FREEHOLD BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
280 Park Avenue
Freehold, NJ 07728
Monmouth County

Office of Curriculum & Instruction

Grades K-5

School Year 2026-2027

Reading Basic Skills Program Plan

Board Adoption Date: August 3, 2026

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Natasha Perski – Literacy Coach

Freehold Borough School District

District Mission

We will inspire the creativity and imagination of all students and empower them as knowledgeable, skillful, and confident learners who flourish and contribute willingly in a changing world.

Core Beliefs

We believe that:

- All people have inherent worth.
- Life-long learning is basic to the survival and advancement of society.
- The primary influence on the individual's development is the family in all its forms.
- Valuing diversity is essential to individual growth and the advancement of society.
- All individuals have strengths and human potential has no known limits.
- Democracy thrives when individuals accept responsibility for their choices.
- Being trustworthy builds trust.
- Creativity and imagination are essential for society to flourish.
- A safe environment is essential for the well-being of the individual and for society to flourish

Freehold Borough School District

Philosophy

The philosophy for our curriculum is developed with a democratic system of beliefs and values. Believing that our students deserve the best education, our curriculum is aligned to the most current New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards and current statewide assessments. Our scope and sequence is vertically and horizontally aligned. The progression of objectives embraces decades of rigorous research, conducted both independently and at the university level, and acknowledges that children develop differently and that learning experiences and strategies for performance are differentiated. Our borough is a diverse community, rich in tradition and spirit. Knowledge is a fusion balancing authentic experience and content, which language arts literacy skills are integrated with other content areas. Our curriculum contains common expectations that are rigorous and student centered, and teachers, who are most proximal to the children, will use this document as an instrument to ensure student success.

To ensure that our children are successful and receive the best education, this curriculum document, our staff will continuously collaborate on this living document. We will develop purposeful and effective formative and summative assessments which measure growth of our curriculum and inform our instruction. Finally, we will continuously seek to grow professionally through professional development, which is aligned to statewide regulations, but specifically geared to benefit our curriculum, school, and children.

General Curriculum & Instruction Objectives

- Teachers will employ lessons that are aligned to our curriculum and framed utilizing current research-based methods and techniques that focus on student achievement
- Our lessons will be structured according to statewide and district standards and our teachers will have flexibility to ensure that lessons meet the needs of all learners
- Units and lessons will be differentiated
- Curriculum is be student focused on success and balances developmental theory and psychometric standards
- Democratically developed benchmarks and assessments will be utilized to gauge student and curricular growth. Assessment will be multidimensional and developed according to student need.

Program Guide

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Introduction

The Freehold Borough Basic Skills Improvement Program is a remedial program mandated by the New Jersey Legislature in amendments to the 1975 "Public School Education Act". The law provides that funds will be allotted to districts for remediation of students who fall below the State Minimum Standards in the basic skills area of communication. In addition, this program contains a Title I component, providing additional Federal funds for basic skills instruction.

The State Department of Education, through the county offices, is authorized to monitor the use of Basic Skills Improvement Program and Title I funds. Therefore, numerous aspects of the Freehold Borough Basic Skills Improvement Program must be documented for this monitoring process.

The purpose of this handbook is twofold. First, it should make the Freehold Borough Basic Skills Improvement Program procedures clear to all district personnel and provide a point of reference when questions arise. Secondly, this handbook contains the forms necessary for the required documentation.

Note:

All Basic Skills Improvement Program forms, letters, and procedures contained in this program guide were revised and updated at the time the guide was written. It should be noted that due to potential changes in state mandates and district practices, these forms, letters, and procedures may be modified as needed to accommodate such changes.

Reading Basic Skills Program Criteria

The identification process for students to receive Basic Skills instruction begin in September of the current school year using the following steps. All struggling students are eligible to receive reading basic skills support. Multi-lingual learners will include additional comprehensive language assessment measures to ensure appropriate instructional support is determined and provided.

Step 1: F&P Score

F&P measures reading fluency and comprehension. Basic Skills teachers review F&P scores from previous year to determine initial eligibility for the current school year.

Step 2: Multiple Measures

Basic Skills teachers narrow list of eligible students using the following multiple measures or criteria. Previous year's and current year's data are reviewed in September for eligibility.

Grade	F&P	iReady	SLOSSON	LinkIt Benchmark
Kdg.	Beginning of the Year: Basic Skills teacher administers general literacy assessment to determine eligibility. Middle of the School Year: The following measures below are used to determine eligibility.			
	AA	1 grade level below	N/A	1st Quartile Lowest 25%
1st Grade	B or below	1 grade level below	N/A	1st Quartile Lowest 25%
2nd Grade	F and below	1 grade level below	N/A	1st Quartile Lowest 25%
3rd Grade	N/A	2 grade levels below	50/100	Benchmark C 30% and below
4th Grade	N/A	2 grade levels below	60/120	Benchmark C 30% and below
5th Grade	N/A	2 grade level below	70/140	Benchmark C 30% and below

- If the total number of eligible students exceeds the total number of available seats, then lowest 10% of the population will be serviced using the criteria above. The remaining students will be placed on a BSI wait list.

