

Leveling the Tutoring Playing Field for Every Student



Why Tutoring Matters Now More Than Ever

Across the country, district leaders have a unique opportunity to accelerate literacy growth like never before. Advances in research and technology now make it possible to bring the benefits of one-on-one tutoring – proven to move the needle and research backed – directly to every student.

Districts that embrace these innovative, secure AI solutions grounded in the Science of Reading are leading the way. Take Dougherty County Public School District: serving over 13,000 K–5 students, nearly 96% of whom are minorities and 72% economically disadvantaged, the district harnessed Amira's AI tutor during the pandemic and beyond.

Dougherty County Public School District

13,000+

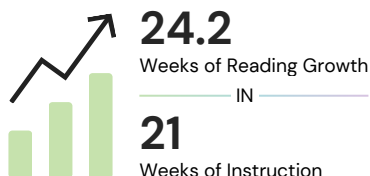
Student Enrollment

96%

Minority Enrollment

72%

In the 2024–25 school year, students who practiced just 30 minutes weekly with Amira achieved an astounding 24.2 weeks of reading growth over only 21 weeks of instruction—and today, 75–80% of students are reading on grade level.



By embedding AI-powered tutoring that builds both skills and confidence within the school day, districts like Dougherty County are delivering equitable, data-driven support at a scale previously unattainable – without overburdening teachers or stretching budgets.



The Tutoring Challenge: Barriers for Schools & Families

Districts face two central challenges when expanding tutoring solutions:

Equity & Access

Cost and accessibility constraints:

Many families cannot afford private tutoring or lack the flexibility to enroll in after-school support. This often leaves vulnerable students under-served.

Limited staffing pools: Especially in rural or high-need areas, finding qualified, specialized tutors—particularly those trained in the Science of Reading—is often impossible on the scale needed.

Specialized, Data-Driven Support

After assessments, teachers frequently recognize that a subset of students require highly targeted interventions—decoding support, phonemic awareness, fluency scaffolds, vocabulary reinforcement, or more. But providing consistent, high-quality, skill-specific tutoring across hundreds or thousands of students strains budgets, schedules, and tutor expertise.

The solution to these challenges isn't simply "more tutoring," it's better tutoring that works within a district's unique constraints. To truly move the needle for all students, districts need a system that can:

- ✓ **Reach every learner equitably** without adding cost or burden to families.
- ✓ **Deliver specialized, skill-targeted interventions** based on precise assessment data.
- ✓ **Maintain consistent instructional quality** across hundreds, or thousands, of students.

In the next section, we'll look at the five essential qualities a modern tutoring solution must have to meet these needs—grounded in both the Science of Reading and the realities of district-scale implementation.

What Districts Need from a Modern Tutoring Solution

Scaling tutoring across a district requires more than simply adding more sessions or staff—it demands a system that’s equitable, sustainable, and academically rigorous. Based on conversations with superintendents, literacy directors, and MTSS coordinators, **five needs consistently emerge**:



1

Equitable Access for All Students

Every child—regardless of ZIP code, home resources, or family schedule—must have access to high-quality tutoring. Research shows that opt-in programs (which depend on parent or student initiation) reach as few as 19% of students, and often under-serve those who need help most.

2

Alignment with District Curriculum & State Standards

To maximize instructional impact, tutoring content must mirror what’s happening in the classroom. Misaligned interventions risk confusing students or slowing progress.

3

Scalability Without Sacrificing Quality

The ideal system should work just as effectively for 500 students as for 5,000, without creating unmanageable staffing or scheduling burdens.

4

Reliable Progress Monitoring for MTSS & ESSA Compliance

Districts rely on consistent, transparent data systems to make informed, timely intervention decisions and measure program impact. This includes using progress monitoring within MTSS frameworks and building data infrastructure that ensures educators can interpret and act on student data effectively.

5

Personalization Grounded in the Science of Reading

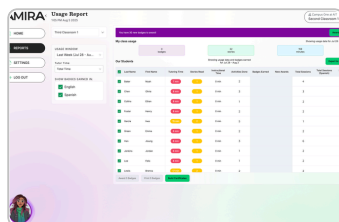
Effective tutoring should address the full set of strands in Scarborough’s Reading Rope, ensuring that foundational word recognition and higher-level language comprehension skills are both supported according to each student’s most urgent needs.

Introducing Amira Tutor: A Research-Backed, AI-Powered Partner

Amira Tutor was designed to meet these district needs at scale, combining the proven impact of one-to-one tutoring with the scalability and consistency of AI.

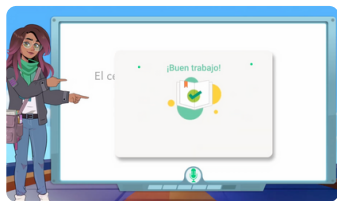
Purpose within the Amira Reading Suite

An AI-powered reading coach that listens as students read, diagnoses skill gaps, and delivers targeted micro-interventions grounded in the Science of Reading. Unlike other AI-powered tutors, Amira's AI is not open-sourced, protecting the privacy and security of students.



