

August 31, 2026

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

At Kalamazoo RESA, we want all students to grow as readers and learners. We are writing to share information about how reading is taught in our center-based programs.

A new Michigan law requires school districts to tell families if they are not using a reading curriculum from the Michigan Department of Education's approved list for all students in grades K-5.

The Fiscal Year 2027 State School Aid Act (Public Act 25 of 2026) says that districts must follow Section 1280f of the Revised School Code. Starting with the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, districts that do not use a curriculum from the state's evidence-based curriculum list, implementing at 100%, must notify parents and caregivers.

This letter serves as that notification.

While KRESA's Center Based Programs do utilize some of the programs on the approved list, we do not limit our programming to just one reading curriculum for all K-5 students. Instead, we provide reading instruction that is based on each student's individual needs. The students in our programs have a wide range of learning strengths and challenges. Because of this, reading instruction must be highly individualized. Teachers use different materials, strategies, and supports to help each student make progress.

Kalamazoo RESA must also follow the **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**. This federal law requires schools to provide instruction and services that match each student's **Individualized Education Program (IEP)**. A student's reading goals, services, and supports are often determined by the IEP team and may be different from those of other students.

Our goal is to provide effective reading instruction that helps every student learn and grow. We use evidence-based practices and individualized supports to meet each student's unique needs.

If you have questions about your child's reading instruction or educational program, please reach out to your child's principal or administrator.

Thank you for your partnership in your child's education.

Sincerely,

Angela Telfer, Executive Director for Special Education