



Research site participation

School: [SCHOOL] · District/LEA: [DISTRICT]

This letter is non-binding. It tells us your site would like to be considered, and shares what participation involves.

The study

On September 3, 2026, the Utah State Board of Education approved this study in a public meeting by a vote of 13 to 2. It asks a question the field has not answered: when a parent is coached to build early reading at home, does it change the child's reading? And if so, how?

- **Grades studied.** Kindergarten and Grade 1.
- **Outcome measure.** Acadience, at both grades: the benchmark your school already administers on its existing calendar. No new assessment is added.
- **Independent evaluator.** LXD Research, led by Dr. Rachel Schechter, named in the approved proposal. LXD designs the analysis and produces the findings; **rinnalla** does not.
- **The intervention.** **rinnalla**: a Science of Reading parent-coaching app that gives families one small, playful activity at a time. No device time for the child.

How the study is funded

The Utah State Board of Education is funding this study in full through mineral lease research funds — a total of \$397,200. Most of that covers licenses and implementation support, which is paid to **rinnalla**. \$50,000 covers the independent evaluation and flows to the Alma Street Foundation, a 501(c)(3), which contracts and pays LXD Research. Marci Houseman is co-founder of the Alma Street Foundation and CEO of **rinnalla**; she does not sit on the foundation's board and has no vote. All of this was before the Board when it voted.

What participation asks of your site

- **Name a site lead** — one person we coordinate with.
- **Identify participating classrooms** in Kindergarten and Grade 1.
- **Distribute and collect parent consent forms** (provided by us). Only enrolled and consented families are included in the research.
- **Host one parent-and-child workshop.** Our team delivers it, in person or virtual — your choice. We write the family invitation; you send it.
- **Share Acadience data** for consented students through your existing reporting process.
- **Allow direct contact between the evaluator and your site lead** for scheduling and data questions.

What your site receives

- **rinnalla access for participating families** for the full study period, at no cost to any family.
- **The Parent Report** — what a family has practiced at home, which parents bring to an IRP meeting. A concrete way to meet the participation role SB 241 assigns them.
- **Quarterly data check-ins** — license usage, and what parents are reporting about their own confidence and the literacy habits taking hold at home. Sent as a written summary; we'll walk through it live if that's more useful. Engagement data, not study findings.

- **Naming in the first published findings** as a founding site.
- **The findings when they publish**, including if they are not what we hoped.

Timeline and placement

- **Letter of intent:** Accepted on a first come, first served basis until all licenses are allocated.
- **The study spans two school years.** You share Acadience twice: spring 2027 EOY, and fall 2027 BOY for the same students, then in Grades 1 and 2. We learn how many met their EOY benchmark, and how many held it through the summer.
- **License allocation deadline:** Targeted populations have priority through October 15, 2026. Any unallocated licenses will then be made available to schools statewide.
- **Workshops:** Scheduled with your team during implementation planning, ideally before the MOY Acadience window.

Life happens in schools. If something changes on your end, just tell us and we will figure it out together.

Student data and privacy

rinnalla never assesses a child and no child uses a device. What we store is what a parent logs — the activities they practiced and what they noticed — which is what generates the Parent Report and aggregate data for your review. That data is never sold and never used for advertising. Research outcomes come only from your school's own Acadience assessments, with written family consent. The research file is limited to consented kindergarten and Grade 1 students and is handled consistent with FERPA and Utah student data privacy requirements.

Statement of intent

Our site is interested in participating in the study described above. We understand this letter is non-binding — participation is confirmed after site selection and any district approval our LEA requires.

School

District / LEA

Site lead *name, role, email, phone*

Kindergarten students *number*

Grade 1 students *number*

**District approval
required? If so, who signs?**

Signature

Printed name and title

Date

Send the completed letter to **whitney@rinnallaliteracy.com**. And if you'd rather talk before you sign anything, we'd welcome that. Email Whitney and we will find a time.