

## **Local Literacy Plan**

### **District: Yellow Medicine East School District / Bert Raney Elementary School**

#### **Last revised: June 2019**

Planning and implementation of strategies and action items noted within this document were done under the direction of: Bert Raney Elementary Leadership Committee, Bert Raney Elementary Literacy Committee, Bert Raney Elementary Staff Development Committee, and various staff members with expertise in literacy instruction.

Plan was compiled by: Mrs. Lisa Hansen, PreK-5 Bert Raney Elementary Principal

#### **Purpose Statement**

The purpose of this literacy plan is to ensure that all students will achieve grade-level proficiency and read well by Grade 3. In addition, this document is intended to state the district's vision and philosophy of reading and writing and to outline the components of our literacy program.

#### **Philosophy**

The beliefs and practices underlying the teaching of reading and writing in the Yellow Medicine Public Schools are guided by the accumulated findings of educational research. Reading and writing are receptive and expressive cognitive processes of making meaning. The goal of reading and writing is to comprehend and apply what is read to real-world experiences. The acquisition of reading and writing skills and strategies are developmental; influenced by an individual student's experiences and knowledge of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

Reading and writing instruction is multi-dimensional. It provides the foundation skills and strategies necessary to attain reading and writing competence. It also extends student learning in order to meet the MN State Standards/ELA while ensuring that students develop an appreciation and enjoyment of reading and writing that will last throughout their lives. This is best achieved through a comprehensive literacy program that combines reading, writing, speaking, listening, and oral language.

Guidelines: As part of our philosophy based on current research and best practices in literacy education, Yellow Medicine East Public Schools have identified the following guidelines that will assist in increasing student achievement:

- K-5 classrooms are organized around approximately 140 minutes of daily literacy instruction
- The district supports a Comprehensive Literacy Framework comprised of three major components: Reading Workshop (90 minutes); Writing Workshop (30 minutes); and Language and Word Study (20 minutes)
- Instruction will provide explicit teaching, guided and independent practice, sharing, and teacher reflection
- Instructional decisions will be determined through ongoing assessment, both formative and summative, local and mandated
- Targeted instruction based on assessment will be provided in small flexible groups

- Instructional strategies that address diverse learning will include clearly stated language and content objectives, building background, vocabulary development, and active learning strategies

### **Literacy Plan Summary**

Our district is currently using a balanced literacy approach combining curriculum components from the basal program Journeys, Benchmark Literacy and Linda Hoyt read alouds to teach reading in kindergarten through grade 5. Included in this program are: whole group instruction, guided reading, read aloud, shared reading and independent reading.

To enhance this curriculum, our district has an elementary library with a variety of fiction and nonfiction reading materials, covering a wide range of reading levels. Our district also has a leveled bookroom as a resource for teachers to obtain materials for small group or individualized reading instruction. Each classroom also has their own reading center where students can enjoy books and other resources selected by their classroom teacher. All K-5 students receive classroom instruction in literacy approximately 140 minutes each day.

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### **Assessment Information**

All students in kindergarten and first grade are given the Renaissance Learning Early Literacy Assessment, grades 1-3 are given the Renaissance Learning Star Reading Assessment and grade 3 completes the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment in reading and math. Data from these assessments are used to identify students for interventions. The interventions are implemented through the collaborative efforts of the classroom teacher and other specialists. Each student's progress is monitored and if the intervention selected is not working, another intervention is selected and implemented. Students not responding to these interventions are referred for special education services. Parents are kept informed of their child's progress.

### **Intervention Information**

Intervention activity includes the use of a predetermined selection process for identification, which is based on three different points of data (may include: STAR Reading, STAR Early Literacy, DRA scores or other local assessment, dependent upon grade level).. The interventionists works with students in small groups ranging in size from 1-3 students, who are at the same level or have similar needs, for approximately 25 minutes per session, three days a week. In addition, an additional reading assessment is given by the interventionist, who reviews the reading strengths and weaknesses of the individual reader(s). Lessons include word work (phonics), self monitoring strategies and comprehension skills reinforcements.

Other intervention resources used but not limited to, include: LLI, Literacy Their Way, Moby Max, Kids A-Z, Orton-Gillingham/Barton and Prodigy, which provide various strategies and curricula which are used based on student needs.

