



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 11, 2018

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Sheila A. Afes 
Chief Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: English Learner Guidance in Response to MCL: 380.1280f (Third Grade Reading Law)

Beginning in the 2017-18 school year, local education agencies (LEAs) and public school academies (PSAs) are required to implement MCL: 380.1280f commonly referred to as the Third Grade Reading Law. In order to guide LEAs and PSAs with the implementation of the law with regard to English Learners, the Office of Field Services, with review from the English Learner Advisory and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Early Literacy Team, created the guidance document titled, "Guidance for Implementing the 3rd Grade Reading Law with English Learners (ELs)." The purpose of the document is to provide recommendations and resources for English Learners within the scope of the Third Grade Reading Law addressing the following elements:

- Retention
- Individual Reading Improvement Plan
- Parent Engagement and Communication
- Assessment
- Professional Development for K-3 Teachers

The document references the law, provides guidance for what the district should do, provides considerations, and ends with an appendix of resources. The document can be found at [www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/3rd_grade_reading - EL Assessment 610520 7.pdf](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/3rd_grade_reading_-_EL_Assessment_610520_7.pdf).

If you have any questions regarding this communication and/or the guidance document, please contact Kelly Alvarez at alvarezk@michigan.gov or Lisa Brown at brownl30@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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