

North Central Area Schools



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In accordance with Section 164k(e) of the Michigan State School Aid Act, North Central Area Schools is providing this notice regarding its K–5 literacy curriculum.

The district currently uses **Bookworms**, which is not 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.”

Michigan law and MDE guidance, however, **do not require** districts to select a curriculum from the MDE Recommended Literacy Materials List. The list is not exhaustive and represents one method of demonstrating alignment. Bookworms is a research-based literacy program designed around evidence-based reading practices and instruction in key components of reading development.

North Central Area Schools is closely monitoring MDE guidance and student achievement data as part of its ongoing curriculum review process. MDE is expected to release an additional round of approved literacy materials in December. Once that list is available, the district will review its options and determine whether to continue with Bookworms or select a new literacy curriculum.

Any future curriculum changes will be communicated to families.

Best regards,

Dr. Travis Depuydt, NCA Superintendent