



Early Literacy Initiative

Presentation to the State Board of Education

September 8, 2015

Presentation Overview

1. Third Grade Reading Workgroup Report
2. MDE Early Literacy Initiative Overview
3. MDE Early Literacy Initiative Progress





Third-Grade Reading Workgroup Report to Governor Rick Snyder

Findings: The State of the State

- ▶ Low third grade reading proficiency rates for Michigan's students
 - ▶ 31% of students demonstrate proficiency in reading on the 4th grade National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)
 - ▶ Michigan ranks 40th among US states in third grade reading proficiency as measured by NAEP
 - ▶ Michigan is one of only five states to demonstrate a decline in proficiency rates in third grade reading over the last ten years as measured by NAEP

“Michigan can and should have the highest national early reading proficiency in 2025. By 2020, Michigan should be the most improved state in early literacy, and be in the top ten states overall.” (Third-Grade Reading Workgroup Report to Gov. Rick Snyder)

Findings: Characteristics of Success

- ▶ States and programs demonstrating success in third grade reading proficiency and/or improvement in proficiency tend to incorporate
 - ▶ Literacy instruction based on the five “building blocks” of reading: phonics, phonemic awareness, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension
 - ▶ Implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports that utilizes
 - ▶ Research-based screening and diagnostic tools
 - ▶ Diagnostic-driven instruction and interventions
 - ▶ Extended daily instructional time with targeted literacy interventions
 - ▶ Teachers and leaders with strong content knowledge and appropriate training and support in teaching early reading
 - ▶ *(Source: Third-Grade Reading Workgroup Report to Gov. Rick Snyder)*

Recommendations

1. Give every student the research-supported diagnostic and screening instruments, instruction, and interventions necessary for success
2. Provide every educator with training to use diagnostic-driven methods with knowledge and fidelity.
3. Give every parent the information and support needed to develop early literacy skills, to parent effectively, and to provide adequate home supports for every student.
4. Implement K-3 smart promotion to ensure struggling students succeed.
5. Provide Michigan with accurate data about how our students and schools are performing in growth and proficiency compared to other states, and an annual report on our progress towards the highest early reading proficiency in the nation.

(Source: Third-Grade Reading Workgroup Report to Gov. Rick Snyder)



MDE Early Literacy Initiative Overview

Goals and Measures

- ▶ The MDE will drive progress toward 85% of children achieving reading proficiency by the end of third grade by implementing the recommendations of the Governor's Third Grade Reading Workgroup Report.



Process

- ▶ Opportunity to pilot MDE's developing structure and process to support implementation of cross-office projects:
 - ▶ Leadership/Cabinet has established the project goals and outcomes
 - ▶ Tactical Planning Team, comprised of MDE Office Directors, is working to identify action teams to support all of the necessary work to coordinate and implement activities necessary to achieve the project goal
 - ▶ Office of Educator Talent and Policy Coordination is serving as the system team to provide support to all levels of planning and implementation to ensure on-time deliverables

Logistics

- ▶ Workgroup report and legislation have identified and allocated to the MDE
 - ▶ 20+ activities to be implemented in support of the Workgroup-identified strategies
 - ▶ \$35.5 million in FY 2016 funding to be distributed to LEAs, ISDs, and other stakeholders



MDE Early Literacy Initiative Progress

Early Childhood Literacy Development

▶ Home Visitation

- ▶ Home visits conducted with parents to ensure home environments support literacy skills and development prior to Kindergarten entry
- ▶ Coordinated with MDHHS activities
- ▶ Grant criteria approved by SBE in August 2015; working through RFP process
- ▶ Awards anticipated in February 2016

▶ Parenting Education Pilots

- ▶ Modeled after the Minnesota Early Childhood Family Education program
- ▶ Focuses on parent/child relationships, child development, and early literacy development
- ▶ Grant criteria approved by SBE in August 2015; working through RFP process
- ▶ Awards anticipated in February 2016

K-3 Literacy Development

- ▶ Research-Supported Diagnostic and Screening Instruments
 - ▶ Tools and training for using instruments to diagnose strengths and challenges and target instruction to address them
 - ▶ Grant criteria anticipated October 2015
- ▶ Extended Learning Time and Targeted Literacy Instruction and Interventions
 - ▶ Support the use of additional instructional time to ensure that all students are reading on grade level by the end of grade 3
 - ▶ Grant criteria anticipated October 2015
- ▶ Literacy Coaches
 - ▶ At least one early literacy coach per ISD to train all K-3 teachers in effective use of diagnostic-driven instruction
 - ▶ Grant criteria anticipated October 2015

Educator Training and Support

- ▶ Professional Learning for Teachers and Leaders
 - ▶ Training in early literacy standards, use of diagnostic and screening instruments, supports around best practices, and implementation of multi-tiered systems of support
 - ▶ Grant criteria anticipated October 2015
- ▶ Teacher Certification
 - ▶ Changes to teacher certification test to measure teaching skills in early literacy
 - ▶ Increase in credit hours in early literacy instruction and inclusion of diagnostic-driven teaching methods in pre-service programs
 - ▶ Exploration of professional learning and experience requirements for early literacy tied to re-certification
 - ▶ Mostly unfunded

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