STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

GLENN M. MALEYKO, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 2026

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Lohren Carter-Nzoma, M.Ed., Deputy Superintendent
Division of Educator Excellence, Career and Technical Education, Special Education and Administrative Law

Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent
Division of Assessment, School Improvement, and Systems Support

SUBJECT: Parent/Legal Guardian Notification of Literacy Curriculum in Compliance with MCL 388.1622b(3)(h) for Center-Based Programs

This memo is written as a follow-up to the Parent/Legal Guardian Notification of Literacy Curriculum memo from August 14, 2026, to address the application of requirements for students who are placed in center-based programs.

MCL 388.1622b(3)(h), says, "Beginning with the fiscal year ending September 30, 2026, if a district is not using a curriculum from the department's evidence-based curriculum list required under section 1280f of the revised school code, MCL 380.1280f, the district must provide a notification to all parents or legal guardians of students in grades K to 5 receiving instruction with that curriculum that includes all of the following:

- A statement informing parents or legal guardians that the curriculum used by the district is not evidence-based or not aligned to state standards, which could negatively impact student academic outcomes.
- A statement explaining why the district is not using a curriculum that is evidence-based or aligned to state standards.
- A plan, including a projected timeline, for when a new curriculum will be adopted that is evidence-based and aligned to state standards."

For students in a center-based program, intermediate school districts (ISDs) are not required to provide notification to parents regarding the selection of curriculum materials. Resident districts are responsible for communicating with parents and guardians. ISDs should collaborate with districts by providing details about the curriculum materials being used at the ISD.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

PAMELA PUGH – PRESIDENT • ELLEN COGEN LIPTON / TIFFANY D. TILLEY – CO-VICE PRESIDENTS
JUDITH PRITCHETT – SECRETARY • MARSHALL BULLOCK II – TREASURER
MITCHELL ROBINSON – NASBE DELEGATE • TOM MCMILLIN • NIKKI SNYDER

Anyone with questions about this memo can contact the Office of Special Education at MDE-OSE@Michigan.gov or 888-320-8384.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Departments

Shiawassee
Regional Education Service District

Board of Education
Maggie Sayles, *President*
Tate Forbush, *Vice President*
Jan Ray, *Secretary*
Michael Rexin, *Treasurer*
Timothy H. Atkinson, O.D., *Trustee*
Superintendent
David E. Schulte

1025 North Shiawassee Street Corunna, Michigan 48817 Phone (989) 743-3471 Fax (989) 743-6477

To: Shiawassee RESD Local Districts

From: Trent Toney, Assistant Superintendent/ Director of Special Education

Re: SRESD Center Based Programs K-5 Literacy Curriculum Notice

Date: October 22, 2026

In accordance with Section 164k(e) of the State School Aid Act, Shiawassee Regional Education Service District (SRESD) is providing notice regarding literacy curriculum and instruction within its Center Based Programs.

The SRESD Center Based Programs do not utilize a single K-5 core literacy curriculum included on the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Recommended Literacy Materials List. Within SRESD Center Based Programs, literacy instruction is developed based upon each student's individual needs, abilities, and Individualized Education Program (IEP). Teachers develop, adapt, and individualize instructional content to provide meaningful and accessible literacy instruction aligned with each student's educational needs and IEP goals. Unique Learning System and other instructional resources are utilized to support and supplement this individualized instruction.

Unique Learning System (ULS) is used in our Center Based Programs serving students with significant and moderate cognitive disabilities, ULS provides adapted literacy instruction aligned with Michigan's Essential Elements and students' individual academic expectations.