### **Multi-Tiered Level of Support**

The first level (**Tier 1**) of support occurs in the classroom with core instruction delivered by the classroom teacher using the district's reading curriculum. Teachers differentiate instruction in small groups according to the needs of their diverse learners.

Based on screening and diagnostic assessments, the second level (**Tier 2**) of support identifies students not meeting grade-level targets who are, then, provided supplemental reading interventions according to their skill deficit(s).

Students not responding well to the interventions provided at the second level are referred to and receive the most intensive and individualized level of support (**Tier 3**). Students receiving Special Education services are included at this level.

### **English Learners and Other Diverse Populations:**

Bert Raney Elementary School has 38 Hispanic, 48 American Indian, 4 Asian, 2 Black, 227 White, 9 ELL, 90 SPED, and 139 FRP students. Based on these demographics, resources will be allocated and professional development is determined by the Leadership Team annually.

Small group instruction is used to differentiate for our diverse learners.

The district currently assesses all English Learners using the World-Class Instructional Design and Assessment (WIDA) assessments (W-APT and ACCESS).

W-APT stands for the WIDA-ACCESS Placement Test. It is an English language proficiency "screener" test given to incoming students who may be designated as English Learners, typically administered only to new students. It assists educators with programmatic placement decisions such as identification and placement of ELs. The W-APT is one component of WIDA's comprehensive assessment system.

Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Learners (ACCESS for ELs) is a secure, large-scale English language proficiency assessment given to Kindergarten through 12th graders who have been identified as English Learners (ELs). It is given annually in Minnesota beginning in the 2011-2012 school year to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English.

W-APT and ACCESS for ELs test items are written from the model performance indicators of WIDA's five English Language Proficiency (ELP) standards:

- Social & Instructional Language
- Language of Language Arts
- Language of Mathematics
- Language of Science
- Language of Social Studies

Test forms are divided into five grade-level clusters:

- Kindergarten
- Grades 1-2
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

Each form of the W-APT test assesses the four language domains of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing.

Within each grade-level cluster (except Kindergarten), ACCESS for ELs consists of three forms: Tier A (beginning), Tier B (intermediate), and Tier C (advanced). This keeps the test shorter and more appropriately targets each student's range of language skills.

Based on the W-APT and ACCESS assessments, students who qualify for ESL support will receive the intervention of focused language skill development from a licensed ESL teacher, in addition to the core instruction.

Instructional materials will be analyzed for its culturally appropriate content and purchased during the district's curriculum cycle for core subjects. EL curriculum materials and interventions, used to develop language skills, will be updated as needed or developed on-site.

Training / Coaching / Resources available for all school staff:

Integration Activities: collaboration through our Integration Collaborative, after-school programming, cultural liaisons (American Indian, Hispanic), Cultural Diversity training/speakers, cross-district collaboration, in-house Integration Coordinator.

The W-APT and ACCESS assessments are used specifically with ELs. These assessments are used in conjunction with the previously mentioned assessments administered to the entire student body: DRA, Star and MCAs. The disaggregated data compiled from each of those assessments will be used to improve programs, strengthen core instruction, and accelerate the acquisition of oral language and literacy skills of ELs. The Leadership Team is responsible for accessing, analyzing, interpreting, and applying the disaggregated data.

### **Minnesota ELA Standards**

The goal of the Yellow Medicine East district is to assure that all learners successfully achieve the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in English Language Arts (2010) for their grade level. The standards are aligned with the district's curriculum and a pacing guide/curriculum map are in place to ensure that the standards are taught within the time available. Curriculum maps and pacing guides are continually updated to align with standards, with instructional strategies changing based on student(s)' needs. Grades K-5 each have a grade level map and pacing guide and our preschool program is currently working to create a curriculum map for our preschool programming.

### **Use of Data**

Each year educators will review and disaggregate reading data at grade levels K, 1, 2, & 3. Proficiency, growth, and trend data will be analyzed and used to set specific learning targets for each child and for each cohort of students. Pre-K data will be accessed and utilized, when available.

The Elementary Leadership Team reviews, annually, the effectiveness of current pedagogical practices including core instruction, differentiation, remediation, and intervention.

