

MARTIN COUNTY WEST SCHOOLS #2448 LITERACY PLAN

2023-2024

Reading Well by 3rd Grade Legislation

Minnesota law requires that school districts must assess students' levels of reading proficiency each year. The school district must also have a process to notify and involve parents/guardians of students who are not yet reading at grade level. In addition, the district must intervene with students who are not yet reading at or above grade level.

Goals of the MCW Reading Assessment Plan/Literacy Plan:

1. To articulate the process of identifying students in need of reading support.
2. To provide teachers with guidance toward professional learning to support student's literacy development.
3. To support the intervention process which will allow students to accelerate their reading achievement to achieve grade level reading performance.

Need Identification

The Martin County West School District utilizes teacher identification of deficiencies through daily classroom interaction, data analysis, and classroom assessments. This process included the use of Student Support Teams that assist teachers in identifying student needs in all academic and social emotional areas and specifically identifying a process to assist with reading performance concerns. Qualifying for Title I Services: Students in grades K-6 qualify for Title I services in a variety of ways. Students in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be evaluated through classroom screening of grade level benchmark assessments, oral reading fluency through the use of CBM Reading Fastbridge and earlyReading Composite scores as well as aReading composite scores that compares to standardized benchmark data. Students in grades 3-8 may also qualify for services if both FASTBRIDGE data and MCA data show a significant need or below grade level performance. Teacher input, classroom performance, and parent referral is also considered.

Interventions/Instructional Support for Reading

Specific interventions will be designed to target a student's need according to the FASTBRIDGE diagnostic tools and other assessments appropriate for the age/grade level. Pull out interventions are in place for grades 1-6 that are focused on decoding, reading fluency, and comprehension, in addition to regular classroom instruction. The VoWac phonics program is provided for students in grades K-2. The reading intervention teachers use the Lindamood/Bell Phonemic Awareness program as an intervention for identified students in grades K-1, with additional follow-up in grade 2 if needed. In addition, Sounds to Spelling, a science of reading research based program, is utilized for K-2. Students in 3rd through 6th grade utilize specific interventions on FASTbridge, suggested by their FASTbridge test scores.

Beginning the 2023-2024 school year, a system of multi-tiered interventions will be in place to accelerate student progress throughout the school year. The Student Support Team will meet to plan for 6 week interventions and evaluate/assess student progress on a regular basis.

Growth targets are identified through the use of various benchmark assessments (Word Attack, Fluency, and Spelling) and this information is reported to parents quarterly and during parent teacher conferences.

Consistent Implementation of Scientifically Researched Based Reading Instruction

The Martin County West School District utilizes the McMillan/McGraw-Hill Language Arts curriculum in grades K-6. Core literacy instruction and intervention supports are aligned with grade-level content standards. Intervention groups are embedded within the classroom for grades K-2 and pull out interventions continue into 3rd grade and beyond as needed. Teachers and Title I staff coordinate assessment and intervention strategies to meet the learning needs of students and accelerate student growth to reach grade level proficiency or above by the end of the year. In addition, students participate in computer based programs such as IXL and to improve reading comprehension skills.

Professional Development for Teachers

The District Staff Development team and administration plan ongoing professional development that includes curriculum mapping of standards, standards based instruction and assessment planning, and the use of formative assessments to identify student strengths and weaknesses. Time is provided for Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) to collaborate and plan while maintaining a focus on data analysis to help ensure student achievement. Much of the professional development specific to reading instruction will be provided to teachers on staff development days and at regularly scheduled Professional Learning Community meetings as teachers explore the Science of Reading and establish criteria to use for the selection of reading curriculum as the district moves through the curriculum cycle.

Parent Notification/Involvement

The Martin County West School District is committed to the goal of providing quality education for every child in this district. To this end, we want to establish partnerships with parents and with the community. Everyone gains if school and home work together to promote high achievement by our children. Neither home nor school can do the job alone. Parents play an extremely important role as children's first teachers. Their support for their children and for the school is critical to their children's success at every step along the way.

- The Martin County West School District will work with its schools to ensure that the required school-level parent involvement plan meets the Title I requirements, and includes, as a component, a school-parent compact.
- The Martin County West School District will offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening, Back-to-School conferences and

Parent/Teacher conferences are offered at various times throughout the morning, afternoon, and evening. Parent teacher conferences are offered three times a year and are used to discuss student progress and goals established.

- The Martin County West School District will build the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement, in order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents and the community to improve student academic achievement, through the activities specifically described below: The district will work to keep parents informed of activities, events, parenting tips and learning opportunities, and MCW news in a variety of ways including, but not limited to: a regularly updated web portal for the district/schools, the district newsletter, local newspapers, Parent/Teacher conferences throughout the year, Character Strong parent letters and information supporting the activities of the PTA, classroom/school activities, letters/notes home, and other communications (E-mail, infinite campus connections, social media such as FaceBook and Twitter, phone, face-to-face)
- Martin County West Schools will assist parents in understanding topics such as the aforementioned by explaining and answering parent questions during Parent/Teacher conferences and at the annual Title meeting. The district may also schedule additional parent informational meetings and attend the PTA meetings to present information and answer questions. In addition, the district will utilize the district web portal and district newsletter to provide information about the state standards and assessments, Title I, and monitoring student progress in easily understandable terms. School staff members are also available to answer questions via individual meetings, IEP meetings, phone calls, and e-mail.
- The Martin County West School District will, with the assistance of its Title I schools, provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement, by any of the following examples listed: providing step-by-step directions and individual assistance, as needed, to help parents monitor their child's grades on-line; offering Love and Logic for Parents classes each year. The district may also plan sessions to help parents learn more about the curriculum, on-line opportunities (i.e. Personal Tutor for math), standards, and assessments.
- The Martin County West School District will take the following actions to conduct, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of this parental involvement plan in improving the quality of its Title I schools. The evaluation will include identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in parental involvement activities (with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background). The school district will use the findings of the evaluation about its parental involvement plan and activities to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary (and with the involvement of parents) its parental involvement plan. Title I parents will be invited to attend an annual meeting each school year to discuss NCLB

requirements, the Title I Parent Involvement Policy, the Title I Compact, Title I services, and strategies for parents to help their children at home. The parents will have an opportunity during this meeting, as well as on the end of year survey, to offer suggestions for improving the Title I services in Martin County West Schools. Time will also be provided during the annual meeting to brainstorm strategies for more effective parental involvement. The annual meeting will be facilitated by the two elementary principals with the assistance of the Reading Intervention teacher.

Addressing Diverse Need in Cross-Cultural Setting

Martin County West District will work with Butterfield-Odin through the integration plan to Instructional materials will be analyzed for its culturally appropriate content and purchased during the district's curriculum cycle. In carrying out the Title I parent involvement requirements, to the extent practicable, the Martin County West School District and its schools will provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with children with limited English proficiency, parents with children with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports in an understandable and uniform format and, including alternative formats upon request, and, to the extent practicable, in a language parents understand.

Communication Plan

Martin County West school district will communicate with stakeholders in the following ways:

World's Best Workforce

- Publish the World's Best Workforce results on the school website
- Share an electronic copy of the World's Best Workforce as required by MDE

Read Well by Third Grade Report to the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Education

- Summary of reading assessment results
- Summary of efforts to screen and identify students with dyslexia or convergence insufficiency
- Copy of local literacy plan

Reporting to Parents/Guardians

Read Well by Third Grade requires the districts to at least annually provide the following information to parents of any child identified through its local assessment plan as not reading at or above grade level:

- The student reading proficiency as measured by locally adopted assessments
- The reading-related services provided to the students and the student's progress

