

Lake Wales Charter Schools Comprehensive Evidenced-Based Reading Plan

Request for Approval

Lake Wales Charter School System must submit our Comprehensive Evidence-Based Reading Plan (CERP), approved by the applicable board of trustee authority, to Polk County Schools and the Florida Department of Education (Department) by June 15, 2024. Our system's plan is in a format developed by the Department described in Rule 6A-6.053, F.AC. Plans must be submitted to Just Read, Florida! via email at JustRead@fldoe.org.

The Evidence-Based Reading Plan depicts and details the role of administration (both central office and school level), professional development, assessment, curriculum, and instruction in the improvement of student learning of the B.E.S.T. English Language Arts Standards as provided in Rule 6A-1.09401, F.A.C. This information reflects all schools and grade levels and will be shared with all stakeholders, including school administrators, literacy leadership teams, literacy coaches, classroom instructors, support staff, and parents. It will also be posted on our website and the FLDOE CERP site. The CERP goal is to help our system improve students' literacy and close achievement gaps using the Science of Reading. It details the roles of the central office administrators, school administrators, professional development, assessment, curriculum, and instructional practices that show high effect ratings for student success.

The plan includes:

- Instructional content: Based on the five essential components of reading instruction: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension
- Assessments: Such as the Florida Assessments for Instruction in Reading (FAIR), which measures these same components
- Professional development: For teachers in scientifically based reading instruction, including strategies for teaching reading in content areas
- Supplemental materials: Based on scientifically based reading research
- Interventions: For middle and high school students reading below grade level
- Assessment/curriculum decision trees: To demonstrate how data will be used to determine specific reading instructional needs and interventions for all students

The 2023 – 2024 CERP was approved at the board retreat in 2023. Legislation was passed in the fall of 2023 that voided all CERPs, and FLDOE had them removed. HB 7039 (https://info.fldoe.org/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-10007/DPS-2023-108.pdf) requires phonics as the primary strategy for teaching word reading. This removed other strategies like context clues and picture walks as primary strategies, making some content in the plans unusable. The 2024 -2025 plan reflects these changes.