

Executive Summary: PPS PAC Investments Supported by Office of Teaching & Learning

Goal 1: Increase Early Literacy Skills & Family Engagement • Investment: Paloma Learning Tutoring Platform

Cost: \$60 per student/year; ~\$350,000 (all K-1 students), ~\$180,000 (single grade level)

Overview: Paloma is a multilingual, mobile app empowering K-2 families to provide daily, rigorous, curriculum-aligned tutoring sessions lasting 15 minutes. It has achieved widespread adoption in large urban districts (Los Angeles, Houston, Nashville), with over 75% of invited families participating.

Impact:

- 122% growth in individual word reading benchmarks;
- 48% growth in overall decoding benchmarks;
- Accelerated reading growth by 45% overall; 189% among Multilingual Learners; and
- Increased parent satisfaction, with 39% stating greater likelihood of continuing in the school if their child if Paloma access continues.

More Information: [Paloma Learning Website](#) • [Demo Video](#) • [Additional Research](#)

Goal 2: Increase Middle School Literacy Readiness • Investment: Ignite High Impact Tutoring for 5th Grade

Cost: \$1,200 per student/year; ~\$360,000 (all demonstrated need), ~\$180,000 (highest needs only)

Overview: Ignite Reading provides one-to-one, online tutoring grounded in the Science of Reading, focusing on foundational literacy skills to rapidly close decoding gaps. Daily 15-minute sessions with highly trained tutors ensure personalized instruction.

Impact:

[A study](#) of 1,872 1st graders across 13 Massachusetts public school districts, 64% of whom were reading well below grade level showed:

- 213% increase in students reaching benchmark levels;
- 55% decrease in students requiring intensive intervention;
- Students gained an additional 5.4 months of learning compared to national averages; and
- Notable improvements across diverse populations, including English learners and students with IEPs.

More Information: [Ignite Tutoring Website](#) • [Demo Video](#) • [High Impact Tutoring Research](#)

Goal 3: Increase Success in H.S. Algebra & Graduation Rates • Investment: IXL Digital Platform

Cost: \$10 per student/year; ~\$70,000 (all 9th & 10th grade), \$35,000 (single grade level)

Overview: IXL provides a suite of PPS adopted curriculum-aligned adaptive digital mathematics support, individualized skill practice, and real-time skill assessments designed to bolster algebra proficiency, improvements in graduation rates, and post secondary readiness.

Impact:

- Higher proficiency rates in Algebra I, approximately 4 percentage points above comparison groups.
- Students reaching proficiency in one additional IXL Math skill per week increased proficiency rates by nearly 12 percentage points.
- Schools utilizing IXL Math had graduation rates approximately 2.5 percentage points higher than those not using IXL.
- Significant improvements in student math self-efficacy, fostering greater interest and confidence.

More Information: [IXL Learning](#) • [Demo Video](#) • [Additional Research](#)