



Hello 4K - 3rd Grade Parents & Guardians!

Learning to read is one of the most important skills that we will teach your child. It's a skill that can continue to improve throughout their lives. Science is revealing that earlier exposure to language, print, and writing - and the way it is taught can make learning how to read and write easier and more effective for your child. To insure this happens, the State of Wisconsin passed Act 20 in 2023. We are committed to ensuring that every child in our school has the tools they need to succeed in reading and beyond. If you have any questions about Act 20 or how it impacts your child's education, please feel free to reach out. Thank you for your continued partnership in fostering a love for reading in our children!

What is Act 20?

Act 20 is a Wisconsin law passed 2023 with the goal of improving early literacy outcomes for all students. It calls for schools to provide science-based early literacy instruction to help children learn to read by the end of third grade. Science-based early literacy instruction is defined as instruction that is systematic and explicit and consists of all the following: Phonological awareness + Phonemic awareness + Phonics + Building background knowledge + Oral language development + Vocabulary building + Instruction in writing + Instruction in comprehension + Reading fluency.

Act 20 requires schools to assess early literacy skills for students in grades 4K-3. This helps ensure every student receives the support they need to develop strong reading skills. In accordance with Wisconsin Department of Instruction (DPI) guidance, each child in grades 4K-3 will take an assessment. USDD uses an assessment called *aimswebPlus* early reading screener. A screener is an assessment that quickly checks your child's literacy skills. The skills are tested differently based on your child's grade level.

Key Parts of the Assessment

According to Act 20, the early literacy assessment system must include:

- Rapid naming: how quickly students can name objects or symbols
- Phonological awareness: recognizing and manipulating sounds in words
- Word recognition: identifying familiar words
- Spelling: understanding and writing words correctly
- Vocabulary: knowing the meanings of words
- Listening comprehension: understanding spoken language
- Oral reading fluency (when appropriate): reading smoothly and accurately
- Reading comprehension (when appropriate): understanding and interpreting text

Act 20 also requires each school district create and publish an early literacy remediation plan that applies to grades 5K through third grade. It includes some elements that focus on all students and some elements that focus on students who need additional support.

For students who need additional support the early literacy remediation plan is a representation of only part of a local equitable multi-level system of support. Consistent with Act 20, the early literacy remediation plan must only detail support provided to students performing below the 25th percentile on the reading readiness assessment(s) and engaged in a personal reading plan, and therefore does not provide parents or caregivers with a complete picture of the entire continuum of supports provided for reading.

When are Students Assessed?

The *aimswebPlus* early reading screener will take place 3 times per year for grades K-3 and 2 times per year for 4K. This will take place in the fall, winter and spring.

What if a Student Scores Low?

The information from the early reading screener is one way teachers will learn about a child's reading skills. However, the reading screener will not diagnose dyslexia or other disabilities. If a child's score is below the 25th percentile, they will receive a Personalized Reading Plan.

A Personalized Reading Plan identifies high impact instructional support to help your child meet grade-level goals, if applicable. The need for a Personal Reading Plan does not necessarily equate to a need for intervention. Students may require intervention, however, the Personal Reading Plan will communicate how the instruction in the classroom is connected to the goals.

How Will Families Get Information on Student Performance?

Families will receive their child's test results within 15 days after they take the reading screener. The school will provide a report sharing the child's score and how others at the same grade level scored. This comparison is called a percentile rank.

If you need to update your email, please email registrar [Karen Sondalle](mailto:karen.sondalle@glsd.k12.wi.us) or call 920-294-6411 ext. 1123.

Early Literacy Remediation Plan

Green Lake School District's Early Literacy Plan can be found at: <https://www.glsd.k12.wi.us/>

GLSD COMPLIANCE WITH ACT 20

On December 11, 2024, the Wisconsin Dept. of Public Instruction confirmed that the Green Lake Public School District is in full compliance with Act 20. For additional information contact [Catherine Moore](mailto:catherine.moore@glsd.k12.wi.us), 920-294-6411 ext. 1302.

A 4K – 12 INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) WORLD SCHOOL

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