Yale Public Schools

Unleash Greatness

9/8/2026

Dear YPSD Elementary Families,

In accordance with the Michigan State School Aid Act, Yale Public Schools is providing this notice regarding the district's 3rd-5th grade literacy curriculum.

The district's current Tier 1 literacy curriculum, MAISA, is not included on the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Recommended Literacy Materials List. Under the law, curricula not included on this list are not designated by MDE as "evidence-based or aligned to state standards" through the recommended list review process,"which could negatively impact student academic outcomes."

Michigan law and MDE guidance do not require school districts to select a literacy curriculum from the MDE Recommended Literacy Materials List. The list is not exhaustive and represents one method for demonstrating that literacy materials are evidence-based and aligned with state standards.

Yale Public Schools has been successfully implementing the MAISA Reading and Writing curricula for over a decade. Our staff has spent numerous hours over the years improving our literacy instruction, resources, and assessments, which has helped ensure some of the highest MSTEP scores in the county and surrounding area. While we are always open to new and improved methods of Literacy instruction, we believe our current curriculum and instructional practices continue to provide opportunities for students and teachers to meet the required state standards while supporting students as lifelong learners.

In addition to MAISA, the district is implementing UFLI Foundations, 1st Edition, as part of its literacy instruction. UFLI Foundations is included on the MDE Recommended Literacy Materials List in the Foundational Skills/Word Recognition curriculum category for grades K–2. UFLI Foundations provides explicit and systematic foundational literacy instruction designed to strengthen students' phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding, encoding, and word recognition skills. We also use Tier 2 programs from the MDE-approved intervention list, such as REWARDS and Story Champs, when appropriate based on student needs.

Yale Public Schools remains committed to providing high-quality, evidence-based literacy instruction for all students. The district will continue to monitor literacy instruction, review student achievement data, and consider updated guidance from the Michigan Department of Education as part of its ongoing curriculum review process. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 810-387-3231 or bkryscynski@ypsd.us.

Bill Kryscynski
Assistant Superintendent
Yale Public Schools