

Board Report

Month: August 2025

Administrator: Angela Telfer, Executive Director for Special Education

Update: Participation in MDE-OSE "Data Use and Action" Initiative (2024–2025 School Year)

Overview

Kalamazoo Regional Educational Service Agency (KRESA) was selected by the Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education (MDE-OSE) to participate in the 2024–2025 "Data Use and Action" process. This program is part of a broader corrective action plan mandated by MDE-OSE to improve educational outcomes for students with disabilities across the state.

Background

Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), §300.604, the MDE has authority to require Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) with a "Needs Intervention" status for three consecutive years to take specific corrective measures. Based on technical assistance requirements and ongoing performance indicators, KRESA was identified as an ISD in need of targeted support. Participation in this initiative was required by MDE-OSE.

KRESA conducted a county-wide review of district data and selected Vicksburg Community Schools to partner in this process. Vicksburg was chosen due to its exemplary participation rates in state assessments, which exceeded those of other districts in the region. Consistent with county-wide trends, this district showed a significant difference in academic outcomes between students with disabilities and their non-disabled peers.

Process & Implementation

Throughout the 2024–2025 school year, KRESA and Vicksburg Community Schools engaged in a structured eight-step process designed to:

- Analyze local special education data
- Identify evidence-based strategies
- Implement action plans to enhance student outcomes

This collaborative effort was aimed at strengthening instructional practices and increasing measurable achievement for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).



Results & Impact

The attached report details the impressive outcomes of this work, specifically focusing on reading achievement among eleven 4th-grade students with IEPs at Sunset Lake Elementary School. The results demonstrate substantial progress, particularly given the short duration of the intervention.

Next Steps

KRESA will continue to support ongoing efforts to improve State Performance Plan Indicators and collaborate with districts to ensure sustained growth for students with IEP's by replicating this process with all the other districts in our county in the coming years.

Action Item:

None

Fiscal Impact:

None

Attachments:

[Data Use and Action Process](#)

