



MATHIS ISD DYSLEXIA PROGRAM

AWARENESS FOR EDUCATORS AND PARENTS

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WHAT IS DYSLEXIA?

Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction.

EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES

- Provide multisensory experiences
- Pre-teach key vocabulary
- Allow time for processing at their own pace
- Graphic Novels
- Provide audio books whenever possible
- Never ask the student to read aloud unless volunteered
- Break down tasks
- Use manipulatives or visual supports
- Encourage speaking and listening before a writing task

POSSIBLE ACCOMMODATIONS & MODIFICATIONS

ALLOWED FOR STATE TESTING (AS PRESCRIBED BY THE ARD COMMITTEE)

- Reminders to stay on task
- Small group or Individual administration
- Content and language supports
- Text to speech
- Extra time - until the end of the school day
- Oral administration at student request
- Spelling assistance
- Read test questions and answer choices
- Calculation aides including calculator
- Supplemental aides
- Graphic organizers
- Preferential seating
- Assigned scribe assistance for dysgraphia

CHARACTERISTICS OF DYSLEXIA

INCLUDE DIFFICULTIES WITH:

- Mispronouncing words
- Mapping sounds to letters
- Auditory memory for rhymes, songs, and chants
- Blending, segmenting, and manipulating sounds in words
- Reading words in isolation or reading unknown words
- Reading fluency
- Spelling
- Vocabulary acquisition due to reduced independent reading
- Reading comprehension
- Written production

Mathis ISD administers a universal Dyslexia screening of students in kindergarten and first grade. Contact your campus counselor if you suspect a student may have Dyslexia or Dysgraphia.

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MATHIS ISD ADOPTED CURRICULUM, TAKE FLIGHT

Take Flight is a comprehensive intervention for students with Dyslexia. The curriculum was written by the staff of the Luke Waites Center for Dyslexia and Learning Disorders of Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children (TSRHC). It was developed to enable students with Dyslexia to achieve and maintain better word recognition, reading fluency, reading comprehension and aid in the transition from a therapy setting to "real world" learning.

Take Flight contains the five components of effective reading instruction supported by the National Reading Panel Research and by the No Child Left Behind Act: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics skills, Fluency, Vocabulary, Comprehension. *Take Flight* is designed for small group instruction for a minimum of 45 minutes per day 4 days each week.

It includes 132 lessons for a total of 230 hours of direct instruction. Research indicates students show statistically and clinically significant growth in all areas of reading when treatment concludes.

MORE INFORMATION...

The district uses Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to assist the child to become academically successful. At any time, the student is not successful with the intervention, testing (with parent approval) may be requested. The MTSS process should not delay Dyslexia testing.

The Dyslexia evaluation is performed by the district's Educational Diagnostician who has been trained in the area of Dyslexia. Testing is conducted using formal and informal measures and all Federal and State evaluation guidelines and Dyslexia guidelines are adhered to. A Section 504 or Special Education (Sped) Committee meeting is then held to review the results and determine if a child meets eligibility for Dyslexia services.

DYSLEXIA TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

- Highly trained teacher
- Must be trained in the program the district has developed or purchased for use with students with Dyslexia
- Must have documented Dyslexia training
- Must deliver multisensory instruction with fidelity
- Must be trained in Dyslexia and related disorders