Professional Learning Communities by grade level collaborate weekly/monthly focusing on best practices in literacy instruction, utilizing data from formative assessments with attention to closing the achievement gap and analyzing the effectiveness of current curriculum and instruction.

Formative assessments will be used to modify instruction and to identify students who are not on pace to meet proficiency. Students not on track will follow the local intervention plan.

Extended day and/or extended year programs may be utilized to provide targeted assistance to help struggling and at-risk students achieve grade-level proficiency.

## Comprehensive Needs Assessment

A comprehensive needs assessment occurs yearly at Bert Raney Elementary School. Information collected and reviewed includes but is not limited to:

### Part II – Comprehensive Needs Assessment BRE Data Review and Action Planning

Data	Reflection/Findings	Review Date	Next Steps
BRE Historical MCA Data, 2012-2018	<p>All but one demographic group has shown growth between the years of 2013-2018, General overview of 6 years of data includes but is not limited to:</p> <p>BRE - All Reading - 13.7% increase            BRE - FRP Reading - 7.1% increase            BRE - EL Reading - 35.9% increase (note not enough were tested in '18)            BRE - SPED Reading - 9.2% increase            BRE - Hispanic Reading - 14.1% increase            BRE - American Indian Reading - 12.5% increase            BRE - Caucasian Reading - -.4% decrease</p>	August 2018	<p>Prioritized Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase MCA Reading scores including the following groups: All Reading and Special Population groups</li> <li>• Improve instructional practices with emphasis on language arts instruction based on student needs to narrow the achievement gap and to improve language arts instruction for all students</li> </ul> <p>Improvement Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minnesota Language Arts standards reviewed by grade level to identify gaps, weak and/or redundant areas, and action plans formulated to strengthen these areas.</li> <li>• Balanced literacy/guided reading training for staff</li> <li>• Strategies are reviewed and studied through 28 hours of bi-monthly PLC meetings which helps provide peer accountability and improvement of overall instruction.</li> </ul>
<p><b>All Students in Third Grade Achieving Grade-Level Literacy</b></p> <p>Data used to identify need in this goal area includes MCA historical data and STAR Reading historical data.</p>	in the spring of 2018, 38% of students in 3rd grade were proficient on the Reading MCA.	Summer of 2018	<p>Prioritized Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase MCA Reading scores including the following groups: All Reading and Special Population groups</li> <li>• Improve instructional practices with emphasis on language arts instruction based on student needs</li> </ul> <p>Improvement Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minnesota Language Arts standards reviewed by grade level to identify</li> </ul>

			<p>gaps, weak and/or redundant areas, and action plans formulated to strengthen these areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Balanced literacy/guided reading training for staff</li> <li>Strategies are reviewed and studied through 28 hours of bi-monthly PLC meetings which helps provide peer accountability and improvement of overall instruction.</li> </ul>								
<p><b>Star Reading Analysis</b> 2017-18</p>	<p>Upon review of the 2017-18 Star Reading data, in comparison to the ELA standards, we found the following standard percentages were at or above mastery for students in grades 1-5 when applicable: 1.1.1: 72.6%, 1.2.2: 68.4%, 1.3.3: 74.6%, 1.4.4: 71.8%, 1.5.5: 69.2%, 1.6.6: 64.8%, 1.7.7: 74%, 1.9.9: 77.25%, 1.10.10: 69%, 2.11.11: 76%, 2.2.2: 75.75%, 2.3.3: 82%, 2.4.4: 75.6%, 2.5.5: 74%, 2.6.6: 67.4%, 2.7.7: 72.4%, 2.8.8: 63.2%, 2.9.9: 69%, 2.10.10: 70.8%, 3.0.3: 78.4%, 10.4.4: 76.6%, 10.5.5: 77.2%, 10.6.6: 77.2%. Additional data analysis included but was not limited to: below average scores in the following areas: 3.1.10.10, 3.2.6.6, 4.2.8.8, and 1.3.0.2.</p>	<p>May 2018 - Summer - Fall 2018</p>	<p>Prioritized Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase MCA Reading scores including the following groups: All Reading and Special Population groups</li> <li>Improve instructional practices with emphasis on language arts instruction based on student needs</li> </ul> <p>Improvement Strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minnesota Language Arts standards reviewed by grade level to identify gaps, weak and/or redundant areas, and action plans formulated to strengthen these areas.</li> <li>Balanced literacy/guided reading training for staff</li> <li>Strategies are reviewed and studied through 28 hours of bi-monthly PLC meetings which helps provide peer accountability and improvement of overall instruction.</li> </ul>								
<p><b>Star Reading Analysis</b> 2018-19</p>	<p>Full review will occur during the summer and early fall of 2019.</p>	<p>Summer 2019-Fall 2019</p>	<p>BRE Leadership Team will review yearly data and will also share out with full staff.</p>								
<p><b>Kindergarten Readiness Skills Document</b> measures % of children entering kindergarten in the fall who were able to complete 80% or more of the readiness skills as noted on the BRE Kindergarten Readiness Skills</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>2015-16</th> <th>2016-17</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>50%</td> <td>71.4%</td> <td>88%</td> <td>61.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	50%	71.4%	88%	61.2%	<p>Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019</p>	<p>Prioritized Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase percentage of incoming kindergarten students who are able to complete 80% or more of the readiness skills as noted on the BRE Kdgn Readiness Skills document</li> </ul> <p>Improvement Strategies:</p>
2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19								
50%	71.4%	88%	61.2%								

