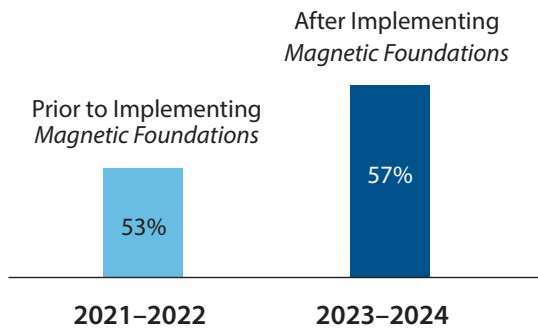


United ISD’s Instructional Transformation Charts a Clear Course to Early Literacy

United ISD recognized that a piecemeal approach to early literacy instruction could prevent students from reaching their full potential. In 2022, the adoption of *Magnetic Foundations’* comprehensive, explicit, and systematic instructional practices became a turning point for the district.

United ISD Students Performing at Proficient or Above on STAAR RLA: Grade 3
2021–2022 versus 2023–2024



Since implementing *Magnetic Foundations*, United ISD saw an increase of four percentage points in State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) reading language arts (RLA) scores in Grade 3 from 2022 to 2024.²

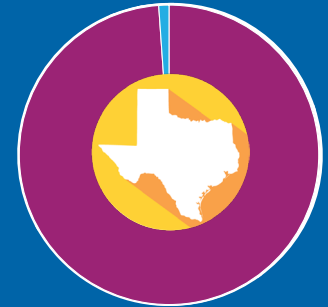
United ISD Brings Quality Instruction into Focus for Beginning Readers

Located in South Texas along the United States–Mexico border, United ISD is a fast-growing district serving portions of the city of Laredo, the cities of El Cenizo and Rio Bravo, and several surrounding communities in Webb County. The district boasts a high graduation rate and is known for a positive culture, innovative, rigorous academic programs, and commitment to meeting diverse student needs.

United ISD’s vision for academic excellence includes a strong emphasis on early reading. In 2022, the district set its sights on enhancing foundational skills for its youngest learners, implementing *Magnetic Foundations* in Grades K–2 with remarkable results.

United Independent School District (ISD)
Laredo, Texas

Grades Pre-K–12 Breakdown¹
41,300 Students



42.4%
Multilingual Learners

13.2%
Special Education

76.8% Students with Socioeconomic Disadvantages



¹RPTSVR1.TEA.Texas.gov/PerfReport/Snapshot/Snapshot_srch.html
²TXResearchPortal.com/Results

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*“When we saw *Magnetic Foundations*, our jaws dropped; it was so complete! It had everything from phonics to readers to assessments, everything that our teachers needed in one place.”* —Emma Leza, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Instruction

United ISD Embarks on a Journey to Literacy, Using *Magnetic Foundations* as a Roadmap

Grounded in fundamentals and proven to move students from foundational skills to reading fluency³, the TEKS-aligned resources, research-based routines, engaging texts, and real-time assessments in *Magnetic Foundations* give United ISD educators powerful tools to confidently navigate the complexities of early literacy instruction.

To maximize the impact of their foundational skills block, United ISD closely collaborates with Curriculum Associates’ professional learning specialists throughout the school year—with a particular emphasis on strategies to support Multilingual Learners and students who need targeted intervention. Empowered to leverage *Magnetic Foundations*’ comprehensive instructional resources and data-informed insights, teachers are able to guide students toward grade-level proficiency.

“Kindergarten students who used *Magnetic Foundations* last year have shown growth in first grade. The students are motivated and full of joy. They just want to keep on learning!” says Laura Valdez, Grade 1 teacher.

Stephanie Garcia, principal at Freedom Elementary School, summarizes the implementation this way: “We needed vertical and horizontal alignment across grade levels. We knew systematic structure was missing. That’s why the district implemented *Magnetic Foundations*. So methodical, so explicit, so easy to follow; the same routine every day, students and teachers know what’s expected. We’ve seen amazing results these past few years!”

See how *Magnetic Foundations* empowers United ISD teachers to connect the art of teaching to the Science of Reading with instruction that offers students access to new worlds of achievement.



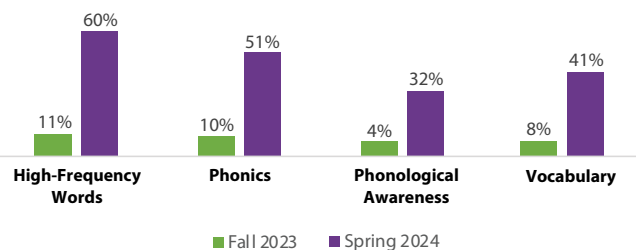
[Learn more about United ISD’s success implementing *Magnetic Foundations*.](#)

³Duncan, M. K. (2023). *Impact of Magnetic Reading Foundations on overall reading scores in Grade 2*. Curriculum Associates.

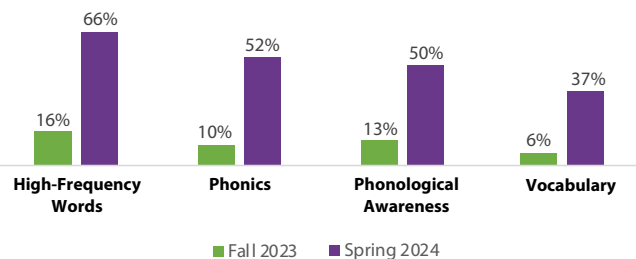
“When *Magnetic Foundations* and *i-Ready* come together, the data shows student growth. This is a testament to the to the capabilities of these programs.”

—Dr. Gerardo Cruz, Superintendent

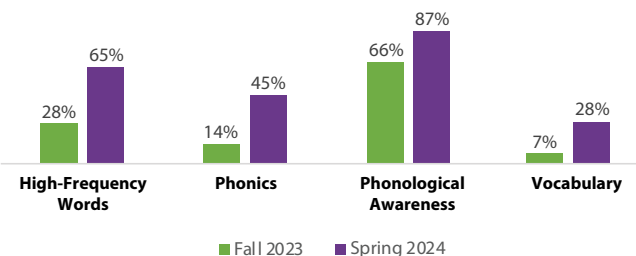
Grade K Students Placing Mid or Above Grade Level on *i-Ready Diagnostic*: Fall 2023 to Spring 2024
(Students Assessed = 1,744)



Grade 1 Students Placing Mid or Above Grade Level on *i-Ready Diagnostic*: Fall 2023 to Spring 2024
(Students Assessed = 2,147)



Grade 2 Students Placing Mid or Above Grade Level on *i-Ready Diagnostic*: Fall 2023 to Spring 2024
(Students Assessed = 2,601)



United ISD educators can engage, nurture, and develop classrooms of skilled, grade-level early readers using *Magnetic Foundations*. From fall 2023 to spring 2024, the district saw remarkable growth at the domain level across Grades K–2, as shown above.