



## Program Explanation

***We guarantee that all Waterford School District students will be reading at grade level by the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.***

Waterford READS is a comprehensive program intended to ensure students read at grade level by the end of third grade. The program even intends to impact children ages 0-3, who are typically not yet in school. The guarantee begins with students who will be in third grade during the 2016-17 school year.

The components of Waterford READS are:

**R=Readiness**, including prenatal care, doctor checkups, dental screenings and helping parents get students healthy and ready for school.

**E=Early Education** for ages 0-3, includes assisting families to create a word and book-rich home environment, with books read to children at least once per day. Ages 3-5 includes enrollment at one of our many preschool options.

**A=Activities and Attendance**, including active and regular attendance in sports, camps, library time and brain-stimulating activities.

**D=Direct Instruction**, including instruction in explicit research-based reading strategies in grades preK-3. This component also includes after-school instruction, summer school instruction, parent training, and access to a video library of read-aloud books and reading instruction demonstrations.

**S=Support**, including professional development for teachers, reading buddies, free books for children and students, and collaborations with agencies, universities, businesses, and the community.

Waterford READS acknowledges that:

- Approximately 70% of our students will read at grade level by the end of third grade with little special intervention. They will find success with our regular classroom reading program.
- Fifteen percent (15%) of our students will read at grade level with extra support and one or two special interventions.
- Ten percent (10%) of our students will need intensive support and a variety of special interventions to read at grade level.
- Five percent (5%) of our students will need on-going intensive academic support and will have difficulty reaching grade level expectations.

The guarantee means we will focus our resources on grade level reading in grades preK-3. The guarantee means various research-based interventions will be used when students are not reading at grade level. Our content specialists, interventionists and teachers will analyze data on specific students to determine why they are not reading at grade level and prescribe the best intervention. If more time is necessary, we'll provide more time. If a new intervention is necessary, we'll provide the intervention. We will do whatever is necessary. We won't stop until students are reading at grade level.

Waterford READS is our commitment to the families of Waterford that we will educate their sons and daughters and prepare them for the next step in their journey.