

# A PARENT GUIDE TO PUBLIC ACT 306 THIRD GRADE READING BILL

### What is the law all about?

Michigan's test scores on both the Michigan-based M-STEP ELA assessment and the NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Progress) reading assessment have shown a need for attention to early reading and literacy. In an effort to boost reading achievement, Michigan lawmakers passed Public Act 306 in October 2016. On the 2015 NAEP Michigan was 41st in the nation for 4th grade reading achievement. To help more students be proficient by the end of 3rd grade, the law requires extra support for K-3 students who are not at grade level in reading.

### What do I need to know as a parent?

Your child's reading progress will be closely monitored. If your child is not reading at the expected level, we will create an Individualized Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP) to support your child and track progress throughout the year. This may include:

- Extra instruction or support in areas of need;
- Ongoing checks on reading progress;
- A read-at-home plan.

### What can I do to support my child?

Share enjoyable books at home with your child daily, even in the summer. Some ways to do this:

- Read out loud to your child.
- Listen to your child read.
- Echo read (You read a line, then they repeat).
- Read together at the same time.
- Reread or retell favorite stories.
- Talk to your child about the reading.
- Talk to and with your kids a lot. Knowing more words helps kids to understand the words they read better.
- Encourage writing. Let children write the sounds they hear, spelling is developmental and a work in progress.
- Be involved in your child's education and support the reading plan if your child has one.

### How will this affect my child?

**In Grades K-3:** If your child is identified as needing additional supports (extra help), your school will provide your child with an Individual Reading Improvement Plan (IRIP). This means your child's teacher and school will work with your child to find where your child needs support in his reading development and create a plan to support him or her.

- The extra supports in your child's reading improvement plan will occur in small groups during the school day.
- Your child will not miss regular reading instruction.

Part of your child's IRIP will include a read-at-home plan that encourages you and your child to read and write outside of the school day.

- Your child may also be encouraged to participate in summer reading programs.
- Your child's teacher will also receive supports in evidence-based effective practices in teaching reading and writing to support all learners to grow as readers and writers.