Evidence of Efficacy

Independent studies show effect sizes of 0.35–0.68 in oral reading fluency which are results comparable to certified human tutors. In practical terms, this means that students who practiced with Amira for just 30 minutes per week made reading gains 70% faster than peers who did not use Amira.



Bilingual, Inclusive Design

Encourage dual language programs in English and Spanish reading with scaffolds for reading in English with Spanish directions to build English literacy.

Assessment-Driven Personalization

Amira Tutor uses assessment data to personalize each student's learning, ensuring they have access to texts at their reading level and receive interventions that target their specific needs.

Addressing Common Concerns

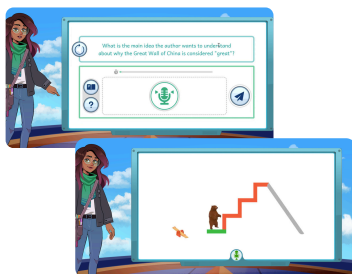
District leaders evaluating tutoring solutions often raise four key concerns. Amira's design directly addresses each:

Equity & Access

Every student receives one-to-one tutoring during the school day—no cost, transportation, or scheduling burden for families.

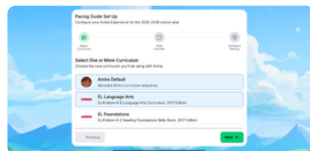
Specialized Support

AI selects the most effective intervention for each student's exact skill profile, whether addressing Tier 1 needs or delivering intensive Tier 3 support. The Early Reader Skills Scaffold helps early readers build foundational skills and comprehension conversations help advanced readers think, talk, and write about what they've read.



Curriculum Alignment

Text sets are aligned to each district's scope and sequence, ensuring that tutoring reinforces—not replaces—core instruction.

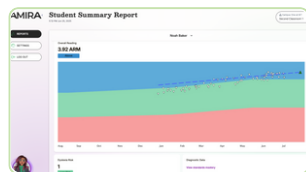


Scalability Without Sacrificing Quality

The ideal system should work just as effectively for 500 students as for 5,000, without creating unmanageable staffing or scheduling burdens.

Progress Transparency

Real-time reports provide teachers, principals, and district leaders with clear, actionable data, enabling quick adjustments to instruction and intervention plans.



How It Works in Practice

Amira Tutor transforms assessment insights into tutoring programs in a matter of minutes—eliminating the lag between identifying a need and delivering support.

From Assessment to Tutoring: After a student takes the Amira Assessment, they are offered texts to choose from at their reading level or Amira may place them in the ERSS.

Daily 10–15 Minute Sessions: Research shows that short, frequent practice drives the strongest reading gains. Amira sessions are designed for daily use, seamlessly embedded into independent reading blocks, literacy stations, or targeted intervention time.

Dynamic Progress Monitoring: Educators track student usage, skill mastery, and growth trajectories through the Growth Dashboard, enabling real-time instructional adjustments while Administrators can track growth across their schools and districts.

Real-World Growth Examples: In Louisiana, K–3 students using Amira gained the equivalent of 8–12 additional weeks of reading growth compared to non-users. And in North Dakota, students in the highest usage quartile scored up to 15 points higher on the NDSA ELA than peers with minimal usage.

District-Level Impact: ROI and Outcomes

When deployed district-wide, Amira delivers measurable academic gains while reducing staffing and operational pressures.

- **Accelerated Learning Growth:** studies show 7–17 weeks of additional reading progress per year, with effect sizes on par with or exceeding high-quality human tutoring.
- **Cost Savings:** Delivering consistent, individualized tutoring through AI significantly reduces the need for additional tutor hiring—freeing budget for other literacy initiatives.
- **Teacher Time Savings:** Built-in progress monitoring can reduce teacher workload by 20–30%, freeing up significant time otherwise spent on planning, grouping, and reporting.
- **Funding Alignment:** Amira qualifies for Title I, ESSER, and state literacy grant funding, making it a sustainable investment in long-term reading growth.

Implementation at Scale

Amira is designed to launch quickly, integrate seamlessly, and scale without sacrificing quality.

- **Easy Onboarding:** Districts can get started with minimal tech disruption; student rosters sync with existing SIS systems.
- **Assessment Integration:** Works with the entire Amira Suite, ensuring tutoring is targeted from day one.
- **Professional Development:** Teachers receive training on best practices for embedding Amira into instruction, plus ongoing PD and support from Amira's educator success team.
- **Data Privacy & Accessibility:** FERPA-, COPPA-, and ESSA-compliant, with built-in Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles and bilingual scaffolds.

Partner with Amira to Reach Every Reader

Every district wants to ensure that every student becomes a confident, proficient reader. With Amira Tutor, that goal is within reach—equity, scalability, and measurable growth in one solution.

Next Steps:

- Schedule a demo with our district solutions team.
- Explore a pilot program to measure Amira's impact in your classrooms.
- Invest in an equitable, scalable solution that accelerates literacy growth for every child.

Reading growth happens together.
Let's make it happen in your district.



Schedule a demo!

