

35j Literacy Grant

In the Spring of 2024 the Michigan Department of Education awarded Evart Public Schools a grant totalling \$ 130,343.00. This grant is to "improve literacy instructional practices by investing in quality, research-based best practices, and professional learning."

The legislation states that all Pre K - 5th grade teachers, this includes classroom teachers, resource room teachers, enrichment teachers, etc and building administrators all must complete the selected professional learning.

Here at Evart Public Schools we are committed to professional development in the Science of Reading which includes:

- Literacy Training focused on small group instruction, shared reading, phonics, and vocabulary/content knowledge.
- All PLC work will focus on the fundamentals of reading science, which include language comprehension, word recognition, abundant reading materials, literacy best practices and instructional routines.
- Professional Development provided additionally by our Literacy Coach in the Essential Practices in Literacy, as well as focusing on how instruction is applied in the classroom.
- Providing new technology to connect teachers with up to date resources for educating our students.
- Professional Development around using the DIBELS assessment to guide our Tier 1 and Tier 2 instruction.
- Using Heggerty Phonemic Awareness program for Kindergarten and 1st grade.
- Providing training for all K-5th grade teachers with comprehensive Orton-Gillingham Plus and Morphology Plus.

We currently utilize Open Court by McGraw Hill and will look into other Tier 1 curriculum to ensure that we are aligning our literacy practices with the science of reading. NWEA and DIBELS are the benchmark assessments that we use to develop more prescriptive reading plans for students.