

# Footsteps2Brilliance Early Literacy Project

## June 2024



### **Promoting Equitable Outcomes:**

The intended outcomes of the project promote equitable access to the Footsteps2Brilliance programs, including but not limited to Footsteps2Brilliance School Edition, Clever Kids University: Pre Reader and Clever Kids University: I-Can-Read. All content within the Footsteps2Brilliance platform is available in both English and Spanish, promoting biliteracy in our youngest learners in San Bernardino County. In addition, the apps are device agnostic, allowing families to use smart phones, tablets, and/or computers of all types with or without internet access. The content in both languages can be downloaded onto devices and utilized easily in areas with limited or no access to WiFi, allowing children to engage in learning activities regardless of connectivity. Registration materials including the registration website linked [here](#) specific to San Bernardino County are available to families in both English and Spanish removing a potential language barrier for our Spanish speaking residents.

Communication of the expansion of free access to children through third grade, in both English and Spanish, to the broader community has expanded within local educational agencies. Since the launch of the expansion, usage has increased to 55% of San Bernardino County districts servicing elementary students . Professional development across these districts has increased, with a focus on the alignment of district adopted curriculum (ex. Wonders, Creative Curriculum, Benchmark) with the lessons, stories, and learning games within the platform. This increased partnerships within districts, has resulted in further reach to students participating in Extended Learning Opportunity programs within the LEAs.

District and site administrators as well as teachers, paraprofessionals and coaches at each of the LEAs in San Bernardino County have been provided with an opportunity to learn more about Footsteps2Brilliance and opt-in to using it to supplement their Board-adopted instructional literacy materials. Both virtual and in-person family seminars have been conducted for

elementary sites and continue to be scheduled by the administrators, educators or family engagement liaisons such as Parent-Teacher Association members for the upcoming school year. Intended outcomes continue to focus on closing gaps and universal levels of service for all students. In addition, LEAs have had presentations at both DELAC and ELAC meetings to provide an overview of the applications and sharing relevant data that demonstrated the impact of early biliteracy experiences on school readiness and learning.

To maximize programmatic impact and ensure effective, efficient and equitable outcomes, SBCSS staff has increased communication across the vast geographic area of San Bernardino County. Strategies that have been included encompass partnership opportunities with the California Department of Motor Vehicles, county & city libraries, Federally Qualified Health Centers, and Chambers of Commerce, along with the Learn with Me transmedia project with KVCR public television. The SBCSS partnership with the CA DMV has built an ad campaign promoting Footsteps2Brilliance as a free tool to support biliteracy skills. This pilot project has been implemented in two DMV locations in San Bernardino County, and preliminary data shows that 6% of new users registered through exposure to the ad campaign. Further community ad campaigns, including billboard usage in underserved cities, are being considered. New partnerships have also emerged with libraries throughout San Bernardino County, providing opportunities to introduce families to Footsteps2Brilliance as an early literacy tool to prepare children for preschool and transitional kindergarten. Parent outreach remains a priority, with virtual family sessions developed and presented by Footsteps2Brilliance to support early literacy skill development. These sessions are offered in both English and Spanish and have extended to county parent engagement events such as Ontario Montclair's Parent Conference and Fontana's Kindergarten Readiness event.

## Overview Data

### Expansion Growth Data ~ 3 year percentage change

	Data for July 2021-May 2024	% Change Compared to June 30 <u>2021</u>
User Count	127,068	+555%
Literacy Hours	410,793	+222%
Words Read	989,812,845	+180%
Skill-based Games	4,477,519	+231%
Books Read	1,420,163	+176%
Books Written	1,225,696	+464%

### 3 Year Cumulative ~ Participation Growth

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
Enrollment	22,908	100,111	124,161	149,976
Literacy Hours	98,984	796,890	927,091	1,107,213
Words Read	264,277,041	2,724,997,993	3,043,634,443	3,467,308,764
Books Read	592,693	6,152,052	6,688,367	7,246,975
Skill-games played	1,322,966	8,364,642	9,887,775	11,965,078
Books Written	238,202	2,614,680	3,048,002	3,527,387

## Projection of Growth for the Next 2 Years

Percentage of expansion growth	2022-2023 2nd yr.	2023-2024 3rd yr.	2024-2025 Goals	2025-2026 Goals
Enrollment	24%	21%	22%	23%
Literacy Hours	16.33%	19.43%	20%	21%
Words Read	11.69%	13.92%	15%	16%
Books Read	8.72%	8.35%	9%	10%
Skill-games played	18.21%	21%	22%	23%
Books Written	16.58%	15.73%	16%	17%

### **Additional Program Goals for the next 2 Years:**

- Continue engagement in literacy activities beyond the school year through the continued implementation of the Footsteps2Brilliance Summer Reading Challenge and the Winter Writing Challenge
- Increase community engagement in literacy-focused collective impact efforts by leveraging community partners as Footsteps2Brilliance Literacy Ambassadors
- Provide information to communities through awareness campaigns including (but not limited to) using closed-circuit television promotions at two California Department of Motor Vehicles locations and billboard representation in multiple locations throughout the county.
- Provide information to communities through family sessions at library storytimes and literacy events across San Bernardino County
- Increase communication through partnerships with Federally Qualified Health centers within San Bernardino County.