



Walled Lake Consolidated Schools

Educational Services Center
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Catherine Kochanski
Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services

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Dear Kindergarten through Third Grade Families,

In October of 2016, Michigan passed MCL 380.1280f, referred to as the "Third Grade Reading Law" which requires schools to identify and support students in Kindergarten through third grade who are struggling with reading and writing. The law states the third graders may be retained if they are more than one year behind at the end of third grade.

Last spring, all required state tests were administered to students in third through eighth grade as well as eleventh grade. Our third grade students who did not meet the minimum threshold for passing the reading portion of the state M-STEP assessment were subject to retention. Walled Lake Schools worked closely with building principals, teachers and families to ensure that these students either qualified for a good cause exemption from the retention or had a detailed plan of literacy support moving forward.

Walled Lake Schools continues to remain vigilant in ensuring that our students are readers. Our dedicated teaching staff remains focused on literacy growth and development for each student.

In Walled Lake, we understand that each child has unique needs and we will continue to have the following practices in place:

- A bold assessment system to catch struggling students early
- Caring and highly skilled staff who intervene and support student needs
- Individual Reading Improvement Plans (IRIP) for students who are not meeting grade level reading expectations
- A home component to the IRIP which involves family support and collaboration
- Close progress monitoring and adjusting of plans for each student with an IRIP

If your child has been identified as needing support with an IRIP plan for the second trimester, your child's teacher will discuss this with you. We will continue to work closely with our families to ensure the best course of action for our students. Thank you for your partnership with Walled Lake and for making reading a priority in your home!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Catherine Kochanski".

Catherine Kochanski