



## Newaygo Elementary School Literacy Plan February 2024

**Professional learning for all K to grade 5 teachers, administrators, and instructional coaches in literacy instruction best practices.**

Professional learning for all K to grade 5 teachers, administrators, and instructional coaches in literacy best practices will be provided through the utilization of our Literacy Coach, Melissa Hreha, and the NC RESA Literacy Coach Coordinator to focusing on refreshing and providing additional training on the Michigan Essential Practices in Early and Elementary Literacy.

This professional learning (PL) will be provided throughout the 23/24 and 24/25 school year. PL will be delivered during the school day using common grade level planning times and during after school meetings. Our beginning of the year PL days will also have specific time allocated for training focused on phonics instruction and Newaygo Elementary's Non-Negotiable document that serves as our commitment to implementing the Literacy Essentials. This document is our way of ensuring quality instruction for every child, in every classroom, every day.

This PL will be a continuation of previous literacy training focused on small group instruction, shared reading, phonics instruction and vocabulary/content knowledge. All PL will focus on the fundamentals of reading science which include language comprehension, word recognition, abundant reading materials, literacy best practices and instructional routines, assessment types needed to identify students who may need additional literacy instruction and support, supporting educators in both a synchronous and asynchronous manner, providing pre and post assessment data that helps educators understand what they have learned as a result of the professional learning.

## **Complement existing efforts to improve literacy instruction.**

The professional learning that will be provided for staff complements existing efforts to improve literacy instruction in the following ways:

- Current programs include Literacy Footprints for guided reading small group instruction (K-4), Heggerty Phonemic Awareness (K-2), Write From Beginning and Beyond (K-4), Bridge to Reading Phonics pilot (K-2), Amplify CKLA (5th), Abundant classroom libraries for additional reading opportunities for students, School-wide Leveled Library to support a variety of small group reading strategies.
- As stated above, our deep and significant work with the Literacy Essentials with data driven decision making has driven our curriculum, professional development and resource choices. Ongoing additions to our Literacy programming will only enhance and complement the work that has already been deeply established in the culture of our instruction.

## **Develop and complement a comprehensive literacy system.**

After reviewing recent data trends for grades K to 5, we noticed consistent gaps in the areas of reading comprehension, phonics, and writing instruction. The use of 35j grant funds will help Newaygo Elementary to develop and complement a comprehensive literacy system by adding additional programs such as Bridge to Writing K-3 curriculum from Heggerty in addition to the Heggerty Bridge to Reading Phonics program that was just piloted during this current 23-24 school year. We will also be implementing an Amplify pilot in 4th grade to create a bridge between the Amplify literacy instruction being delivered at the middle school (5-8). Being awarded these grant funds will allow us to better round out our literacy programming so it is a more comprehensive plan of instruction filling in identified gaps in our curriculum. It will strengthen the research based literacy instruction for all Newaygo Elementary teachers and guarantee more equitable access to high quality literacy instruction in all classrooms throughout the building.

## **Use a valid screening tool, as determined by MDE, to identify gaps in current literacy practices and complete a needs assessment.**

Through this process, Newaygo Elementary utilizes the NWEA MAP test as a screening tool selected by the MDE to identify gaps in current literacy practices and complete a needs assessment through the MICIP school improvement process.

Once this needs assessment is conducted, the district will submit a plan to the MDE targeting identified focus areas to address gaps in our literacy practices.

## **Ensure 100% of current K to grade 5 teachers complete selected training.**

Newaygo's Literacy Coach, Melissa Hreha, along with the NC RESA Literacy Coach Coordinator will ensure 100% of current K to grade 5 teachers complete the selected training through the 35j grant funds. This will be done through sign in/sign out documents for each training session.

## **Materials/Programs the district will be purchasing with 35j funds that align with the literacy plan and reading science.**

As stated previously, after reviewing recent data trends for grades K to 5, we noticed consistent gaps in the areas of reading comprehension, phonics and writing instruction.

Newaygo Elementary will utilize 35j funds to purchase the following materials/programs to enhance and strengthen the literacy program within the district:

- Bridge to Reading Heggerty Phonics Program student consumables for the 24-25 and the 25-26 school year for all K-2 students (approximately 330 students).
- Bridge to Writing Curriculum from Heggerty for all K-3 students for the 24-25 school year (approximately 440 students).
- Bridge to Writing student consumables for all K-3 students for the 25-26 school year (approximately 440 students).
- Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts Literacy Curriculum for all 4th grade students as a pilot for the 24-25 school year with a possibility of full adoption of the program for the 25-26 school year (approximately 125 students)
- Classroom library books will be purchased with the following domains in mind: SEL, science, and social studies to address previously identified gaps in our classroom libraries.
- Literacy Footprints Digital Reader will be purchased for all students K-5 for the 24-25 and 25-26 school year (approximately 580 students).
- Scholastic News print and digital access will be purchased for all students K-5 for the 24-25 and 25-26 school year (approximately 580 students).
- Epic! Family Digital Reading Platform will be purchased for all students to provide at-home annual access for all K-5 students for the 24-25 and 25-26 school year (approximately 580 students).

**Supports/incentives that 35j funds will go toward to ensure 100% of staff engage in the selected professional learning.**

Newaygo Elementary will utilize 35j funds to provide the following supports and incentives for staff in the district to engage in professional learning:

- Stipends of \$150 per teacher to attend each after school professional development session.
- Potential sub costs for teachers to attend related training provided by Newaygo's Literacy Coach and the Newaygo County RESA.
- Purchase additional copies of the Literacy Essential booklets to help train new staff to the building.
- Additional funds to continue to expand our classroom libraries to provide abundant reading resources.