

# MADISON LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 2023-24 Title I Parent Handbook

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## **Madison Local School District Title I Program**

***Mission:** Helping all students get the services they need on their journey to being successful readers.*

The Madison Local School District has adopted various Tier II intervention systems for meeting the specific needs of students who struggle with reading and writing.

### **Assessments**

#### **i-Ready Reading Diagnostic and Literacy Tasks**

i-Ready is a set of State Standards-based diagnostic and instructional tools for math and reading. Upon starting the program, students take an adaptive placement test. i-Ready then uses this data to create individualized instructional pathways for each student.

As part of the i-Ready Assessment suite, the Core Literacy Tasks address a progression of fluency while also providing a measure of phonics. The fluency tasks address letter naming fluency, word recognition fluency, and passage reading fluency, while phonics is addressed with a pseudoword (nonsense word) decoding task.

#### **WIST (Word Identification and Spelling Test)**

The WIST is a nationally standardized, individually administered diagnostic test that assesses students' fundamental literacy skills. The WIST measures word identification, spelling, and sound-symbol knowledge.

#### **TOSWRF (Test of Silent Word Reading Fluency)**

An Assessment that provides a reliable and valid measure of students' ability to recognize printed words accurately and efficiently (i.e., word identification, word meaning, word building, sentence structure, comprehension, and fluency).

## **Instructional Programs**

### ***Fundations***

The *Fundations* program is being taught in the classroom in grades K-2. Students attending Title I classes will receive an additional 30-45 minutes of Fundations intervention 5 days a week. Fundations provides students with a foundation in reading and spelling. The instruction emphasizes phonemic awareness, phonics-word study, high frequency words, fluency, vocabulary, handwriting, and spelling.

### ***Just Words***

The *Just Words* program will be taught to students attending Title I classes in grades 3-4. Just Words is a word study program with an emphasis on phonemic awareness, alphabetic principle, word study and English orthography.

The systematic and thorough teaching of the above programs, will help students show mastery of automatic word recognition that will have a significant positive effect on all other areas of reading.

### ***The Wilson Reading System***

*The Wilson Reading System* is a comprehensive and intensive program for students in grades 2 or higher who experience significant reading and writing challenges. This program is highly structured and systematic and provides comprehensive support for the 5 domains of reading: phonemic awareness, explicit and systematic phonics instruction, repeated oral reading practice with feedback and guidance to address fluency, vocabulary and comprehension. The goal of this program is to have students independently reading grade-level text.

### **Tools for Reading/Sound Walls**

Title Teachers were trained in using Sound Walls and Tools for Reading Resources to help support Tier 1 learning taking place in the classroom. Referencing the sound wall will help students make the connection between what a phoneme sounds like and what their mouths should be doing when they are saying that phoneme.

*Please note that as a district we are putting resources in place to align with the Science of Reading and preparing for the upcoming Dyslexia Standards. We are moving towards more skill-based interventions. As Title Teachers, our hope is that collaborating with classroom teachers and intervention specialists, we all work in unison to make the students of Madison better readers.*

## Title I Parent Handbook

### **Annual Planning**

This parent handbook is provided to acquaint parents with the Title I program in Madison Local Schools. The Title I programs at the individual elementary schools are developed through the efforts of parents, teachers, administrators, and Title I resource staff. Programs are planned through a series of steps. First, a needs assessment is conducted through input from parents, teachers, and staff. Parents are invited to contact Title I staff or the program director at any time during the year. Second, teachers, staff, and parents plan how to best meet the needs shown in these assessments. Next, teachers receive training on how to best serve these needs and implement the plan that is developed. Resources are gathered that are needed to implement the plan. Finally, a yearly review is conducted to examine results and re-evaluate needs.