Basic Skills Program Outline

Basic Skills Improvement Program staff members design lessons for Basic Skills students based on information from the following sources:

- NJ Student Learning Standards for English Language Arts
- FUNdations Program Guidelines
- Letterland Program Guidelines
- Orton Gillingham Scope and Sequence
- Comprehension Strategies
- Reading Strategies
- District Assessments/State and Standardized Assessments
- BSIP/Classroom Teacher Made Assessments
- District Approved Curriculum Guides

Parent Communication

The parents of all students participating in the Title I/Basic Skills Improvement Program will be notified in writing.

Instructional Time

Basic Skills instruction in grade K-5 is in addition to the regular classroom teacher's instruction. The Basic skills instructor creates a schedule with students' instructional needs as a primary consideration.

Grade Level	Program	Time Allotments
Kindergarten	Letterland and Guided Reading	20-30 minutes/day/2-5x per week
First Grade	FUNdations and Guided Reading	30 minutes/day/2-5x per week

Second Grade	FUNdations and Guided Reading	30 minutes/day/2-5x per week
Third Grade	FUNdations and Guided Reading	Minimum of (3) 30 min. sessions per week
Fourth Grade	FUNdations and Guided Reading	Minimum of (3) 30 min. sessions per week
Fifth Grade	FUNdations and Guided Reading	Minimum of (3) 30 min. sessions per week

District Program Overview

What is BSIP?

- ✓ District-wide supplemental instruction program
- ✓ Provides students with reinforcement in the areas of reading and language arts
- ✓ It is not associated with Special Education, ESL and Bilingual students

How is the Program Funded?

- ✓ Federal Title I Funds Received Annually – through a federal grant prepared by the district

How are students selected for participation?

- ✓ See attached criteria

What is the format of the program?

- ✓ Small group instruction
- ✓ Meet regularly according to established schedule
- ✓ Ongoing communication between homeroom teach and BSIP teacher

Exiting Criteria

Students who receive Basic Skills support are monitored for exit eligibility in January. At a minimum, students stay in the program for 10 weeks before eligibility for exiting. The following criteria are used to determine students' eligibility to exit Basic Skills program.

Grade	F&P	iReady	Slosson	LinkIt! Benchmark
Kdg.	Instructional C	Early On Grade Level	N/A	3rd Quartile Top 50%
First	Instructional I	Early On Grade Level	N/A	3rd Quartile Top 50%
Second	Instructional L	Early On Grade Level	N/A	3rd Quartile Top 50%

Third	N/A		80/100	50% and above
Fourth	N/A		100/120	50% and above
Fifth	N/A		120/140	50% and above

Borough of Freehold Public Schools

Department of Curriculum & Instruction
280 Park Ave.
Freehold, NJ 07728

Parental involvement is a vital aspect of a child's academic success. Please complete this questionnaire about your experiences and suggestions for future services in the Freehold Borough Public Schools Title I/Basic Skills Program.

STUDENT'S SCHOOL: _____ GRADE: _____ DATE: _____

1. My child has benefited from participating in the Basic Skills program.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly agree	Agree	Agree to some extent	Disagree	Strongly disagree

2. The Basic Skills teacher assisted my child in having a positive attitude toward learning.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly agree	Agree	Agree to some extent	Disagree	Strongly disagree

3. The Basic Skills teacher's communication through the 'mid-year' and 'end-of-year' progress reports were informative.

5	4	3	2	1
Strongly agree	Agree	Agree to some extent	Disagree	Strongly disagree

4. Do you have any comments or suggestions for next year's Title I/Basic Skills Program?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Borough of Freehold Public Schools

Department of Curriculum & Instruction
280 Park Ave.
Freehold, NJ 07728

Date:

To: Parents/Guardian of:

From: Freehold Borough School District

RE: Title I/Basic Skills Improvement Program

Your child was selected to participate in the Freehold Borough Schools' Title I/Basic Skills Improvement Program. During the regular school day, BSIP students receive supplemental instruction in reading and language arts. This instruction will be in addition to the regular classroom instruction and is planned in cooperation with the classroom teacher.

We look forward to working more closely with your child as he/she strives to meet grade level standards.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's Basic Skills Teacher.

Borough of Freehold Public Schools

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Fecha:

Padres/Guardián de:

De: El Distrito de Freehold Borough

RE: Programa de Mejora de Habilidades Básicas del Título I

Su hijo fue seleccionado para participar en el Borough Escuelas Freehold 'Título I / Programa de Mejora de Habilidades básico. Durante el día escolar regular, los estudiantes reciben instrucción suplementaria BSIP en lectura y artes del lenguaje. Esta instrucción será además de la instrucción regular de la clase y está planeado en colaboración con el maestro de la clase.

Esperamos trabajar más de cerca con su hijo/a a medida que él/ella se esfuerza por alcanzar los estándares de su nivel de grado.
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