

Parent Advocacy Resource



My school doesn't say dyslexia.

- In 2015, the definition of dyslexia was passed into MN Statute [125A.01](#), Subd 2. The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) also says dyslexia.

Our school doesn't have any resources on dyslexia.

- A comprehensive guide was developed by MDE and Decoding Dyslexia MN called "Navigating the School System when a Child is Struggling with Reading or Dyslexia" and is on the Decoding Dyslexia MN website under [Parent Resources](#).
- In 2017, funds were appropriated for MDE to hire a Dyslexia Specialist to provide technical assistance for dyslexia, to serve as the primary source of information, to support schools in addressing the needs of students with dyslexia, and to increase professional awareness and instructional competencies to meet the needs of these students (MN Statute [120B.122](#)).

How are schools identifying and serving students that have characteristics of dyslexia?

- MN Statute [120B.12](#), Subd 2, states that each school district must report to MDE their "efforts to screen and identify students with dyslexia to the commissioner by July 1st of each year." And, a student identified must be provided with alternate instruction under MN Statute [125A.56](#) Subd 1c, that is multisensory, systematic, sequential, cumulative, and explicit.
- In 2017, MN Statute [120B.12](#), Subd 3b, was changed to state that a "school district is strongly encouraged to provide a *Personal Learning Plan* for a student who is unable to demonstrate grade-level proficiency, and should be developed in consultation with the student's parent or guardian. The personal learning plan must address knowledge gaps and skill deficiencies".

My school wants to stop reading intervention since my child is past 3rd grade.

- In 2017, an amendment was added to MN Statute [120B.12](#), Subd 3, stating that the district must continue to provide reading intervention past 3rd grade until the child is reading at grade level.

How do I know what assessments our elementary school provides to track reading progress?

- Each school district is required to have a Local Literacy Plan posted on its website per MN Statute
- [120B.12](#), Subd 4a, that explains the school's "plan to have every child reading at or above grade level no later than the end of grade 3". If you can't find it on your district's web site, ASK FOR IT.

Kindly provided as a resource by Decoding Dyslexia Minnesota, where we strive to build dyslexia awareness, empower parents to advocate for their students, and inform policy makers on best practices to ensure all students reach their full potential.

For more resources, visit our website: <http://www.decodingdyslexiamn.org/resources>