



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
LANSING



Nick Lyon
Interim Director

February 26, 2015

The Honorable Peter MacGregor, Chair
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan State Senate
Lansing, Michigan 48933

The Honorable Earl Poleski, Chair
House Appropriations Subcommittee on DHS
Michigan House of Representatives
Lansing, Michigan 48933

Dear Senator MacGregor and Representative Poleski:

Section 1205(2) of 2014 Public Act No. 252 requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to report the following information on the current fiscal year:

- 1) *More than 95% of the K-3 students receiving reading corps services shall demonstrate a positive trend toward reading at grade level.*
- 2) *At least 60% of K-3 students receiving reading corps services shall achieve reading at their grade level or gain at least 1-1/2 year's growth.*

The measures for the requirements are listed in the attached report. The report provides mid-year information and final results will be available at the completion of the school year.

If you have questions regarding this, please contact Paula Kaiser VanDam, Bureau Director, Bureau of Community Services, at (517) 241-0638.

Sincerely,

Susan Kangas
Chief Financial Officer

CC: Senate and House Appropriations Subcommittees on DHS
Senate and House Fiscal Agencies
Senate and House Policy Offices

This report provides mid-year information for the Michigan Literacy Corps. Performance data is collected by AmeriCorps members providing tutoring services to youth in grades K-12. The data is then analyzed by a team of researchers from University of Michigan (UM) and the Minnesota Reading Corps. The tutoring program is provided during the school year, therefore the results to-date are only preliminary. Researchers at University of Michigan are currently analyzing raw data from 545 students that have been/are being served with results being available at the completion of the school year.

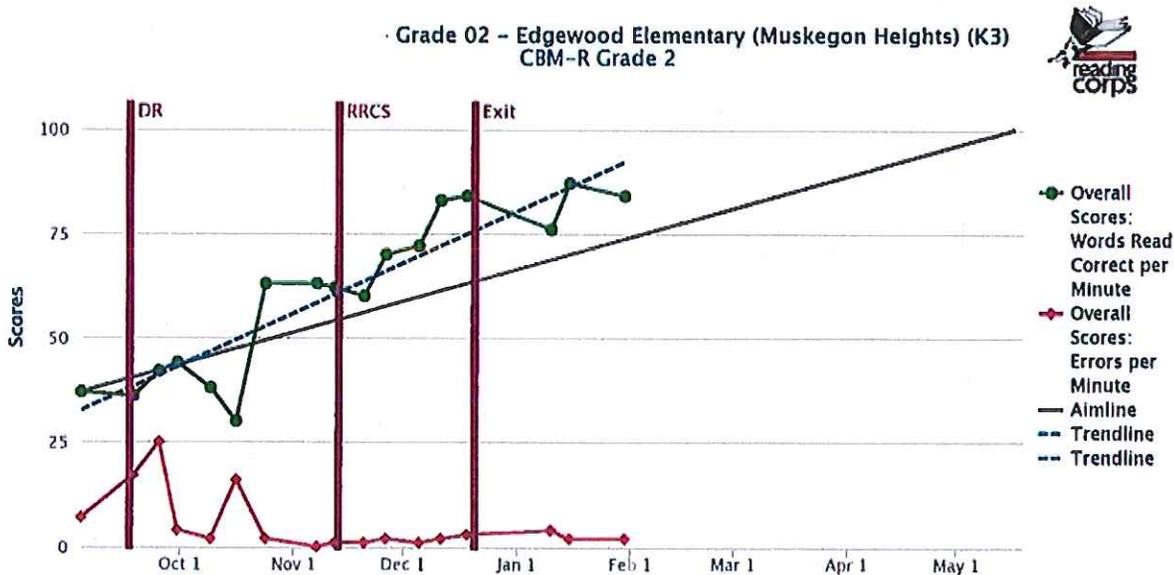
Measures being tracked for this report follow:

1. More than 95% of the k-3 students receiving services shall demonstrate a positive trend toward reading at grade level.

Forty full-time Michigan Literacy Corps members are currently serving in elementary schools in Detroit, Flint, Jackson, Grand Rapids, Kalkaska, Muskegon, and Lansing.

Currently, 75% of K-3 students participating in the Reading Corps tutoring delivery designs are demonstrating a positive trend toward reading at grade level. With 16 weeks yet in the school year, it is anticipated that students will continue to improve and the percentage of students demonstrating growth will increase.

An example of weekly progress monitoring is included below. This chart represents one student's progress.



The team – the tutor, the Internal Coach, the Master Coach and sometimes the classroom teacher - met monthly to review Darian’s progress monitoring data. This black line is the goal line. The green dots and line are Darian’s reading performance, and the blue dotted line is a mathematically calculated slope or trend. The red line tracks Darian’s reading error rates. You’ll see where the team made a change to the intervention here to accelerate his progress. Darian exited successfully from the program after about 16 weeks, and reading achievement gap is closed; he is reading proficiently at grade level. Exit criteria for Reading Corps are that a student must have 3-5 data points above their goal line and meet their end-of-year grade level target for at least two weeks.

2. At least 60% of K-3 students receiving services shall achieve reading at their grade level or gain at least 1-1/2 year’s growth.

The Michigan Literacy Corps includes two program delivery designs: Reading Corps, which is a replication of the transformational Minnesota Reading Corps; and Evidence Based Literacy Instruction (EBLI), a model developed in Michigan. Both strategies are participating in a match sample study to determine best practices and identify challenges. AmeriCorps members utilizing the Reading Corps model meet with students one-on one for 20 minute tutoring sessions 5 days a week. AmeriCorps members delivering the EBLI method meet with students 4 days a week for 25 minutes. They track student progress and submit it for analysis by University of Michigan and Minnesota Reading Corps research teams.

Due to the limited data points during the year and the complexity of producing the growth numbers, it is not possible at this time to provide data for grade level gain. This information will be available at the end of the school year.