



## BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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### **Pascal Mubenga, Ph.D.** **Superintendent of Schools**

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Dear Congressman Kennedy:

I am writing to advocate for congressional investment in High-Impact Tutoring delivered by Read to Succeed Buffalo, Inc.

The research is clear: High-Impact Tutoring significantly improves student performance and reading outcomes for below grade level first-, second- and third-grade students in Buffalo and Niagara Falls. An additional investment of \$500,000 would allow this evidence-based model to expand to serve more students in these communities and in other economically disadvantaged districts across Western New York.

High-Impact Tutoring is far more than homework help or a drop-in program. To achieve meaningful impact, programs must employ highly trained and well-supported tutors who provide consistent, frequent sessions—two to three times per week throughout the school year—using high-quality instructional materials aligned to each student’s specific learning needs.

Read to Succeed Buffalo’s High-Impact Tutoring model provides the structure, curriculum, training, and on-site coaching necessary to ensure tutors deliver 30-minute, structured sessions with fidelity to both the program model and the science of reading. A key strength of the program is its professional literacy coaches, who collaborate directly with tutors to ensure instructional quality and consistency without adding to the workload of classroom teachers or school administrators.

Last school year Read to Succeed Buffalo provided more than 14,000 1:1 literacy tutoring sessions to nearly 400 students, 80% of whom achieved benchmark in oral reading accuracy by the end of the year.

As one teacher recently shared, “We are so fortunate to have our incredible RTSB partners in our school. My students have shown substantial growth in their reading skills and greatly benefit from the one-on-one time with their knowledgeable tutors.” An administrator added, “Having additional literacy support to build both academic and social-emotional skills helps bridge gaps, foster community, and increase reading proficiency.” Another teacher stated, “Without a doubt, one of the best programs for my students.”

Investing in High-Impact Tutoring programs like Read to Succeed Buffalo yields exceptional returns: stronger academic outcomes for students, meaningful engagement opportunities for older adult tutors, and more connected, resilient school communities.

I respectfully urge you to support Read to Succeed Buffalo’s High-Impact Tutoring program through Community Project Funding appropriations. Your leadership in securing this investment will ensure that hundreds more students in high-need communities across Western New York receive the targeted, effective literacy support they deserve.

Sincerely,

Pascal Mubenga, Ph.D.  
Superintendent