



809 Saginaw St
Bay City, MI 48708
(989) 414-8254
www.baycityacademy.com

District Literacy Curriculum and Science of Reading Statement

The District (Bay City Academy and North Central Academy) has reviewed its literacy curriculum, Bookworms, to evaluate its alignment with evidence-based literacy practices, the science of reading, and Michigan literacy requirements.

"Bookworms is not currently included on the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Recommended Literacy Materials List. Under Section 164k(e), curricula not included on this list are not designated by MDE as 'evidence-based or aligned to state standards' through the recommended list process, 'which could negatively impact student academic outcomes. However, Michigan law and MDE guidance **do not** require districts to select a curriculum from the MDE list. The list is not exhaustive and represents one method for demonstrating alignment."

Based on this review, Bookworms incorporates evidence-based practices, including systematic and explicit instruction in phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. The curriculum also supports language development, background knowledge, and increasingly complex reading skills. This curriculum is approved in 30 states for reading instruction.

The District reviewed the curriculum in consideration of applicable Michigan literacy requirements, including MCL 380.1280f and MCL 388.1764k, as well as guidance from the Michigan Department of Education.

The District recognizes that an effective literacy program requires more than a strong curriculum. Successful implementation includes consistent instruction, professional learning, student intervention and support, and ongoing review of student achievement data.

The District will continue to monitor Bookworms and its literacy practices through classroom observations, professional learning, curriculum review, and student achievement data. If state requirements, research, or student data indicate a need for changes, the District will evaluate and address those changes through its established curriculum review process.

Any substantive changes to the District's literacy curriculum will be communicated to families in accordance with applicable requirements and District practices.

If you have any questions please contact Superintendent, Darci R. Lynch at 989-414-8254 or via email at lynchd@baycityacademy.com.