document.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten staff will work with preschool staff through PLCs</li> <li>Preschool staff will use objectives and goals on the BRE Kindergarten Readiness Skills document to provide direction for planning and instruction.</li> <li>Kindergarten staff and preschool staff will collaborate on joint activities including but not limited to: Kindergarten Kickoff, Preschool screening, Camp Kindergarten, ECFE activities, and the Readiness Readiness document.</li> </ul>
<b>Kindergarten Skills Assessment Document</b> measures kindergarten students' skills in the areas of: letter identification, letter sounds, dictation, concepts of print and name formation.	Kindergarten teachers, along with a Reading Interventionist, review the data and make instructional decisions based on the results.  2018-2019 was the first school year this assessment was used. BRE plans to continue to use this assessment to assist with instructional decisions and strategies.  <b>Fall 2018 Scores</b> Kdgn Classroom A - 51.4pts Kdgn Classroom B - 35.83pts Kdgn Classroom C - 53.91pts  <b>Spring 2019 Scores</b> Kdgn Classroom A - 91.4pts Kdgn Classroom B - 91.17pts Kdgn Classroom C - 92.18pts	9/18, 11/18, 1/19, 3/19, 5/19	<b>Prioritized Needs:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase kindergarten students skills in the areas of letter identification, letter sounds, dictation, concepts of print and name formation.</li> </ul> <b>Improvement Strategies:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kindergarten students grouped into groups according to assessment results, for small group instruction</li> <li>Continued collaboration with preschool staff</li> <li>Support staff are used to support the instructional plans</li> </ul>

### Bert Raney Elementary – MCA Data Review

<b>Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>
BRE Proficiency	44.00%	48.00%	49.10%	48.80%	53.70%
<b>FRP Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>
BRE Proficiency	31.80%	32.60%	29.40%	29.10%	36.10%
<b>EL Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>
BRE Proficiency	22.20%	10.00%	33.30%	66.70%	50.00%
<b>SPED Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>
BRE Proficiency	6.50%	0.00%	9.40%	20.50%	18.60%

<b>Hispanic Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>	
BRE Proficiency	34.80%	29.20%	38.10%	30.00%	47.40%	
<b>American Indian Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>	
BRE Proficiency	19.40%	27.00%	27.00%	26.70%	37.50%	
<b>Caucasian Reading</b>	<b>2014 III</b>	<b>2015 III</b>	<b>2016 III</b>	<b>2017 III</b>	<b>2018 III</b>	
BRE Proficiency	53.40%	60.20%	58.30%	58.60%	57.00%	
<b>STAR Reading Percentage at Grade Level</b>	<b>Fall 2017</b>	<b>Winter 2018</b>	<b>Spring 2018</b>	<b>Fall 2018</b>	<b>Winter 2019</b>	<b>Spring 2019</b>
	Last Year's Grade Level 0.9	This Year's Grade Level 0.9	This Year's Grade Level 0.9	Last Year's Grade Level 0.9	This Year's Grade Level 0.9	This Year's Grade Level 0.9
2nd Grade	46.10%	38.10%	60.70%	37.50%	30%	52.58%
3rd Grade	37.50%	28.50%	52.10%	46.40%	39.20%	57.14%
4th Grade	51.70%	37.20%	55.90%	42.30%	28.80%	30.77%
5th Grade	44.40%	33.30%	53.10%	46.70%	34.90%	46.77%

