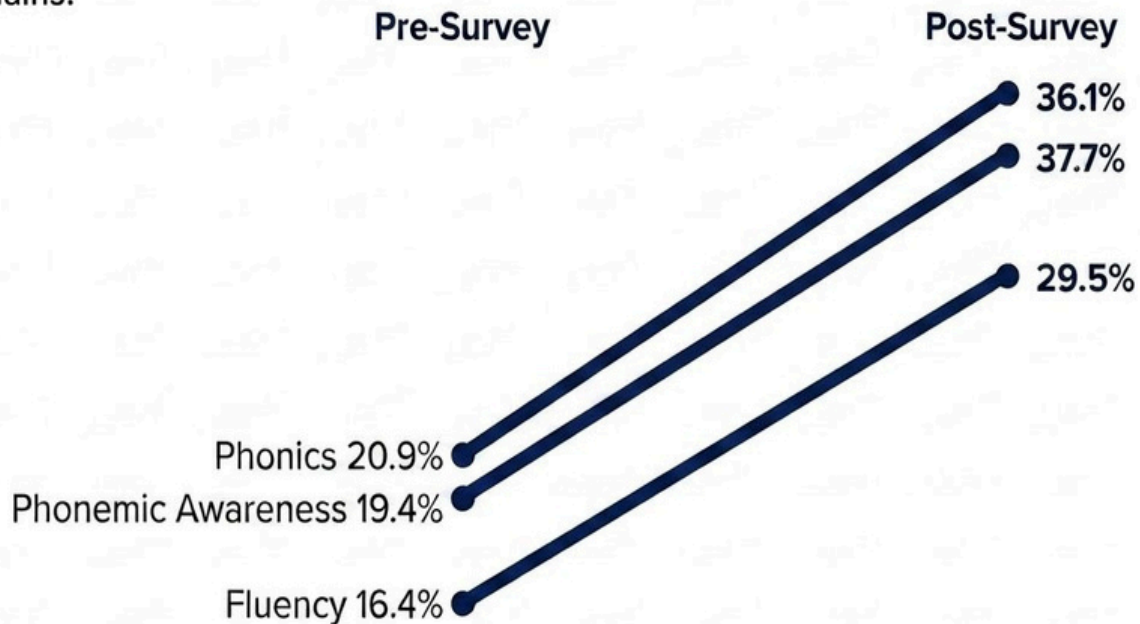
40

PLSessions

Professional Learning
Sessions with 682
participants across
sessions

Participants reported significant gains in foundational literacy knowledge after participating in Literacy Initiative PD.

Percentage of educators ranking their instructional knowledge as 'Advanced' across foundational domains.



Participants reported significant gains in advanced knowledge of comprehension and vocabulary after participating in Literacy Initiative PD.

Percentage of educators ranking their instructional knowledge as “Advanced” in higher-order domains.



Knowledge and Implementation Confidence Increased Significantly

Comparing overall self-reported knowledge and confidence with implementation between Pre-Survey and Post-Survey.

Proficient or Advanced Knowledge



Confident or Extremely Confident Implementation



Quotes from PD Participants

"This book study and discussion was full of practical ways to improve teaching and assessing of literacy! I loved all the ideas provided in the book and the discussion groups helped us to put into practice what we were reading!"

"Through this experience I learned AND applied tools that I was able to use in my high school biology class in real time. I was also able to see the positive impact these strategies had on my current students."

"One first step as a principal, I will change my approach to read alouds and being a guest reader. I have a lot of ideas and new strategies to bring in. I also plan to talk to leadership about which ideas to tackle first."

"This class is great! I am wondering why the large curriculum developers do not implement practices like these in their books."

Center for Supporting Excellence in Teaching – Participant Videos

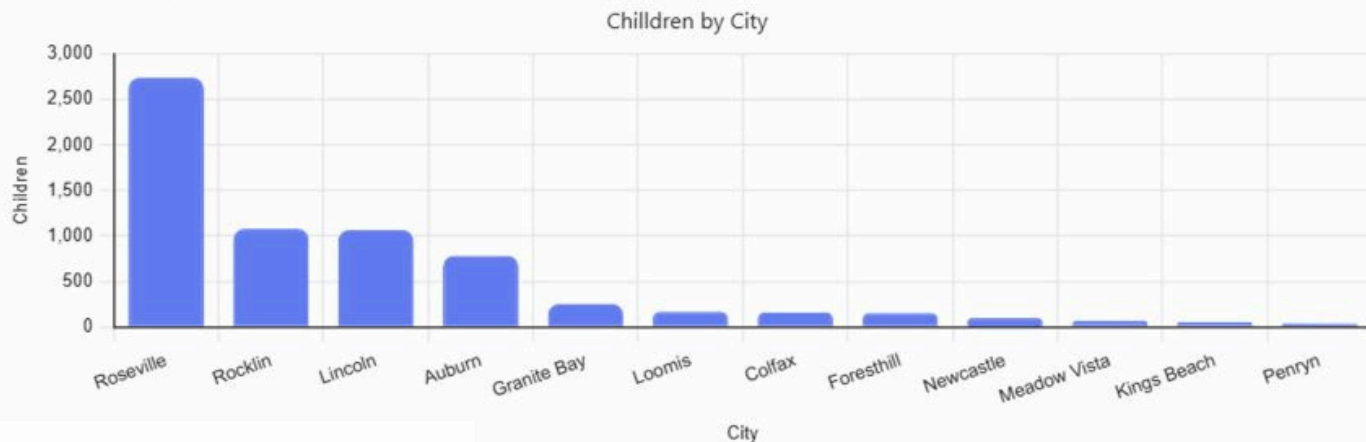
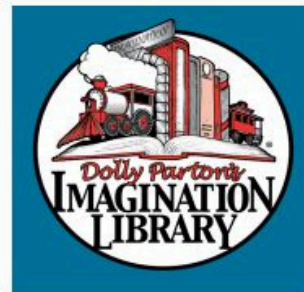


Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

First 5 Placer began DPIL in July 2021. To date

- **200,329 books** have been received by **10,592 children**
- 3,395 children have graduated from the program

6,843 children are currently enrolled – 7% are receiving bilingual Eng/Spa books (up from 5% last year). This chart shows cities with largest participation.



Website

Closing & Questions

