

Board Report

Month: October 2026

Administrator: Angela Telfer, Executive Director for Special Education

Update: Special Education Determinations for Kalamazoo County

Each year the Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education (MDE-OSE) issues determinations, which are ratings of performance on special education compliance and special education outcomes (ratings include all school districts in the county as well as KRESA programs as a whole). Our county has struggled to meet the state targets in several areas for some time, and we have worked with the MDE-OSE to put proactive practices in place to improve our scores for the last few years.

After being placed in the “Needs Intervention” category for the 5th year this year, we have developed a new system of support, called, “Differentiated Framework of Supports,” which is designed to provide targeted assistance to districts where they need it most. Each district receives its district determination rating from our special education technical assistance department, which drives the types of support KRESA and the Regional Director of Special Education will provide to the district in the 26-27 school year.

This has been presented to local superintendents at their meeting (2 meetings this year) to inform them of the need for improvement and ask for their support in improving our special education compliance and outcomes for students.

While we have been providing assistance in a variety of ways over the years, we are hoping that the added clarity of what we expect districts to do, how they will receive support, and accountability through the submission of data, will significantly move our determinations scores in a more positive direction. Attached you will find our new, “Differentiated Framework of Supports” for your review.

Action Item:

None



Fiscal Impact:

None

Attachments: [Differentiated Framework of Supports](#)