### STAR Early Literacy

Kindergarten      Spring 2019      Average GE: 1.0      GE Range: 0.5-2.6  
 1st Grade      Spring 2019      Average GE: 2.1      GE Range: 0.3-3.9

### Assessments

Formative: teacher observation, DRA, student response (oral and written), ongoing reading running records, observation and anecdotal records, and Words Their Way Developmental Spelling Inventory

District Assessments: STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading

### Parent and Community Engagement

Parents are informed of their child's progress on the Minnesota Comprehension Assessment (grade 3) in the fall, and on Early Literacy (K-1), and Star Reading (1-5) at least twice throughout each school year.

In addition, various parent engagement activities occur at BRE throughout the school year. During the 2018-29 school year the following are many but not all of the parent engagement activities that occurred:

## August

PreK-5 Open House & Book Fair

## September

Apples Activities in the Classroom

## October

Parent Mystery Readers

Parent Fall Activities

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent Rollerskating with Child

## November

Parent Mystery Readers

Parent Rollerskating with Child

Fall Celebration

Parent Career Day

Kdgn Parent Visitor Day

Technology Scavenger Hunt

Billy Goats Gruff Play Performance

## December

Holiday Happenings

Cozy Up with a Book

Gingerbread House Creations

Holiday Festivities

Elves Celebration

## February

Kids Heart Challenge

Valentine's Day Party

Parent Teacher Conferences

Kinder Art Walk

## March

Embroidery with Students

State Project Presentations

Wax Museum and Lunch

Poetry Readings

## May

BRE Fun Day

## **Parent Communication Plan**

1. MCA Assessment information will be sent home in the fall of each school year.
2. Assessment results will be provided to parents during the fall and spring conferences. In addition, additional results may be shared as applicable.
3. Parents of students who need supplemental instruction will be informed by the district that their student is receiving these services and will be offered a conference with the student's teacher or interventionist.
4. Additional explanation of the literacy program and supports will occur during fall parent/teacher conferences.
5. Grade levels invite parents in for a variety of activities throughout the year, some of which include, but are not limited to those listed above in the engagement section.

## **Staff Development**

The Yellow Medicine East District has 13 days and 28 hours of PLC time available for professional development.

Staff development is provided through:

- Grade level common planning time
- Grade level PLCs
- Monthly staff meetings
- Regional and state professional development
- Outside resources/consultants/specialists
- Elementary Leadership/Staff Development Committee
- Elementary Literacy Committee
- Minnesota River Valley Education District (MRVED)

During the 2018-19 school year, the following literacy training was provided to the Bert Raney Elementary School staff:

What is Special Education, 8/30/18  
Language Arts Standards, 11/5/18  
Guided Reading Training, 1/15/19  
Guided Reading Training, 1/17/19  
Guided Reading Training, 1/24/19  
Literacy Training, 2/15/19  
Dyslexia Training, Spring 2019  
Dyslexia Training, 6/6/19  
Guided Reading Training, June 2019

## District Reporting to Stakeholders

<b>Stakeholders</b>	<b>Date District Collaborated/Shared</b>
District Advisory Committee	11/27/18, 2/18/19, 3/18/19
K-12 QComp Committee	8/21/18, 11/6/18, 2/5/19, 3/26/19
K-12 Staff Development Committee	10/3/18, 11/14/18, 1/16/19, 2/27/19
BRE Leadership Team	9/20, 10/8, 11/12, 12/10, 2/25, 3/11, 4/8
Indian Parent Advisory Committee	10/10/18, 11/14/18, 12/5/18, 1/9/19, 2/13/19, 4/17/19
YME PTO	1/7/19, 2/4/19, 3/11/19, 4/1/19
Parent - Teacher Conferences	Fall and Spring

For those who are interested in learning more about Yellow Medicine East's literacy program, please contact Lisa Hansen, BRE Principal at [lhansen@isd2190.org](mailto:lhansen@isd2190.org).