



Northwest Education Services (North Ed) Comprehensive Regional Literacy Plan in Response to PA 306: Third Grade Reading Law

PA 306 was passed into law in 2016. Representative Price, chair of the House Committee on Education, shared some of the rationale and need for such legislation as she stated, *“Reading is the most important skill our children need to focus on from kindergarten through third grade. We cannot allow for less than 50 percent of our state’s third grade students to be unable to read at their own grade level and be left behind in their education.”*

The law states that the Michigan Department of Education is now required to:

- Approve valid and reliable reading assessments for use by school districts or public school academies. Assessments should include screening and monitoring tools.

The law states that in the 2017-18 School Year Districts are required to:

- Assess the reading skills of K-3 students at least 3 times per school year.
- The first of these assessments for a school year shall be conducted within the first 30 days.
- Any student K-3 identified with a reading deficiency must receive an **individual reading improvement plan** (IRP) within 30 days of the identification.
- Parents of students identified with a reading deficiency/early literacy delay must be notified (written notice) and involved in the development of the IRP.
- School administrators required to target specific areas of professional development for teachers in grades K-3 based on the reading development needs of the students.
- Schools should use the early literacy coaches, which are provided through the ISDs and funded through the State School Aid Budget or utilize additional coaches.
- For students who exhibit a reading deficiency, school districts/PSA’s shall establish a reading intervention program intended to ensure that students are proficient readers by the end of 3rd grade.
- Provide parents with a “Read at Home” plan, including training workshops and regular home reading.

The North Ed Literacy Team is promoting a collaborative and comprehensive regional response to PA 306. This comprehensive approach will include the following:

- 1. Assure that districts throughout the region are implementing an evidenced base core curriculum resource in their K-3 classrooms.**
 - To support this, the North Ed Literacy team has vetted numerous evidenced-based core curriculum resources to assure the curriculum includes the following criteria:
 1. Curriculum is native to the Common Core State Standards
 2. Curriculum provides a clearly defined scope and sequence

3. Key instructional shifts of the Common Core Standards are articulated and present within the curriculum materials
4. The assessments within the curriculum are aligned to the depth of knowledge of the Common Core State Standards
5. The text quality and complexity within the curriculum is aligned to the Common Core State Standards
6. The knowledge and vocabulary within the curriculum is built within texts in the curriculum
7. The curriculum provides supports available for English Language Learners and other struggling students
8. External data has been examined through a review process to demonstrate the curriculum resource is effective