### **What is Title I?**

Title I is a federally funded education program that is designed to give all children a chance to learn at higher academic standards. Its purpose is to prevent failure by ensuring that more children experience success in school. The Title I funds that schools receive are based upon the number of low-income families in the district. Madison Local is able to allocate these funds for services for eligible students in the following schools:

- Eastview Elementary
- Mifflin Elementary
- Madison South Elementary
- Middle School & High School – tutoring only

Sometimes children need assistance to meet the educational standards that Ohio has set for all children. This includes children who:

- Have trouble reading
- Read below their grade level
- Have trouble understanding what they read

### **What Help does Title I Schoolwide provide?**

Title I provides assistance in one or more academic areas. Extra help could include:

- Additional Reading certified teachers to work with small groups or individuals
- Before and after school tutoring
- Additional training for staff
- A variety of instructional strategies and materials
- Smaller classes for eligible students

### **How is a school chosen to provide a Schoolwide Title I program?**

Individual schools with poverty rates above 40% may use Title I funds, along with other funds, to operate a “schoolwide program” to upgrade the instructional program for the entire school. During the 2011-12 school year, all four Madison elementary schools piloted the schoolwide program with the three remaining schools (Eastview, Mifflin, and South) fully implementing the program.

### **What does being a Schoolwide Title I program involve?**

There are specific guidelines for all Title I schools that operate schoolwide programs. Each schoolwide program has implemented a comprehensive school improvement plan which addresses ten (10) required elements:

1. A comprehensive needs assessment of the entire school using data analysis
2. Schoolwide reform strategies with emphasis on improved achievement of the lowest achieving students
3. Instruction by highly qualified staff as addressed in Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)
4. High quality and ongoing professional development activities
5. Strategies to attract highly qualified teachers
6. Strategies to increase effective parental involvement
7. Plans for assisting preschool children from early childhood programs to elementary school programs
8. Measures to include teachers in assessment decisions regarding the use of assessments in improving student performance and instructional programs
9. Strategies for providing timely additional assistance to students who are experiencing difficulties in mastering standards
10. Coordination and integration of federal, state, and local services/programs.

### **Remote Learning**

- Should the governor or Richland County Health Department close the buildings, your child’s Title Reading teacher will continue to provide services online using any of the following resources: online books, meetings, assignments in Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meets, and an online curriculum called iReady.
- There will be multiple ways of communicating between home and school as per building: Zoom, DoJo, Google Meet, and email.
- Any online curriculum will have already been used in the Title classroom to make the transition seamless.

### **As parents, please keep in mind...**

You influence your child’s education more than any teacher or the school. By taking an active role in the school, you will show your child

- How important they are to you
- How important education is to you
- That you and the school are a team

Parents are a vital part of the Schoolwide Title I program. Ideas, support, and presence of parents are essential for an effective school program.

- In the fall, each Title 1 school will present information pertaining to the Title 1 program through Google Classroom, DoJo, or by sending home an information packet. Parent questions and concerns are addressed by staff.
- Through Final Forms, each Title I school develops and distributes to parents a Title I parent-student-school compact to be signed and returned.
- Parents are encouraged to attend parent-teacher conferences. These meetings provide parents with a report on their child's progress and for the opportunity to review the parent-school compact.
- Each Title I school has a parental involvement plan.
- Materials for helping your child at home will be provided.
- Parents will be asked to complete a questionnaire in May of each year about the Title I program. This information will be used to help plan the program for the upcoming year.
- Parents may observe their child participating in the Title I program as scheduled by the teacher and approved by the Building Principal.
- Parents are invited and encouraged to participate in the development and review of the Title I Schoolwide plan as explained in this handbook.
- Parents have the right to request highly qualified teacher information.

#### **How to help your child...**

- Share information about your child's interests and abilities with teachers.
- Update your child's teacher and school about changes at home and your child's health.
- Find out what your child is being taught.
- Become a volunteer.
- Share a love for learning.
- Learn about your school and programs.
- Monitor your child's progress by reviewing homework, tests, progress reports, and other school assessment results.

#### **Parent involvement pays off with...**

- Higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates
- Better school attendance
- Increased motivation and self-esteem
- Lower rates of suspension
- Decreased drug and alcohol use
- Fewer behavior incidents
- Greater chance of going on to trade school, college, or other post-secondary education programs